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IFFO RS
Global Standard for Responsible Supply
of Marine Ingredients

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**Global Standard for
Responsible Supply
of Marine Ingredients**
Fishery Assessment
Methodology and
Template Report V2.0



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Fishery Under Assessment	Monkfish <i>Lophius piscatorius</i> Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay
Date	April 2020
Report Code	2020-71
Assessor	Conor Donnelly
Stock Pass	<i>Lophius piscatorius</i> in subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d
Stock Fail	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome				
Name: Pelagia				
Address:				
Country: UK, Ireland		Zip:		
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:		
Email address:		Applicant Code:		
Key Contact:		Title:		
Certification Body Details				
Name of Certification Body:		SAI Global Ltd		
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/R e-approval	Whole fish/ By-product
Conor Donnelly	Virginia Polonio	0.5	Re-approval	By-product
Assessment Period	2020			

Scope Details	
Management Authority (Country/State)	EU/Common Fisheries Policy
Main Species	Monkfish
Stocks:	<i>Lophius piscatorius</i> in subarea 7 and divisions 8.a–b and 8.d
Fishery Location	Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay
Gear Type(s)	Demersal otter trawl, <i>Nephrops</i> trawl, beam trawl, gillnet
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	APPROVE

Assessment Determination

If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as an IFFO RS raw material. The monkfish *Lophius piscatorius* does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, *L. piscatorius* is eligible for approval for use as an IFFO RS raw material.

This assessment considers the following stock:

- 1) *Lophius piscatorius* in subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d

The stock is managed under the EU multiannual plan for the Western Waters within the framework of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and so is assessed under Clause C.

Fishery removals of the stock are included in the stock assessment process so the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1.

The stock is considered, in its most recent assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point so the, the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.2.

In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore:

- 1) *Lophius piscatorius* in subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d is **APPROVED** by SAI Global assessors for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under IFFO RS v 2.0 by-products standard.

Peer Review Comments

However, the two anglerfish species (*L. piscatorius* and *L. budegassa*) are not totally separated in the landings the Peer Review agrees with the approval of the by-product. Although there is a possibility to underestimate the catches of any of the species, a single TAC covers both, and species-specific landings are estimated by ICES (ICES, 2019).

ICES considers that management of the catches of the two anglerfish species under a combined TAC prevents effective control of single-species exploitation rates and could lead to overexploitation of either species. Albeit, ICES assesses that fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY; spawning stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim.

Therefore, the Peer Review recommends *L. piscatorius* in subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d is approved under IFFO RS v 2.0 by-products standard.

Notes for On-site Auditor

HOW TO COMPLETE THIS ASSESSMENT REPORT

By-products

The process for completing the template for **by-product raw material** is as follows:

1. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete the Species Characterisation table with the names of the by-product species and stocks under assessment. The '% landings' column can be left empty; all by-products are considered as Category C and D.
2. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY C BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete clause C1 for **each** Category C by-product.
3. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY D BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete Section D.
4. ALL OTHER SECTIONS CAN BE DELETED. Clauses M1 - M3, F1 - F3, and Sections A and B do not need to be completed for a by-product assessment.

By-product approval is awarded on a species-by-species basis. Each by-product species scoring a pass under the appropriate section may be approved against the IFFO RS Standard.

SPECIES CATEGORISATION

The following table should be completed as fully as the available information permits. Any species representing more than 0.1% of the annual catch should be listed, along with an estimate of the proportion of the catch each species represents. The species should then be divided into Type 1 and Type 2 as follows:

- **Type 1 Species** can be considered the 'target' or 'main' species in the fishery. They make up the bulk of annual landings and are subjected to a detailed assessment.
- **Type 2 Species** can be considered the 'bycatch' or 'minor' species in the fishery. They make up a small proportion of the annual landings and are subjected to relatively high-level assessment.

