



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

*Ling (*Molva molva*) in FAO 27, subdivision 5.a (Icelandic Grounds)*

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27, northeastern Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	France (flag state(s) not provided by client)
	Stock:	Ling in ICES subdivision 5.a (Icelandic grounds)
Date	20 July 2023	
Report Code	FRA10	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	France (flag state(s) not provided by client)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Bioceval SAS – Concarneau			
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	Ivan Mateo	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	Up to July 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)
Stock	Ling in ICES subdivision 5.a (Icelandic grounds)
Fishery Location	FAO Northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy), Ministry of Fisheries (Faroes), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries (Iceland), Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries
Gear Type(s)	2022 Estimates: Longlines (64%), Bottom Trawl (29%), Other Gear (7%)
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's assessment
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. Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Molva molva</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The Icelandic Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries management plan for Icelandic ling has been evaluated by ICES. It is considered to be precautionary and conforms to ICES MSY approach. As there is a management regime in place 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, 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 assessor correctly classified Ling in ICES subdivision 5.a (Icelandic grounds) in category C, the stock is managed, and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass well above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Therefore, Ling in ICES subdivision 5.a (Icelandic grounds) passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and therefore Ling in ICES subdivision 5.a (Icelandic grounds) is approved</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>Determine which flag state(s) the species is being sources 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
Ling	<i>Molva molva</i>	Ling in ICES Division 5.a (Icelandic Grounds)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy), Ministry of Fisheries (Faroes), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries (Iceland), Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries	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		Ling (<i>Molva molva</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.
	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.

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 Icelandic management plan is applied, catches in the fishing year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 should be no more than 6 566 tonnes.

This stock is assessed using an analytical age-based assessment (SAM) that uses Icelandic groundfish survey (G3239), autumn survey (G4493), gillnet survey (N2702), and data from commercial catches. Discards are considered negligible.

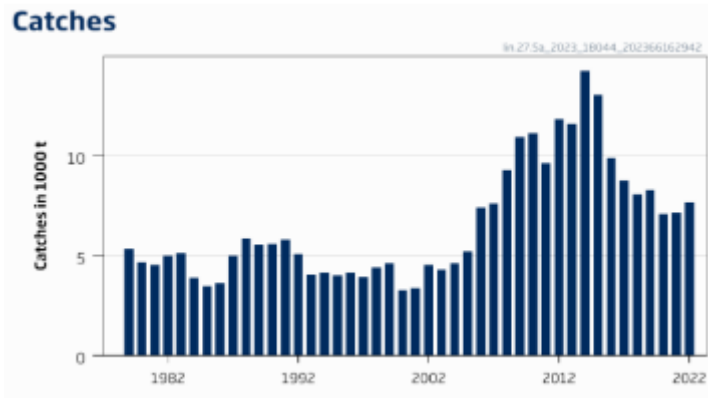


Figure 1. Long-term catches for ling in ICES 5.a from 1979 to 2022.

Source: ICES 2023.

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

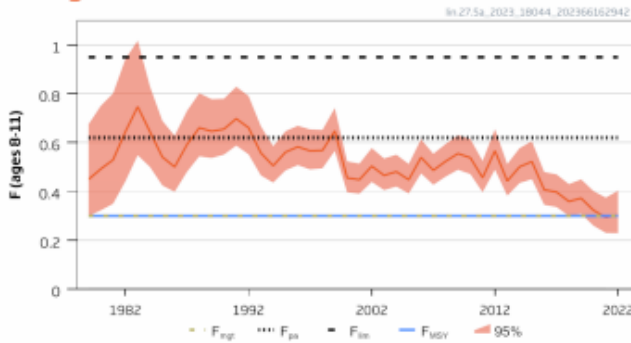
C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.

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

MSY approach		Precautionary approach	
MSY Btrigger	11100 t	Blim	9000 t
F _{MSY}	0.30	B _{pa}	MSY Btrigger
		F _{lim}	0.95
		F _{pa}	0.62

Fishing pressure on the stock is at F_{MSY} and spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}.

Fishing Pressure



Spawning-stock Biomass

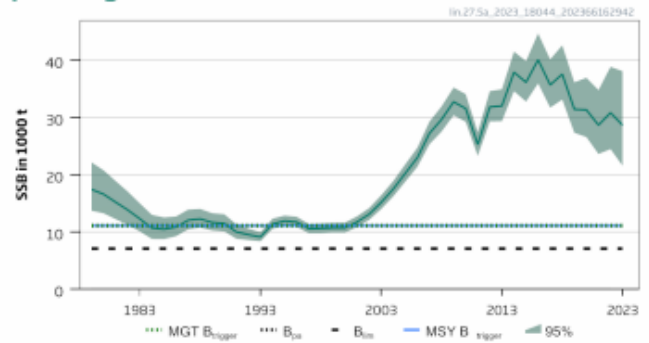


Figure 2. Ling in ICES 5.a summary of the stock assessment. The left panel shows the historical fishing pressure from 1981 to 2022 and the right panel show historical biomass over the same time period.
Source: ICES 2022.

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. 2023. Ling (*Molva molva*) in Division 5.a (Iceland grounds). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, lin.27.5a. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21828369>

Links

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