MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

Haddock in ICES Subarea 4, Division 6a, and Subdivision 20

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)
	Geographical area:	North Sea, West of Scotland and Skagerrak
	Country of origin of the product:	France
	Stock:	ICES Subarea 4, Division 6a and Subdivision 20
Date		September 2022
Report Code		FRA29
Assessor		Sam Peacock
Country of origin of the product - PASS		France
Country of origin of the product - FAIL		None

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): BIOCEVAL SAS: Concarneau; Copalis Industrie			
Country: France			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Kate Morris	0.25	Surveillance
Assessment Period	September 2022 – September 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)
Stock	ICES Subarea 4, Division 6a and Subdivision 20
Fishery Location	North Sea, West of Scotland and Skagerrak
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU & UK
Gear Type(s)	Demersal trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	Approve byproduct

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Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
Haddock has been categorised by the IUCN Red List as Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices. Haddock in the North Sea, West of Scotland and Skagerrak is managed relative to established reference points and was therefore assessed under Category C. An annual stock assessment is conducted by ICES and makes use of all commercial landings data, including discards and bycatch. The most recent assessment indicated that the stock biomass is at least double the target reference point. This haddock stock, therefore, continues to meet the MT by-product requirements and should remain approved for use as a raw material.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The by-product fishery under assessment here is the Atlantic haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) fishery which is pursued by French vessels in ICES 27 Subareas 4, 6a and 3.a.20. Haddock is managed by the EU Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters. For this Marin Trust assessment, Atlantic haddock is scored as a category C species. All species scoring tables have been completed by the auditor with sufficient evidence presented to support their final determination. The peer review supports the auditor's recommendation to Pass this fishery under the Marin Trust IFFO RS v2.0 by-fishery standard for the production of fishmeal and fish oil.
Notes for On-site Auditor

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 an 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]
Haddock	*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*	ICES 4, 6a, 3a20	Yes	C	Least Concern[3]	No

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[1] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[2] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php
[3] https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/13045/45097487

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	Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*)	
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.	PASS
	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.	PASS
	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.

A stock assessment is conducted annually by the ICES Working Group for the Assessment of Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak (WGNSSK). The most recent assessment was an age-based analytical assessment which utilised commercial catch data and surveys. Discards, bycatch, and landings below the minimum size are also included in the assessment (ICES 2022). The annual ICES advice includes a section on "issues relevant to the advice", where any concerns over the robustness of data are raised; in the most recent advice (published in June 2022), this section notes that discarding may represent 37% of the total catch by weight, however, these are included in the assessment. All fishery removals are included in the assessment and 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.