Type 1 Species must represent 95% of the total annual catch. Type 2 Species may represent a maximum of 5% of the annual catch (see Appendix B).

Species which make up less than 0.1% of landings do not need to be listed (NOTE: ETP species are considered separately). The table should be extended if more space is needed. Discarded species should be included when known.

The 'stock' column should be used to differentiate when there are multiple biological or management stocks of one species captured by the fishery. The 'management' column should be used to indicate whether there is an adequate management regime specifically aimed at the individual species/stock. In some cases it will be immediately clear whether there is a species-specific management regime in place (for example, if there is an annual TAC). In less clear circumstances, the rule of thumb should be that if the species meets the minimum requirements of clauses A1-A4, an adequate species-specific management regime is in place.

NOTE: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it **cannot** be approved for use as an IFFO RS raw material. This applied to whole fish as well as by-products.

TYPE 1 SPECIES (Representing 95% of the catch or more)

Category A: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category B: No species-specific management regime in place.

TYPE 2 SPECIES (Representing 5% OF THE CATCH OR LESS)

Category C: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category D: No species-specific management regime in place.

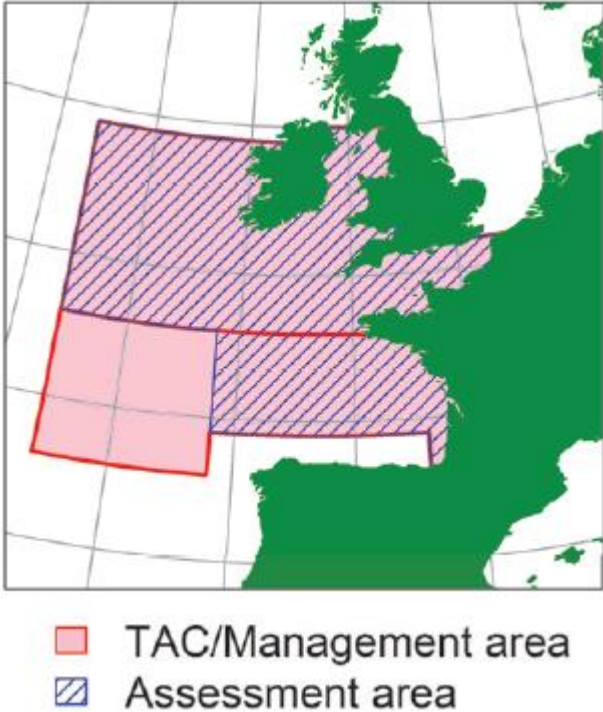
Common name	Latin name	Stock	% of landings	Management	Category
Monkfish/ Anglerfish	<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>	subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d	NA	EU/CFP	C

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they

are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment. 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. A Category C species does not meet the minimum requirements of clause C1 should be re-assessed as a Category D species.

Species Name		Monkfish <i>Lophius piscatorius</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	<p>Evidence This assessment covers the monkfish species, <i>Lophius piscatorius</i>, from the areas outlined in Figure 1 below.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p> ■ TAC/Management area ▨ Assessment area </p> </div> <p>Figure 1. Management and assessment area for <i>L. piscatorius</i> in the Celtic Seas and Bay of Biscay (Source: Marine Institute, 2019).</p>		

There are two monkfish species in this area, *L. piscatorius* and *L. budegassa*, which are assessed separately but managed together under two TACs, one covering subarea 7, the other covering divisions 8a, b, d and e.

Management of catches of the two anglerfish species, under a combined species total allowable catch (TAC), prevents effective control of the single-species exploitation rates and could lead to the overexploitation of either species.

Management is through the EU multi-annual plan (MAP) for stocks in Western Waters under the framework of the EU Common Fisheries Policy. Scientific advice is provided by ICES.

L. piscatorius is assessed using an age-based analytical assessment that uses catches in the model and in the forecast (ICES, 2019).

Consequently, fishery removals of *L. piscatorius* in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process so the stock **PASSES** clause C1.1.

