

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: | Sole, <i>Solea solea</i> |
| | Geographical area: | FAO Area 27 Atlantic, Northeast |
| | Country of origin of the product: | France |
| | Stock: | Subarea 4 (North Sea) |
| Date | January 2021 | |
| Report Code | 215-2020 | |
| Assessor | Virginia Polonio | |
| Country of origin of the product - PASS | France | |
| Country of origin of the product - FAIL | NA | |

| Application details and summary of the assessment outcome | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Name: | | | |
| Address: | | | |
| Country: France | | 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 1 |
| Assessment Period | | January 2021 | |

| Scope Details | |
|--|--|
| Main Species | Sole, <i>Solea solea</i> |
| Stock | Subarea 4 (North Sea) |
| Fishery Location | FAO Area 27 Atlantic, Northeast |
| Management Authority (Country/ State) | European Union Common Fisheries Policy and France Direction des pêches maritimes et de l'aquaculture |
| Gear Type(s) | Beam trawl, Gillnets and Trammelnets |
| 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. Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices, therefore, Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The EU multiannual plan (MAP) for stocks in the North Sea and adjacent waters applies to this stock. The plan specifies conditions for setting fishing opportunities, depending on stock status and making use of the FMSY range for the stock. In accordance with the MAP, catches higher than those corresponding to FMSY can only be taken providing SSB is greater than MSY Btrigger, and one of the following conditions is met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if it is necessary for the achievement of mixed fisheries objectives; b) if it is necessary to avoid serious harm to a stock, caused by intra- or interspecies stock dynamics; c) in order to limit variations in fishing opportunities between consecutive years to not more than 20%. <p>ICES considers that the FMSY range used in the MAP for this stock is precautionary. Therefore, the species is subject to a species-specific management plan and is assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the various stock assessment processes so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1.</p> <p>For Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>) in the assessment area the most recent estimated spawning stock biomass (SSB) is likely to be above Blim, the stock PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, Sole, <i>Solea solea</i> in Subarea 4 (North Sea)) is APPROVED by the assessor for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standard.</p> |
| Peer Review Comments |
| <p>The assessor correctly classified North Sea sole 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 North Sea sole 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 |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sole | <i>Solea solea</i> | Subarea 4 (North Sea) | EU/CFP, France | C | DD | 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 | | <i>Sole, Solea solea</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 |
| <p>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> <p>The data used in the stock assessment are: Commercial catches (age frequencies from catch sampling) and two survey indices (BTS combined [NL, DE, BE] Q3, SNS Q3). Natural mortality is assumed constant at 0.1 (except for 1963, when it was 0.9) and maturity-at-age is assumed to be knife-edged (at age 3) and constant over time.</p> <p>Discards, BMS landings and bycatch data from 2002 are included in the assessment; discards before 2002 are estimated by the model. In 2019, 89% of the landings had associated discarding information, and 90% of the discards were sampled. BMS landings, where reported, are included with discards 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 fishery PASSES clause C1.1</p> <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> <p>The spawning–stock biomass (SSB) has fluctuated around Blim since 2003, and has been estimated to be below MSY Btrigger since 1999. Fishing mortality (F) has declined since 1999 and was above FMSY in 2019. Recruitment (R) in 2019 is estimated to be the highest since the start of the series in 1957. (Figure 1).</p> | | | |

