



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)

**MarinTrust Programme**

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

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)
	Country of origin of the product:	France Flag countries: UK and Ireland
	Stock:	Haddock in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	
Report Code	FRA30	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	France Flag countries: UK and Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Concarneau, Copalis Industrie			
Country: France			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	October 2023 – October 2024		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )
Stock	Haddock in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	UK - Defra; Ireland - Sea-Fisheries Policy & Management Division; European Union (Common Fishery Policy)
Gear Type(s)	Otter trawls, Scottish seines, mid-water trawl, beam trawl and others
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's determination
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. Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>Haddock in the Irish Sea is subject to regular stock assessment by the ICES Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE). The most recent assessment was conducted in 2022, incorporated all fishery removals including discards and bycatch, and concluded that stock biomass is currently substantially larger than the target and limit reference point levels. Thus the stock passes C.1.1 and C.1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea) 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 Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea) 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 and the most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above proxy reference point. Therefore, the stock is considered to satisfy C1.1. and C1.2.</p> <p>In conclusion, Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea), passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v2.3.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
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## 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>
Haddock	<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>	Haddock in FAO 27, ICES subarea 7.a (Irish Sea)	UK - Defra; Ireland - Sea-Fisheries Policy & Management Division; European Union (Common Fishery Policy)	C	LC	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

<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.

<b>Species Name</b>		Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	<b>C1.1</b>	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
	<b>C1.2</b>	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
			<b>Clause outcome:</b> 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.**

Haddock in the Irish Sea is subject to regular stock assessment by the ICES Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE). The most recent assessment was carried out in 2022 using an Age-Structured Assessment Programme (ASAP) which used catches in the model and forecast. Discards and bycatch were also included. The input data considered in the last stock assessment are the following: four survey indices (NIGFS-WIBTS-Q1 [G7144], NIGFS-WIBTS-Q4 [G7655], NIMIK [I9826], UKFSPW [B7897]); annual maturity and growth data from the NIGFS-WIBTS-Q1 (G7144) survey and from commercial landings in quarter 1. Discards and bycatch are included in the assessment for the full time-series.

The catch advice notes that catch sampling has not returned to pre-covid levels, but is considered sufficient to describe the current stock. The catches are represented in Figure 1.

According to ICES (2022): “ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2023 should be no more than 2648 tonnes. ICES notes the existence of a precautionary management plan, developed and adopted by one of the relevant management authorities for this stock.”

### Catches

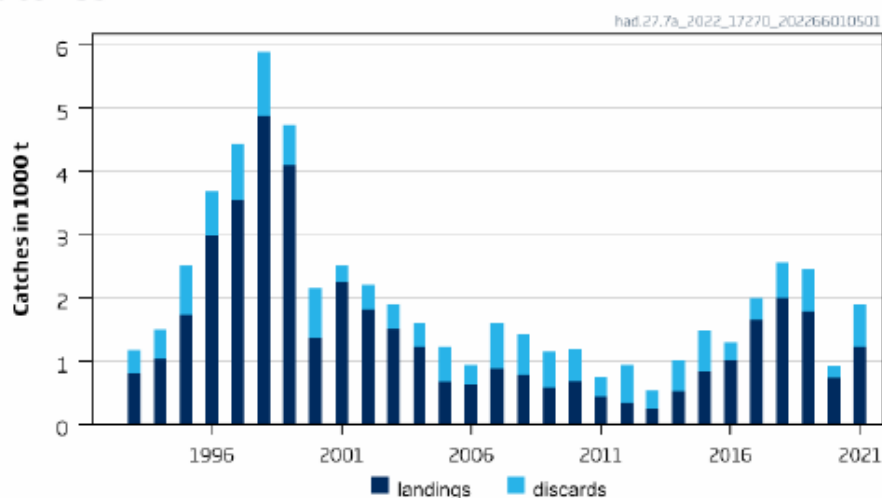


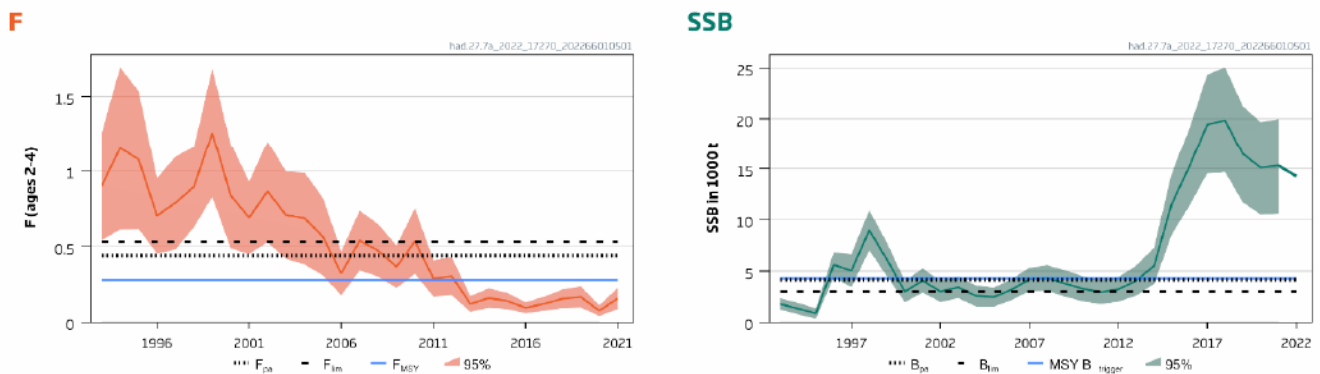
Figure 1. Catches of Haddock in Division 7.a (ICES, 2022).

**Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. C.1.1 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 annual catch advice provides an indication of the status of the haddock stock relative to reference points. According to ICES (2022): “Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, and spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim” (Figure 2).

This stock was benchmarked in 2017 which led to the revision of reference points in 2018. Haddock in division 7.a is caught as part of a mixed fishery with cod and whiting. For nearly the past decade, fishing pressure has been below FMSY and biomass has been above MSY Btrigger (Figure 2). ICES advised nearly a 13% reduction in catch for 2023 due to poor recruitment in 2020 leading to a reduction in the forecast stock size and downward revision of the spawning stock size. The annual reallocation has increased since 2006, peaking in 2017. In 2021 the reallocation accounted for 68% of ICES landings in Division 7.a and contributed 9% of the estimated landings in divisions 7. b–k. This should be considered when setting TACs for the two management areas for haddock in divisions 7.a and 7.b–k. Changes in the TAC for the haddock stock in Division 7.a may have implications for the fishing pressure on haddock in divisions 7.b–k.



**Figure 2. Summary of stock assessment. The SSB in 2022 is forecasted (ICES, 2022).**

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

**References**

ICES. 2022. Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, had.27.7a. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19447958>

**Links**

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