The June 2022 ICES catch advice includes a discussion of the current status of the stock biomass relative to established reference points. The EU Mulitannual Plan (MAP) for the stock utilises a target reference point (MAP MSY $B_{trigger}$) of 189,734t, and a limit reference point (MAP B_{lim}) of 136,541t. The most recent stock assessment projected SSB in 2023 to be 494,778t, more than double the target reference point. The 2022 catch advice also states that "spawning-stock size is about MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}" (ICES 2022). Biomass is estimated to be above the limit reference point and C1.2 is met.
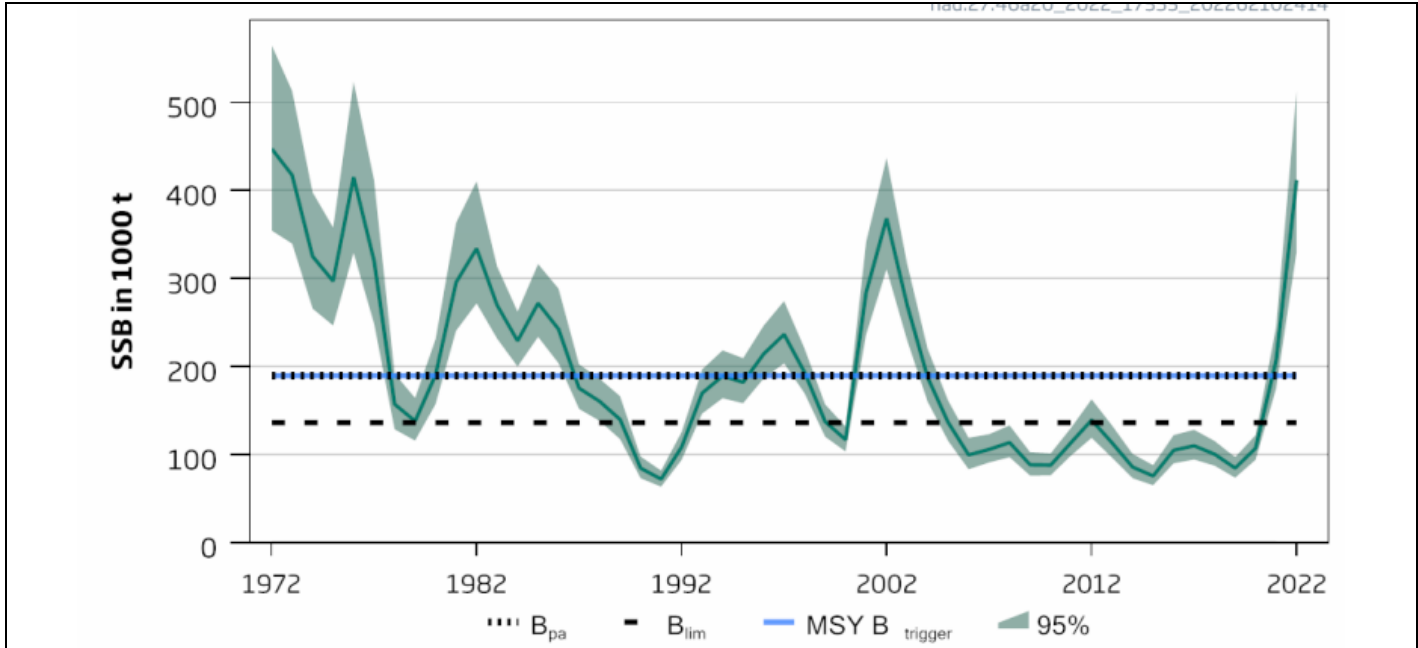
Haddock in ICES Subarea 4, Division 6a and Subdivision 20: SSB relative to current reference points (ICES 2022).

References

ICES (2022). Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) in Subarea 4, Division 6.a, and Subdivision 20 (North Sea, West of Scotland, Skagerrak). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, had.27.46a20. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19447943

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

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

D1	Species Name			
	Productivity Attribute		**Value**	**Score**
	Average age at maturity (years)			
	Average maximum age (years)			
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)			
	Average maximum size (cm)			
	Average size at maturity (cm)			
	Reproductive strategy			
	Mean trophic level			
		Average Productivity Score		
	Susceptibility Attribute		**Value**	**Score**
	Availability (area overlap)			
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)			
	Selectivity of gear type			
	Post-capture mortality			
		Average Susceptibility Score		
		PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)		
		Compliance rating		
	Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant) *For susceptibility attributes, please provide a brief rationale for scoring of parameters where there may be uncertainty affecting your decision*			
References				
Standard clauses 1.3.2.2				

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	Low productivity/ High risk — Score 3	Medium productivity/ Medium risk — Score 2	High productivity/ Low risk — Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk — Score 3	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk — Score 2	Low susceptibility/ Low risk — Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

Note: Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.

D3		Average Susceptibility Score		
		1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

D4	Species Name		
	Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements		
	D4.1	The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.	
	D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.	
		Outcome:	

Evidence

D4.1: The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.

D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.

References

Links

MarinTrust Standard clause	1.3.2.2, 4.1.4
FAO CCRF	7.5.1
GSSI	D.5.01