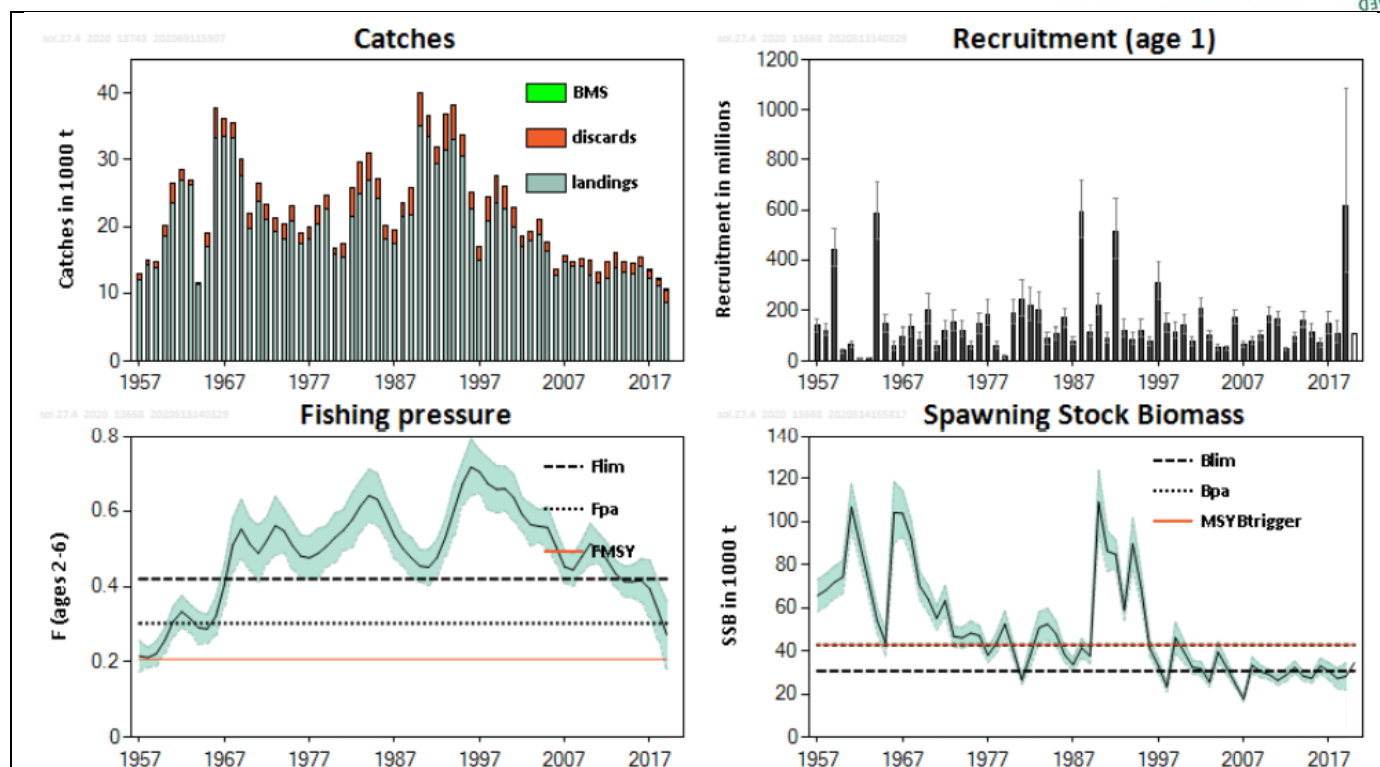


Figure 1. Sole in Subarea 4. Summary of the stock assessment. Estimates of discards are only available from 2002. Shaded areas (F, SSB) and error bars (R) indicate approximately 95% confidence intervals. Landings below minimum conservation reference size (BMS) are those officially reported. Source: ICES 2020

Consequently, following the information from ICES 2020, ICES assesses that fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY, but below Fpa and Flim. Spawning–stock size is below MSY Btrigger and between Bpa and Blim.

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

ICES. 2020. Sole (*Solea solea*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, sol.27.4. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5946>.
 Tous, P., Sidibe, A., Mbye, E., de Morais, L., Camara, Y.H., Adeofe, T.A., Monroe, T., Camara, K., Cissoko, K., Djiman, R., Sagna, A. & Sylla, M. 2015. *Solea solea*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198739A15595369. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2015-4.RLTS.T198739A15595369.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 gfi
5. EU Commission
6. IUCN