

MarinTrust RS V2.0



BYPRODUCT FISHERY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE REPORT

MarinTrust Ltd, Unit C, Printworks, 22 Amelia Street, London, SE17 3BZ, United Kingdom

TABLE 1 APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Pacific Cod, <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 67 Pacific Northeast
	Country of origin of the product:	Vietnam
	Stock:	Eastern Bering Sea
Date	January 2021	
Report Code	148-2020	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Vietnam	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Vietnam		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body: Global Trust Certification			
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Virginia Polonio	Géraldine Criquet	0.5	SURV 2
Assessment Period	January 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Pacific Cod, <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>
Stock	Eastern Bering Sea
Fishery Location	FAO Area 67 Pacific Northeast
Management Authority (Country/ State)	NOAA Fisheries and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Gear Type(s)	Trawl, longline, pot,
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation
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 MarinTrust raw material. Sprat does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Pacific Cod, <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i> in Eastern Bering Sea is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The stock is managed under the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Fishery Management Plan where 10.7 percent of the allowable catch is allocated to the community development quota program, which benefits fishery-dependent communities in western Alaska. The rest is allocated among the various fishing sectors based on gear type, vessel size, and ability to process their catch.</p> <p>Therefore, the stock is subject to a species-specific management regime and is managed and consequently, it is assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. Further, the stock is above MSY therefore, the stock PASSES Clause C1.2</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, as this is the case here, Pacific Cod in Eastern Bering Sea is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified Eastern Bering Sea Pacific cod stock as category C, the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point.</p> <p>The Eastern Bering Sea Pacific cod passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
Empty space for on-site auditor notes

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 Redlist Category

Byproduct 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.

Byproduct 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
Pacific Cod	<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>	Eastern Bering Sea FAO 67 Pacific Northeast	NOAA Fisheries and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council	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 may be assessed as a Category D species instead, EXCEPT if there is evidence that it is currently below the limit reference point.

Species Name		Pacific Cod, <i>Gadus macrocephalus</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.	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.			
<p>In the last stock assessment report from 2019 there have been changes in the Input Data. For all models used the data are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Catches for 1991-2018 were updated, and a preliminary catch estimate for 2019 was incorporated. ▪ Commercial fishery size compositions for 1991-2018 were updated, and a preliminary size composition from the 2019 commercial fishery was incorporated ▪ Size composition from the 2019 EBS shelf bottom trawl survey was incorporated. <p>For the base model (Model 16.6i) the changes and data used are reflected below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The design-based estimate of numeric abundance from the 2019 EBS shelf bottom trawl survey was incorporated. ▪ The design-based estimate of age composition from the 2018 EBS shelf bottom trawl survey standard area was incorporated. ▪ The design-based estimates of numeric abundance and size composition from the 2010 and 2017 northern Bering Sea (NBS) shelf bottom trawl surveys were recalibrated to reflect the "standard" NBS survey area. ▪ The design-based estimates of numeric abundance and size composition from the 2018 "rapid response" NBS survey were removed. ▪ The design-based estimates of numeric abundance and size composition from the 2019 northern Bering Sea (NBS) shelf bottom trawl survey were incorporated. <p>To end, for all models other than the base model data used and changes are noted below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VAST estimates of the time series of numeric abundance and age composition from the respective survey or surveys (either EBS by itself, EBS and NBS combined into a single survey, or EBS and NBS modelled separately) were incorporated. <p>Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the fishery PASSES clause C1.1</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>The principal results of the last assessment, based on the ensemble weighted average, are listed in the table below (biomass and catch figures are in units of t) and compared with the corresponding quantities from 2018 year's assessment as specified</p>			

by the SSC (note that the 2020 OFL of 183,000 t specified in previous years was an error; it should have been 164,000 t, as estimated in last year's assessment):

Table 1. Summary of EBS Pacific cod assessment. Source: Grant G. Thompson and James T. Thorson. 2019

Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2019	2020	2020*	2021*
<i>M</i> (natural mortality rate)	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.35
Tier	3a	3b	3b	3b
Projected total (age 0+) biomass (t)	824,000	683,000	751,708	716,581
Projected female spawning biomass (t)	290,000	246,000	259,509	211,410
<i>B</i> _{100%}	658,000	658,000	666,506	666,506
<i>B</i> _{40%}	263,000	263,000	266,602	266,602
<i>B</i> _{35%}	230,000	230,000	233,277	233,277
<i>F</i> _{OFL}	0.38	0.35	0.41	0.34
<i>maxF</i> _{ABC}	0.31	0.29	0.34	0.28
<i>F</i> _{ABC}	0.31	0.29	0.34	0.28
OFL (t)	216,000	183,000	185,650	123,331
maxABC (t)	181,000	137,000	155,873	102,975
ABC (t)	181,000	137,000	155,873	102,975
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2017	2018	2018	2019
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

*Projections are based on assumed catches of 176,847 t, and 155,873 t in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

The stock is neither overfished nor approaching overfishing and overfishing is not occurring.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy) and it **PASSES** clause C1.2.

References

NOAA Fisheries. 2021. Stock SMART data records. Retrieved from www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/stocksmart. 02/04/2021.

Grant G. Thompson and James T. Thorson. 2019. Assessment of the Pacific Cod Stock in the Eastern Bering Sea. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Links

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

SOCIAL CRITERION

In addition to the scored criteria listed above, applicants must commit to ensuring that vessels operating in the fishery adhere to internationally recognised guidance on human rights. They must also commit to ensuring there is no use of enforced or unpaid labour in the fleet(s) operating upon the resource.

Appendix B: From MARINTRUST Standard V2.0 Annex 2: Fish By-product Assessment Methodology

Definition of a Fish By-product

A by-product is a useful and marketable product that is not the primary product being produced. A marketable by-product is from a process that can technically not be avoided. This includes materials that may be traditionally defined as waste such as industrial scrap that is subsequently used as a raw material in a different manufacturing process.

"Fish By-products" refers to commodities that are manufactured from fish, including shellfish, and crustaceans in a form that is different than conventional foods and which are intended for human consumption (either directly or as a food ingredient). Fish By-products include, but are not limited to:

- By-products derived from fish, including fish cartilage, fish oils, and fish proteins; and
- By-products derived from the carapaces of crustaceans; but do not include marine plants or marine plant products.

(Canadian Food Inspection Agency Definition)

In addition, a whole fish which is rejected on an intrinsic quality ground e.g. does not meet the specification for human consumption due to physical damage or the quality is substandard. These whole fish shall in these cases be classified as a by-product from the human consumption fishery, and can be used for marine ingredients production.

A whole catch of fish that is rejected by a fish processing factory on economic grounds is not considered to be a fish by-product. This fish can only be used for marine ingredients production if the fishery has been assessed and approved under the requirements of the IFFO Responsible Sourcing Standard.

Why utilise Fish By-products?

FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

General Principles Article 6

6.7 The harvesting, handling, processing and distribution of fish and fishery products should be carried out in a manner which will maintain the nutritional value, quality and safety of the products, reduce waste and minimize negative impacts on the environment.

Responsible fish utilisation Article 11.1

11.1.8 States should encourage those involved in fish processing, distribution and marketing to reduce post-harvest losses and waste.

Benefits of Including Fish By-Products in the MARINTRUST Standard:

1. Improved fish resource utilisation
2. Reduction in waste for nutritional value
3. 35% of fish by-products are currently used to make quality fishmeal and oil
4. Excellent Economic return
5. Better compliance with FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

What Fish By-products cannot be used?

1. IUCN

Fishery By-products shall Not be taken from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for certain categories;

- 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.

Fish By-product material may be used from the vulnerable category, but it shall incur a fishery surveillance conducted by the certification body prior to it being included in the scope of this standard.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

The Fish By-product material from these species will be acceptable for use in the scope of this standard;

- 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.

Fish By-product material may be used from the following category, but it shall incur a fishery surveillance prior to it being included in the scope of this standard;

- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

The fishery surveillance conducted by the certification body will review the following areas:

Stock Assessment

- From a recognised Institution
- Fisheries are recognised as legal
- Fisheries do not contradict scientific opinion

2. FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

In addition the Fish By-products shall not come from fisheries that do not comply with the following criteria;

1. Fisheries should prohibit dynamiting, poisoning and other comparable destructive fishing practices.
2. Fishery material shall not be from IUU fishing activity nor sourced from vessels officially listed as engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity.

Sources of Information

1. Food Standards Agency
2. Canadian Food Inspection Agency
3. DEFRA
4. GAA Feed mill BAP standard gfi
5. EU Commission
6. IUCN