



## MarinTrust Standard V2

### By-product Fishery Assessment *Mackerel (Scomber scombrus) in ICES subareas 1-8, and 14 and division 9.a*

**MarinTrust Programme**

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**Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome**

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark (flag state(s): EU Member States, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, UK, Russia)
	Stock:	Mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8, 14 and division 9.a
Date	2 May 2023	
Report Code	DNK25	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark (flag state(s): EU Member States, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, UK, Russia)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): FF Skagen: Skagen: TripleNine Fish Protein a.m.b.a: Thyboron			
Country: Denmark			
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 May 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
Stock	Mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8, 14 and division 9.a
Fishery Location	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU CFP and Danish Fishery Agency (Fiskeristyrelsen)
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl and purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's determination
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

**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. Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Scomber scombrus</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is no long-term management strategy for Northeast Atlantic (NEA) mackerel agreed by all parties involved in the mackerel fishery. In 2019, Coastal State delegations from Norway, the EU, and the Faroes requested ICES to review new harvest control rule (HCR) options for a management strategy. Although there is no species-specific management strategy, ICES still conducts regular stock assessments for mackerel in subareas 1-8, 9.a, and 14 and defines two sets of reference points that align with the MSY and precautionary approaches. As there are regular stock assessments and reference points are defined, this stock is 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.</p> <p>Therefore, mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8, 14 and division 9.a is <b>APPROVED</b> 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 and approved the stock of mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8 and 14, and division 9.a under Category C. Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point, so it PASSES Clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8 and 14, and division 9.a, is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standards.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>N/A</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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Mackerel	<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel in ICES subareas 1-8, and 14 and division 9.a	EU CFP and Danish Fishery Agency (Fiskeristyrelsen)	C	VU	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/13045/3406968>

<sup>2</sup> <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		Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</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**

**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.**

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2023 should be no more than 782 066 tonnes. This stock is assessed using an age-based analytical assessment (SAM) that uses catches in the model and in the forecast. The data incorporated into this model is as follows: Catch data, steel tagging data ([L3182] 1980–2006) and RFID tagging data ([L5543] 2014–2021), and three survey indices: SSB index from the triennial egg survey ([I4189] 1992–2022), abundance indices from the IBTS survey ( G1022, G1179, G3239, G4299, G4493, G4748, G4815, G7212 and G9527) (combined Q1 and Q4; age 0, 1998–2020), and from the IESSNS survey ([A7806] ages 3–11, 2010, 2012–2022). Catches prior to 2000 are given a very low weight in the assessment. Natural mortality (0.15 for all ages and years) is based on tagging studies from the early 1980s. Discarding is known to take place (0.3% of the total catch in weight in 2021) but is only quantified for part of the fisheries; the proportion of the landings covered cannot be calculated.

Partial discard estimates are included in the assessment and overall discarding in recent years is assumed negligible.

Catches for this stock can be found in Figure 1 below:

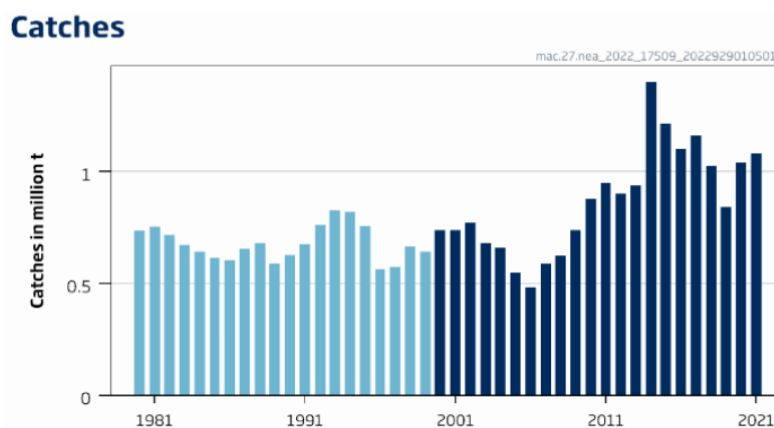


Figure 1. Long-term catches for mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14 from 1980 to 2021.

Source: ICES 2022.

**Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock PASSES clause C1.1.**

**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.

This stock has two sets of reference points that align with the MSY and precautionary approaches.

MSY approach		Precautionary approach	
MSY Btrigger	2,580,000 t	B <sub>lim</sub>	2,000,000 t
F <sub>MSY</sub>	0.26	B <sub>pa</sub>	MSY Btrigger
		F <sub>lim</sub>	0.46
		F <sub>pa</sub>	0.36

Fishing pressure on the stock is above F<sub>MSY</sub> but below F<sub>pa</sub> and F<sub>lim</sub>; spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, B<sub>pa</sub>, and B<sub>lim</sub>.

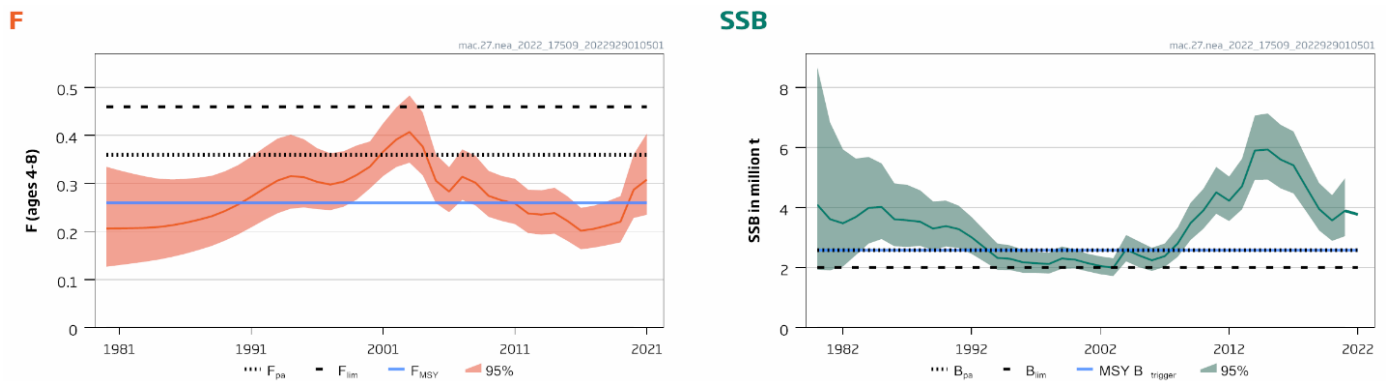


Figure 2. Mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14 summary of the stock assessment. The left panel shows the historical fishing pressure from 1980 to 2021 and the right panel show historical biomass over the same time period.

Source: ICES 2022.

**Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and it PASSES clause C1.2.**

#### References

ICES. 2022. Mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*) in subareas 1-8 and 14 and division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, mac.27.nea. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7789>

#### Links

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