



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

GBR12 Anglerfish in FAO Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast) – ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	1. Black-bellied anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i>) 2. White anglerfish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast), ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
	Country of origin of the product:	1. United Kingdom 2. Republic of Ireland
	Stock:	Anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i> , <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Date	March 2023	
Report Code	GBR12	
Assessor	Sam Dignan	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	1. United Kingdom 2. Republic of Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	None	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Pelagia UK			
Country:			
Email address: geraldine.fox@pelagia.com		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Dignan	Sam Peacock	0.2	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	To April 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	1. Black-bellied anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i>) 2. White anglerfish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)
Stock	Anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i> , <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast), ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	National Authorities of United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, and the European Union
Gear Type(s)	Primarily bottom (demersal) trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with recommendation
Recommendation	PASS

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Two species of anglerfish, black-bellied anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i>) and white anglerfish (<i>L. piscatorius</i>) are found in the Northeast Atlantic which are distinguished primarily by the colour of the peritoneum (the membranous lining of the body cavity). Due to data quality issues, including that they are caught and landed together as “monkfish”, the two species are assessed and managed as a single unit stock within the area covered by this assessment. The prospect of splitting the species has been discussed at past ICES benchmarks but has not advanced to date. For further information, see the latest ICES benchmark report on anglerfish stocks in the ICES area (WKANGLER)¹.</p> <p>Neither species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, with black-bellied anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i>) and white anglerfish (<i>L. piscatorius</i>) being categorised as Data Deficient and Least Concern respectively, nor do they appear in CITES Appendix 1.</p> <p>ICES assess and advises on several anglerfish stocks within FAO Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Black-bellied anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i>) in divisions 8.c and 9.a (Cantabrian Sea, Atlantic Iberian waters) ▪ Black-bellied anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i>) in Subarea 7 and divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay) ▪ White anglerfish (<i>L. piscatorius</i>) in divisions 8.c and 9.a (Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian waters) ▪ White anglerfish (<i>L. piscatorius</i>) in Subarea 7 and divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay) ▪ Anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i>, <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat) <p>However, the scope of this assessment is limited to the stock (a stock complex) in bold and is intended to cover by-products resulting from landings of anglerfish from these areas by United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland registered vessels <u>ONLY</u>.</p> <p>As <i>L. budegassa</i> has a more southerly distribution than <i>L. piscatorius</i> its contribution to the stock is comparatively small (<10%) (or negligible <5% in divisions 4a and 6b), although this does vary over the available time-series from 10% <i>L. budegassa</i> in some years up to 30% in others.</p> <p>The most recent (2022) assessment <i>L. budegassa</i>-<i>L. piscatorius</i> in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a shows the stock-size index to be above MSY $B_{\text{trigger proxy}} (I_{\text{trigger}})$.</p> <p>Overall, the by-product meets relevant MarinTrust requirements and should be approved for use as a raw material.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>These two species, co-managed as a stock assemblage in the assessment area, have been correctly determined to be eligible for MT approval and assessed under Category C. The most recent stock assessment concluded that the stock size index is above the only established reference point for this stock assemblage, and therefore the peer reviewer agrees that this byproduct should be approved for use as a raw material.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor

¹ ICES. 2018. Report of the Benchmark Workshop on Anglerfish Stocks in the ICES Area (WKANGLER), 12–16 February 2018, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2018/ACOM:31. 177 pp: https://ices-library.figshare.com/articles/report/01_DIG_-_Report_of_the_Data_and_Information_Group_pdf/19255463.

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 ²	CITES Appendix 1 ³
Black-bellied anglerfish	<i>L. budegassa</i>	ICES Subareas 4 and 6, Division 3a	Yes	C	Data Deficient ⁴	No
White anglerfish	<i>L. piscatorius</i>		Yes	C	Least Concern ⁵	No

² <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>


³ <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

⁴ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198609/21911220>

⁵ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198610/21911225>

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		Species: 1. Black-bellied anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i>) 2. White anglerfish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>) Stock: Anglerfish (<i>L. budegassa</i> , <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat)						
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						
<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>Wherever they occur, anglerfish landings are recorded by the relevant fishery authorities and included in relevant stock assessment reports (see ICES 2022). 2021 removals were estimated as 20,143 mt landed and 249 mt discarded. Overall, C1.1 is met.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Biomass-based reference points are not available for this stock complex with management advice instead being based on the MSY approach. The reference point of most relevance to this indicator is an MSY $B_{trigger\ proxy}$ of 46,554 mt referred to as $I_{trigger}$ which is defined $1.4 \times$ the lowest observed historical biomass index value in the period 2005–2022 (I_{loss}). As of the latest assessment, $I_{2022} > I_{trigger}$ such that the stock complex may be considered about relevant limits for the purpose of assessing its status against the requirements of this indicator; on this basis, C1.2 is met.</p>								
		<p>Figure 1. Anglerfish in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a. Stock biomass from the SIAMISS-Q2 survey. Horizontal orange lines indicate the average of the most recent two years, and the previous three years (with 2020 not available and therefore excluded from the average).</p>						
<p>References</p> <p>ICES. 2022. Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i>, <i>Lophius piscatorius</i>) in Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, anf.27.3a46. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772359.</p>								
<p>Links</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>MarinTrust Standard clause</td> <td>1.3.2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FAO CCRF</td> <td>7.5.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GSSI</td> <td>D.3.04, D5.01</td> </tr> </table>			MarinTrust Standard clause	1.3.2.2	FAO CCRF	7.5.3	GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01
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FAO CCRF	7.5.3							
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01							