



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32 (Baltic Sea)

**MarinTrust Programme**

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

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32
	Country of origin of the product:	Latvia
	Stock:	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> ) in ICES 22–32 (Baltic Sea)
Date	15 October 2023	
Report Code	LVA03	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Latvia	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Organization of Fishery Producers of Kurzeme			
Country: Latvia			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification/NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	October 2023 – October 2024		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> )
Stock	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> ) in ICES 22–32 (Baltic Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Commission (EC), Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor’s determination
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

## 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 Marin Trust raw material. Sprat (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, sprat (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is a species-specific management regime in place for this stock, an European Union Multiannual Plan (MAP) for the Baltic Sea, including a stock assessment with reference points defined and a TAC set. Therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment, removals are considered and the stock is above its limit reference point Blim, therefore the stock PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, sprat (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32 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 sprat (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32 as Category C, the stock being 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 its limit reference point. Therefore, the stock is considered to satisfy clauses C1.1. and C1.2.</p> <p>In conclusion southern, sprat (<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES 3.c.22-d.32 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

## 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>
Sprat	<i>Sprattus sprattus</i>	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> ) in ICES 22–32 (Baltic Sea)	European Commission (EC), Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia	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>		Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</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

**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.**

According to ICES (2023): "ICES advises that when the EU multiannual plan (MAP) for the Baltic Sea is applied, catches in 2024 that correspond to the F ranges in the plan are between 191 075 tonnes and 247 704 tonnes. According to the MAP, catches higher than those corresponding to FMSY (241 604 tonnes) can only be taken under conditions specified in the plan, whilst the entire range is considered precautionary when applying ICES advice rule."

The assessment type is an age-based analytical assessment, SAM that uses catches in the model and in the forecast. The input data considered in the last stock assessment are the following: commercial catches; two acoustic surveys (BASS [A7041], BIAS [A1588]); natural mortalities from multispecies model (SMS) until 2021, M in 2022 = M in 2021, fixed maturity ogive. Catches for Russian Federation since 2022 are taken from AtlantNIRO (2023). Discards are not included, they are considered negligible.

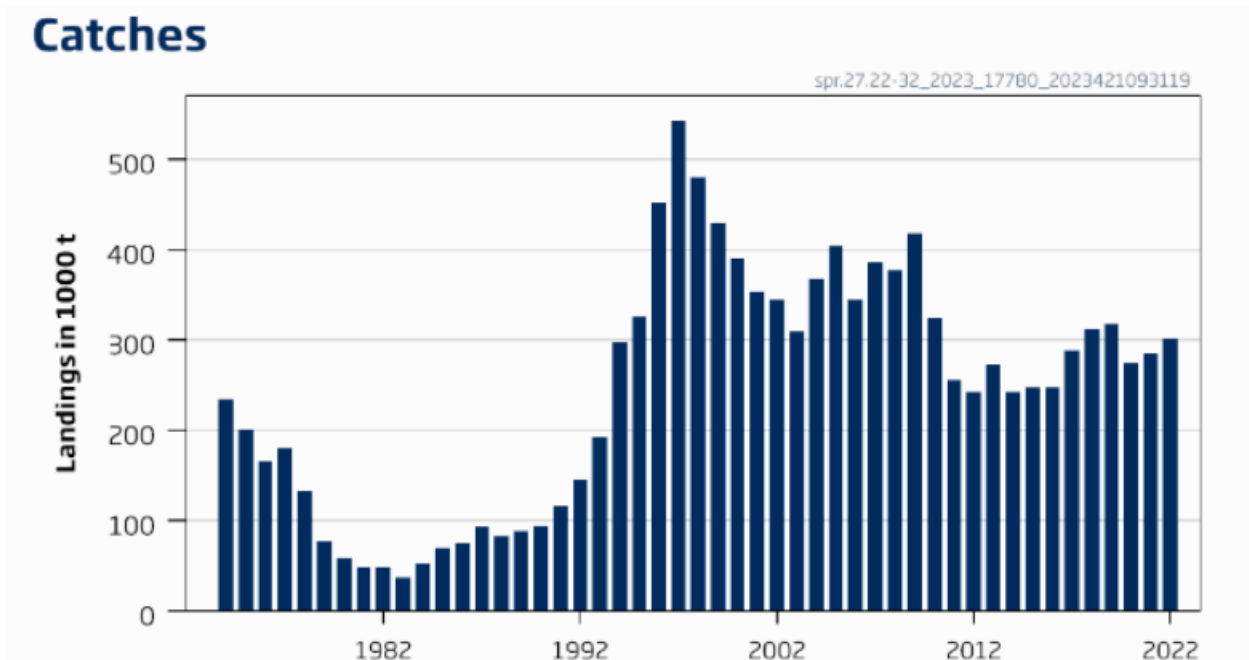


Figure 1. 1. Long term catches for sprat in subdivisions 22-32 (ICES. 2023).

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and 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.

According to ICES (2023): “Fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY and between Fpa and Flim. Spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim.”

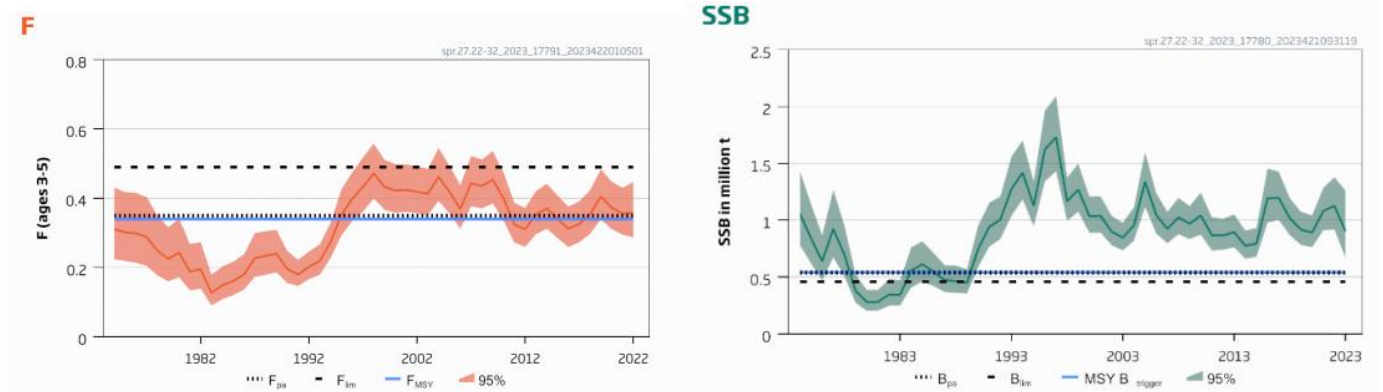


Figure 2. Sprat in subdivisions 22–32. Summary of the stock assessment. SSB at spawning time is predicted for 2023.

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**

AtlantNIRO. 2023. Preliminary results of the 2022 fishery in the Baltic Sea and its bays. Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Kaliningrad, Russia. <http://atlant.vniro.ru>

ICES. 2023. Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in subdivisions 22–32 (Baltic Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, spr.27.22–32. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21820581>

**Links**

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