



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Mackerel (Scomber scombrus) in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14*

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Iceland (Flag state: Iceland)
	Stock:	Mackerel in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14
Date	13 February 2023	
Report Code	ISL01	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Iceland (Flag state: Iceland)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Eskja hf, Isfelag Vestmannaeyja hf, Lodnuvinnslan hf, Vinnslustöðin hf, Brim hf, Sildarvinnslan hf, Skinney Thinganes hf			
Country: Iceland			
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	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	Up to February 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
Stock	Mackerel in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14
Fishery Location	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Icelandic Ministry of Industries and Innovation
Gear Type(s)	2021 Estimates: Pelagic trawl (74.6%), Purse seine (25.1%), others (0.3%)
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 IUCN’s Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin trust raw material. Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) is not assessed on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Scomber scombrus</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is not a long-term management strategy in place for northeast Atlantic mackerel that is agreed to by all fishing parties. However, this stock is subject to ICES monitoring and reference points are defined, therefore it was 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, mackerel in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14 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 internal peer reviewer agrees with the assessor’s determination, who correctly classified the stock of mackerel in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14 under Category C, as the stock is subject to a specific management regime in place and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and the stock has its biomass above limit reference point, so it passes Clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, mackerel in FAO 27, ICES 1-8, 9.a, 14, is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standards.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>Determine which flag state(s) the species is being sourced 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
Mackerel	<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14	Icelandic Ministry of Food, Agriculture and 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		Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</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

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 MSY approach is applied, catches should not exceed 782,066 tonnes in 2023. ICES is not aware of any existing, agreed-upon management plan in place for this stock and there has not been an agreed-upon international quota since 2009.

This stock is assessed using an age-based analytical model (SAM) that uses fishery removals in the model and forecast (Figure 1). The input data considered in the last stock assessment are the following: catch data, tagging (steel and RFID) data, three survey indices, catches before 2000 are given low weight due to confidence in accuracy, and natural mortality for all ages derived from 1980's tagging studies.

Discarding is known to take place (0.3% of the total catch in weight in 2021) but is only quantified for part of the fisheries; the proportion of the landings covered cannot be calculated. Partial discard estimates are included in the assessment and overall discarding in recent years is assumed negligible.

Catches are presented in the figure below:

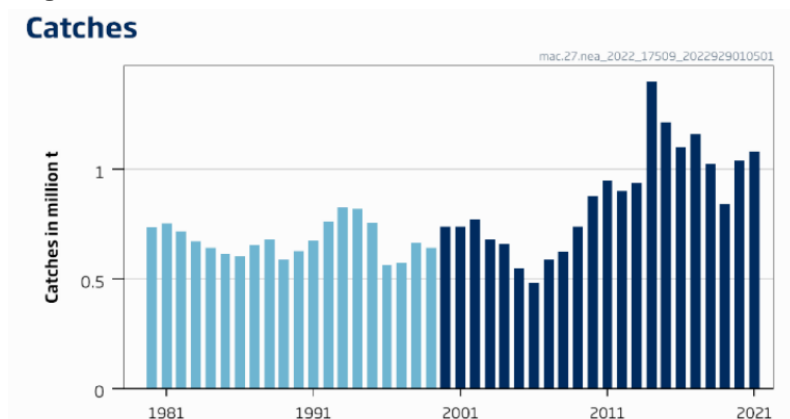


Figure 1. Long term catches for mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14 from 1980 to 2021. Catches prior to 2000 have been down-weighted in the assessment because of the considerable underreporting suspected to have taken place in this period.

Source: ICES 2022.

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.

Mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14 has had biomass above MYS and precautionary reference points since the mid-2000s but has trended downward since approximately 2015. As the stock is declining, fishing mortality is increasing as a result of the smaller stock size and have move out of sustainable effort in the past couple of years.

The stock was interbenchmarked in 2019 and the stock currently possesses two sets of reference points that align with the MSY and the precautionary approach.

Long-term trends in comparison with the sets of reference points can be found in Figure 2 below:

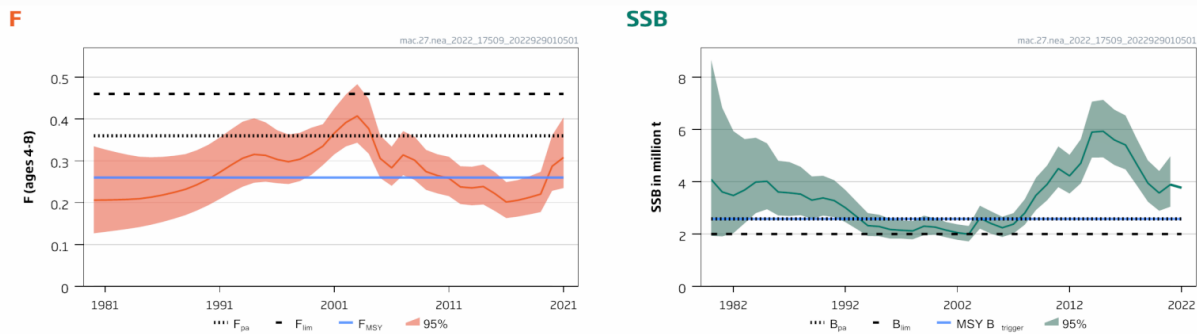


Figure 2. Mackerel in ICES 1-8, 9.a, and 14 summary of the stock assessment. The left panel shows the historical fishing pressure from 1980 to 2021 and the right panel show historical biomass over the same time period.

Source: ICES 2022.

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

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. 2022. Mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*) in subareas 1-8 and 14 and division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, mac.27.nea. https://ices-library.figshare.com/articles/report/Mackerel_Scomber_scombrus_in_subareas_1_8_and_14_and_in_Division_9_a_Northeast_Atlantic_and_adjacent_waters_/19772392?backTo=/collections/ICES_Advice_2022/5796935

Links

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