C1.2 Evidence

Recent trends in stock status of *L. piscatorius* in Subarea 7 and in divisions 8.a-b and 8.d is shown in **Figure 2** below. Reference points are defined for the stock. The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been increasing since 2005 and is estimated to be the highest in the time-series in 2019, well above $MSY B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} and B_{lim} . Fishing mortality (F) has been above F_{MSY} but has trended downwards since the mid-2000s and is now lower than F_{MSY} .

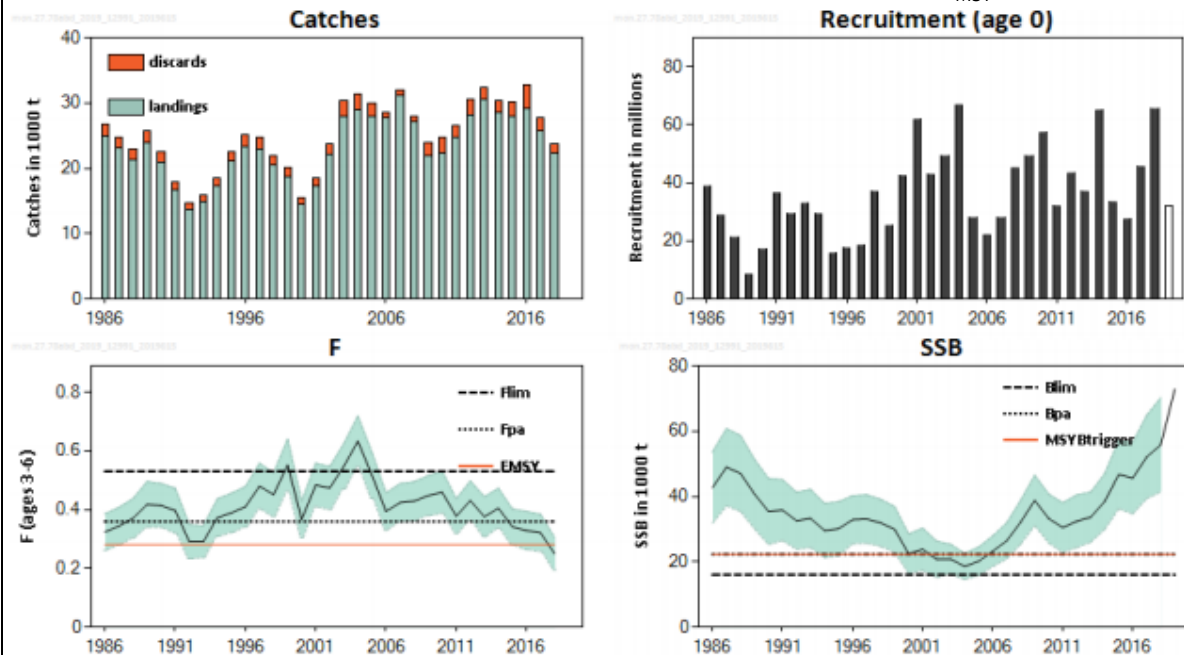


Figure 2. *L. piscatorius* in Subarea 7 and in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d. Summary of the stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). Discard observations are available only since 2003. The plots for recruitment, F, and SSB show the 95% confidence limits. Assumed recruitment values are unshaded (source: ICES, 2019).

Therefore, the *L. piscatorius* stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point; consequently, the stock **PASSES** C1.2.

References

ICES. 2019. White anglerfish (*Lophius piscatorius*) in Subarea 7 and divisions 8.a-b and 8.d (Celtic Seas, Bay of Biscay). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, mon.27.78abd. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4765>

Marine Institute, 2019. The Stock Book 2019. Annual Review of Fish Stocks in 2019 with Management Advice for 2020. Marine Institute, Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, Rinville, Oranmore, Co. Galway, Ireland.

Standard clauses 1.3.2.2