



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

*Saithe (Pollachius virens) in FAO 27
Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a: North Sea,
Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak
and Kattegat*

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Saithe (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Flag country not supplied by client Fished by: Norway, France, UK, Germany, Denmark, and others
	Stock:	Saithe in FAO 27 Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Date	3 August 2022	
Report Code	FRA25	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Flag country not supplied by client Fished by: Norway, France, UK, Germany, Denmark, and others	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Copalis			
Country: France			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Matthew Jew	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	Up to August 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Saithe (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)
Stock	Saithe in FAO 27 Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Fishery Location	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy), The Directorate of Fisheries (Norway), France Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l'Aquaculture (DPMA), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK), The Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Germany), The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Fisheries (Denmark)
Gear Type(s)	2021 Estimates: Bottom Otter Trawl (87%), Gillnet (3%), Other (10%)
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin trust raw material. Saithe (<i>Pollachius virens</i>) do not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor do they appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Pollachius virens</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>An EU multiannual management plan (MAP) has been agreed by the EU for this stock. The MAP uses an MSY approach for management advice and limits. There has recently been a tendency to overestimate spawning-stock biomass (SSB) and underestimate fishing mortality (F), however the biases are getting smaller for the last two years. Sampled landings for ages was lower in 2020 and 2021 when compared to 2019, but this likely was because of the COVID-19 situation.</p> <p>As it stands now, this stock is subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined, therefore it was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and it PASSES Clause C1.1. The stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point, it PASSES Clause C1.2. SSB and B_{lim} should be closely monitored in future years to ensure the continued sustainability of the stock.</p> <p>Therefore, Saithe in Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.0 by-products.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The internal peer reviewer agrees with the assessor's determination, who correctly classified the stock of Saithe in Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat) under Category C, as there is a specific management regime in place and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the latest ICES stock assessment and the stock has its SSB above reference point, so it passes Clauses C1.1 and C1.2. The internal peer reviewer notes that SSB is below MSY $B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa} but remains above B_{lim} (Figure 2) and agrees that they will have to be closely monitored in the future.</p> <p>Therefore, saithe in Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a is APPROVED.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>Determine which flag state(s) the plant is sourcing its Saithe from.</p>

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as a MarinTrust raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Saithe	<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Saithe in FAO 27 Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy), The Directorate of Fisheries (Norway), France Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l'Aquaculture (DPMA), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK), The Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Germany), The Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Fisheries (Denmark)	C	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

Clause C1 should be completed for each Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		Saithe (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes
			Clause outcome: PASS
<p>C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.</p> <p>The 2022 ICES stock assessment is an age-based analytical assessment that uses catches (including commercial landings) in the model and in the forecast. Long-term catch data are presented in Figure 1.</p> <div> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">pok.27.3a46_2022_17035_2022427113032</p> </div> <p>Figure 1. Long-term catches and discards for Saithe in Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat). Source: ICES 2022.</p> <p>Therefore, fishery removals of the stock, including from the fishery under assessment, are included in the stock assessment process. The stock passes Clause C1.1.</p> <p>C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.</p> <p>According to the last ICES assessment, the spawning-stock biomass (SSB) and 95% confidence intervals are below MSY $B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa} however they still remain above B_{lim} (Figure 2).</p>			

Spawning Stock Biomass

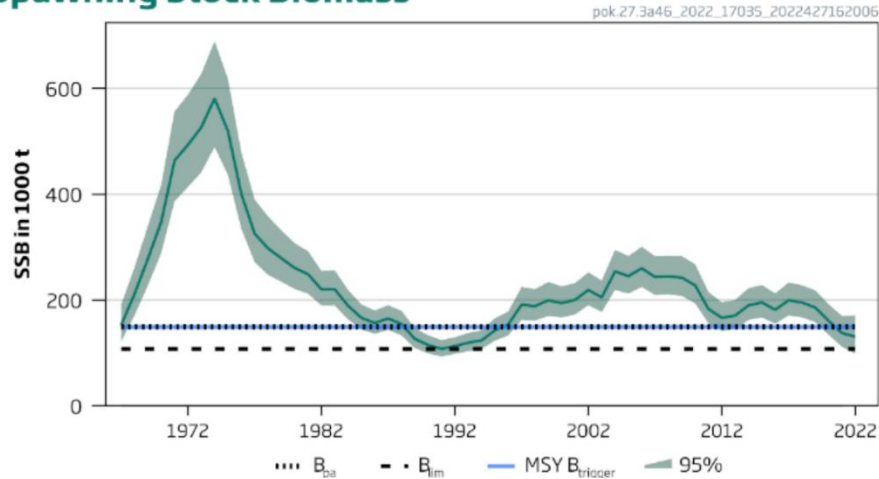


Figure 2. Long-term spawning stock biomass (SSB) trends in Subareas 4 & 6, Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat) with 95% confidence intervals. Source: ICES 2022.

Therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point. **The stock passes Clause C1.2.**

References

Cook, R., Fernandes, P., Florin, A., Lorance, P. & Nedreaas, K. 2015. *Pollachius virens*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2015: e.T190304A45098360. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/190304/45098360>. Accessed on 03 August 2022.

ICES. 2022. Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, pok.27.3a46. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19453649>.

Links

MarinTrust Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01