



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Herring Report (*Clupea harengus*) in Subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a, Norwegian spring-spawning herring (the northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean)

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 – ICES subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean)
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark
	Stock:	Herring in ICES subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring)
Date	05th December 2023	
Report Code	DNK39	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): FF Skagen A/S, Thyborøn			
Country: Denmark			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Certification Trust/NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Matthew Jew	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	December 2023 – December 2024		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
Stock	Herring in ICES subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 - ICES Subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Commission (EC), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (<i>Fiskeristyrelsen</i>)
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawls and purse seines
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species - IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MarinTrust raw material. Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>A long-term management strategy was agreed by the European Union, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Russian Federation in 2018 and subsequently by the UK. ICES has evaluated the long-term management strategy and found it to be precautionary. As reference points are defined for this stock and there is a management plan in place, it has been assessed under category C. Removals of the species are taken into consideration in the 2022 stock assessment and the biomass is above Blim reference point, so the stock PASSES clauses C1.1. and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO Area 27 - ICES Subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO Area 27 - ICES Subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean) as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}. Therefore, because the stock has biomass above target reference point, it is considered to have biomass above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO Area 27 - ICES Subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (the Northeast Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean) passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.3.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
N/A

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
Herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring in ICES subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring)	European Commission (EC) Danish Directorate of Fisheries (<i>Fiskeristyrelsen</i>)	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		Herring (<i>Clupea Harengus</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>According to ICES (2023): "ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the UK, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, and the European Union is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 390 010 tonnes."</p> <p>The model used for the stock assessment is a statistical assessment model (XSAM). The input data considered in the last stock assessment (assessment period 1988–2023) are the following: commercial catches-at-age (stock weight-at-age from surveys and, since 2009, from catch sampling). Three survey indices: Norwegian acoustic survey on spawning grounds in February/March (NASF [A7918]; 1988–1989, 1994–1996, 1998–2000, 2005–2008, 2015–2023); International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas (IESNS; A3675) covering the adult stock in the Nordic seas (1996–2023), and the juvenile stock in the Barents Sea (1991–2002, 2005–2007, 2009–2019, 2021). Maturity ogive variable by year-class strength. Natural mortalities are fixed values from historical analyses (age 2 = 0.9; ages greater than 2 = 0.15). Discards and bycatch are not included, they are considered negligible. Catches are presented in the figure 1 below.</p>			

Catches

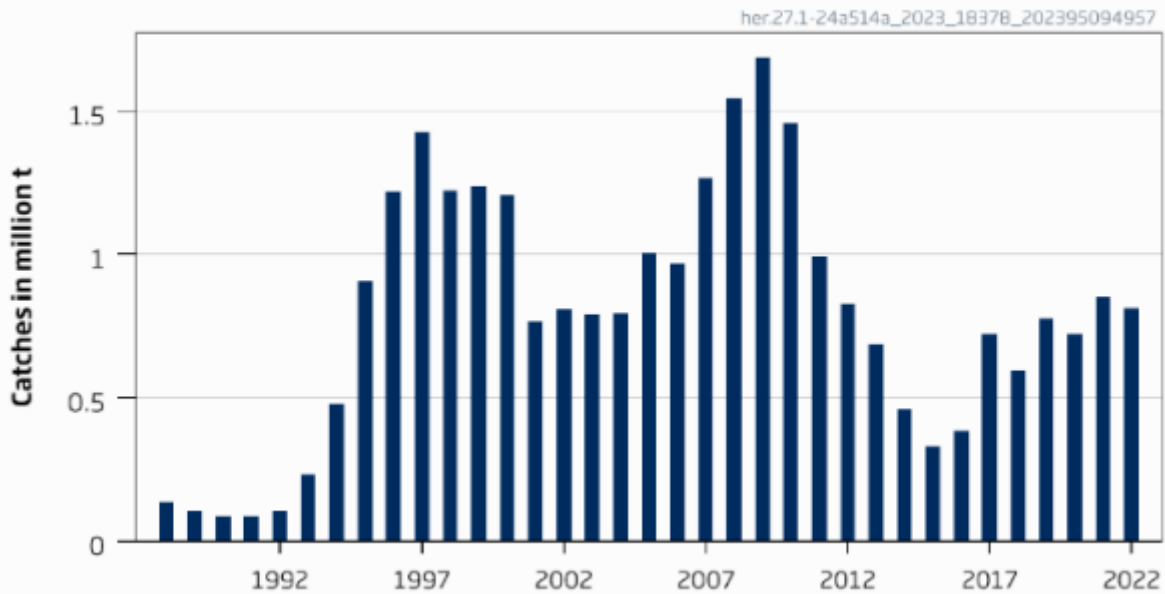


Figure 1. Catches of herring in subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring) [ICES, 2023].

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. C1.1 is met.

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.

According to ICES (2023): “Fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY and between F_{pa} and F_{lim} , and spawning-stock size is above MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} , and B_{lim} . The estimated SSB and fishing mortality are consistent with the estimates from last year’s assessment. The Russian Barents Sea survey (IESNS; A3675) was not conducted in 2022 or 2023.” (Figure 2).

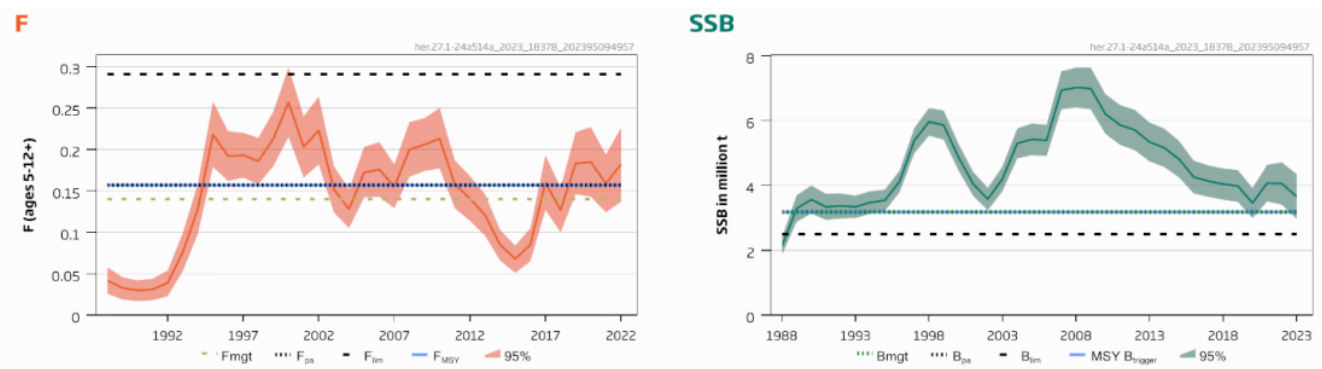


Figure 2. Summary of the stock assessment of herring in subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a (Norwegian spring-spawning herring). The assumed recruitment value for 2023 is shaded in a lighter colour (ICES, 2023).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. C.1.2 is met.

References

ICES. 2023. Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in subareas 1, 2, 5 and divisions 4.a and 14.a, Norwegian spring-spawning herring (the Northeast Atlantic and Arctic Ocean). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, her.27.1-24a514a, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21856509>

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