

MarinTrust RS V2.0



BYPRODUCT FISHERY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE REPORT

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TABLE 1 APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
	Country of origin of the product:	UK & Ireland
	Stock:	Plaice in ICES in Division 7.a (Irish Sea)
Date	November 2020	
Report Code	212-2020	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	UK & Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: UK and Ireland		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body: SAI Global			
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Virginia Polonio	Géraldine Criquet	0.5	SURV 1
Assessment Period	November 2020		

Scope Details	
Species	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
Stock	Plaice in ICES Division 7.a (Irish Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union and domestically UK and Ireland
Gear Type(s)	Bottom trawls and beam trawls
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 IFFO RS raw material. Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, nor do they appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Plaice is eligible for approval for use as IFFO RS by-product raw material.</p> <p>One stock forms part of this assessment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ICES Division 7.a (Irish Sea) <p>This species is managed under the EU multiannual plan (MAP; EU, 2019) for stocks in the Western Waters and adjacent waters. This species is taken into account as bycatch. The EC has requested that ICES provide advice based on the precautionary approach. The stock has been assessed under category C as there are reference points and the stock status relative to these limits is known.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. Further, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point so the stock PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Hence, Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in ICES Division 7.a (Irish Sea) is APPROVED by SAI Global assessors in the assessment area for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current IFFO RS v 2.0 by-products standard.</p>
Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified plaice in ICES Division 7.a (Irish Sea) as category C species as the stock is subject to specific management regime. The stock is assessed and stock status is assessed relative to reference points.</p> <p>Fisheries removals are considered in the stock assessment. According to the last stock assessment, the spawning stock biomass is considered to be well above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Therefore, the peer reviewer agrees with the assessor’s determination that the fishery passes both C1.1 and C1.2.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
Empty space for 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
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	ICES Division 7.a (Irish Sea)	EU internationally and domestically, UK and Ireland	C	NT	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		Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</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.

The stock assessment has used different input data such as; commercial catch-at-age data; three survey indices (UK (E&W)-BTS-Q3, NIGFS-WIBTS-Q1, and NIGFSWIBTS-Q4), fixed maturity ogive and natural mortality constant over the years and different across the ages. Discard values available from 2004 has been estimated using a range of modelled discards data from 1981–2003 (WKIRISH3; ICES,2017). Only the dead fraction of discards (estimated to be 0.6) is accounted for in the stock assessment model. Therefore, all removals are considered in the stock assessment process and the fishery **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.

In the last stock assessment carried out by ICES in 2020 the state of the stock and the fishery relative to reference point resulted in fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY, Fpa, and Flim. Further, spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim.(Figure 1).

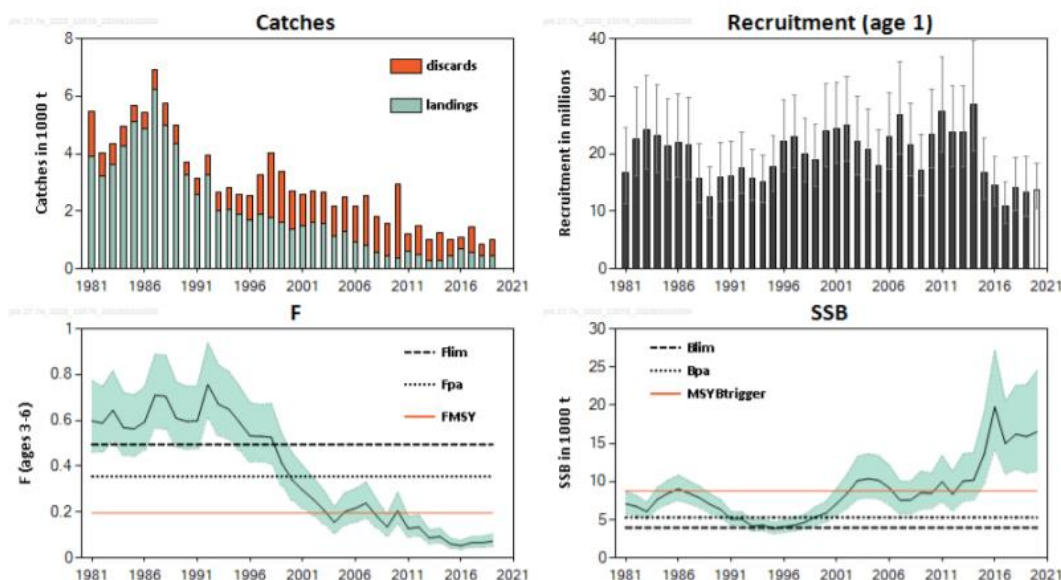


Figure 1. Plaice in Division 7.a. Summary of the stock assessment. Discard estimates are available from 2003; prior to 2003, discard values were reconstructed. The assumed recruitment (R) value is not shaded. Shaded areas in the fishing mortality (F)

and spawning-stock biomass (SSB) plots and error bars in the recruitment plot represent $\pm 2 \times$ standard deviation. Source: ICES 2020.

Therefore, the fishery 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

ICES. 2020. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, ple.27.7a. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5918>.

ICES. 2019. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, ple.27.7a, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4798>

ICES. 2019. Report of the Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion. ICES Scientific Reports. 1:29. pp. <http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.4982>

Freyhof, J. 2014. *Pleuronectes platessa*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2014: e.T135690A50018800. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2014-1.RLTS.T135690A50018800.en>.

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
5. EU Commission
6. IUCN