

# MarinTrust RS V2.0



## BYPRODUCT FISHERY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE REPORT

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TABLE 1 APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

<b>Fishery Under Assessment</b>	<b>Species:</b>	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )
	<b>Geographical area:</b>	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
	<b>Country of origin of the product:</b>	UK & Ireland
	<b>Stock:</b>	Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)
<b>Date</b>	February 2021	
<b>Report Code</b>	211-2020	
<b>Assessor</b>	Virginia Polonio	
<b>Country of origin of the product - PASS</b>	UK & Ireland	
<b>Country of origin of the product - FAIL</b>	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
<b>Name:</b>			
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>Country:</b> UK & Ireland		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Tel. No.:</b>		<b>Fax. No.:</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>		<b>Applicant Code:</b>	
<b>Key Contact:</b>		<b>Title:</b>	
Certification Body Details			
<b>Name of Certification Body:</b>		Global Trust Certification	
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>Peer Reviewer</b>	<b>Assessment Days</b>	<b>Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval</b>
Virginia Polonio	Géraldine Criquet	0.5	Surveillance 1
<b>Assessment Period</b>	February 2021		

Scope Details	
<b>Main Species</b>	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )
<b>Stock</b>	Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)
<b>Fishery Location</b>	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
<b>Management Authority (Country/ State)</b>	European Union, Common Fisheries Policy and Ireland Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and CEFAS
<b>Gear Type(s)</b>	Beam trawls and otter trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
<b>Peer Review Evaluation</b>	Agree with the assessor's recommendation
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>

TABLE 2. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Assessment Determination
<p>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 Marin Trust raw material. Plaice does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, plaice is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p> <p>An EU multiannual management plan (MAP) has been agreed by the EU for this stock (EU, 2018). There is no agreement with Norway regarding this plan and it is not used as the basis of the advice for this shared stock. ICES was requested by the EC to provide advice based on the MSY approach, and to include the MAP as a catch option. There are reference points defined for this stock, therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment removals are considered and the stock is above BMSY, therefore the fishery <b>PASSES</b> clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Plaice in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak) is <b>APPROVED</b> by the assessor for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the Marin Trust v 2.0 by-products standard.</p>
Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified North Sea and Skagerrak plaice 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>North Sea and Skagerrak plaice passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved.</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 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 Marin Trust 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>
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak)	EU (CFP), CEFAS and Ireland Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	C	LC	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

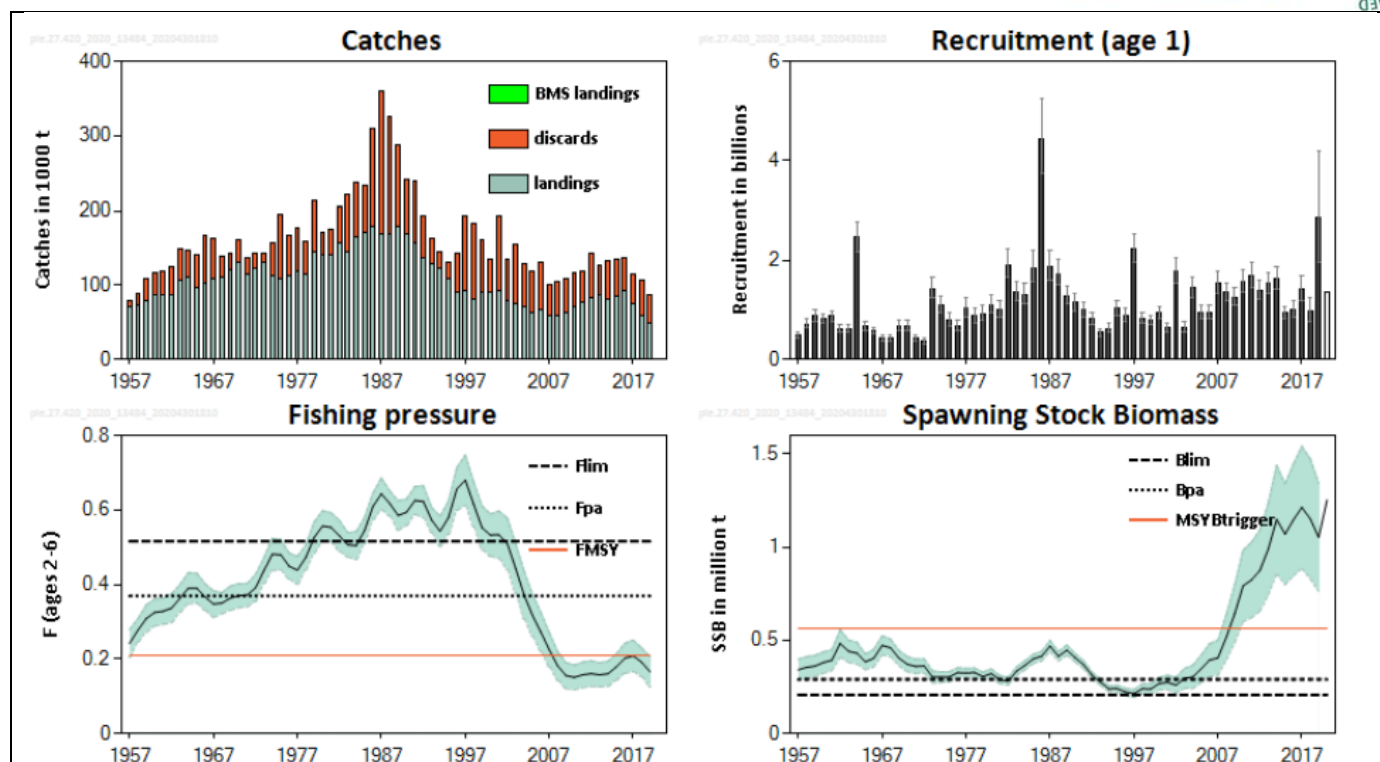
<sup>2</sup> <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

## 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 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		Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	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
			<b>Clause outcome: PASS</b>
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>The data used in the stock assessment are: combined BTS (Tridens, Isis, Belgica, Solea, UK-BTS; 1996–2018), BTS-Isis (1985–1995), SNS (split into two series, SNS1 1970–1999 and SNS2 2000–2018), IBTS Q1 (2007–2018), and IBTS Q3 (1997–2018). Both the combined BTS Tridens and Isis and the IBTS (Q1 and Q3) survey indices are updated yearly using a delta-GAM model (Berg et al., 2014): Maturity-at-age is assumed constant; natural mortality-at-age is assumed constant at 0.1 year<sup>-1</sup> (ICES, 2017). Discards, BMS landings, and bycatch data from the majority of fleets were included in the assessment. In 2018, 75% of the total discards in Subarea 4 were obtained from sampling programmes. For Subdivision 20, 59% of the total discards were obtained from sampling programmes. BMS landings, where reported, are included with discards as unwanted catch in the assessment from 2016.</p> <p>Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the species <b>PASSES</b> clause C1.1.</p>			
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>ICES assessed that fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, Fpa, and Flim, and that spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim. (Figure 1).</p>			



**Figure 1.** Plaice in Subarea 4 and Subdivision 20. Summary of the stock assessment. Shaded areas (F, SSB) and error bars (R) indicate 95% confidence intervals. Assumed recruitment is unshaded. Landings below minimum conservation reference size (BMS) as officially reported. Source: ICES 2020

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

**References**

ICES. 2020. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, ple.27.420. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5910>.

ICES. 2019. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea) and Subdivision 20 (Skagerrak). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, ple.27.420, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5644>

EU. 2018. Regulation (EU) 2018/973 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 establishing a multiannual plan for demersal stocks in the North Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks, specifying details of the implementation of the landing obligation in the North Sea and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 676/2007 and (EC) No 1342/2008. Official Journal of the European Union, L 179: 1–13. <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/973/oj>

**Links**

<b>MARINTRUST Standard clause</b>	1.3.2.2
<b>FAO CCRF</b>	7.5.3
<b>GSSI</b>	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