



RESPONSIBLE  
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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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<b>Fishery Under Assessment</b>	<b>Saithe (<i>Pollachius virens</i>) Norway Stock Northeast Artic</b>
<b>Date</b>	February 2020
<b>Assessor</b>	Jim Daly
<b>Stock Pass</b>	ICES Subareas 1,2
<b>Stock Fail</b>	

<b>Application details and summary of the assessment outcome</b>				
<b>Name:</b> Pelagia AS and others				
<b>Address:</b>				
<b>Country:</b> Norway		<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>		
<b>Certification Body Details</b>				
<b>Name of Certification Body:</b>		SAI Global Ltd		
<b>Assessor</b>	<b>Peer Reviewer</b>	<b>Assessment Days</b>	<b>Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval</b>	<b>Whole fish/ By-product</b>
Jim Daly	Vito Romito	0.5	Re-approval	By-product
<b>Assessment Period</b>	2020			

<b>Scope Details</b>	
<b>Management Authority (Country/State)</b>	Norway Ministry of Fisheries/EU
<b>Main Species</b>	Saithe ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )
<b>Stock:</b>	ICES Subareas 1,2
<b>Fishery Location</b>	Northeast Artic
<b>Gear Type(s)</b>	All compliant gears
<b>Outcome of Assessment</b>	
<b>Peer Review Evaluation</b>	<b>AGREE</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>APPROVE</b>

### Assessment Determination

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. Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) is eligible for approval for use as IFFO RS by-product raw material.

One stock forms part of this assessment:

- 1) ICES Subareas 1,2 Northeast Arctic.

Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the various stock assessment processes so the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1.

For Saithe in the assessment area the most recent estimated spawning stock biomass (SSB<sub>2020</sub> 537,009t) is above Blim (136,000t) and removals are not considered to be negligible therefore, 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) Saithe 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.

### Peer Review Comments

The stock is at its historic peak and about 4 times above Blim levels. Catch and survey data is included in the stock assessment. The Reviewer agrees that Norway saithe be approved for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current 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.

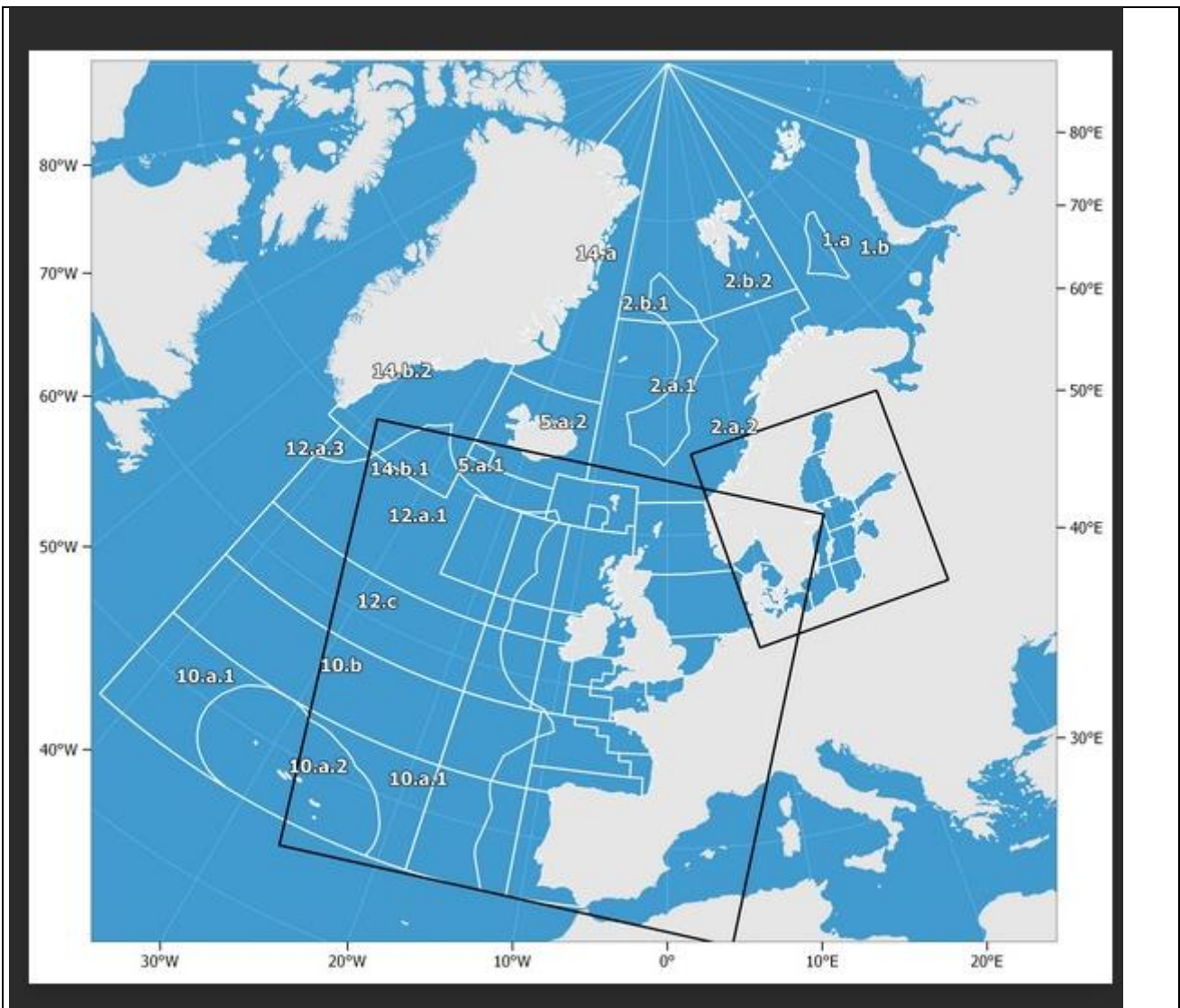
Common name	Latin name	Stock	% of landings	Management	Category
Saithe	<i>Pollachius virens</i>	ICES Subareas 1,2	N/A	EU/Norway	C

## 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.

<b>Species Name</b>		<b>Saithe <i>Pollachius virens</i></b>
<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. <b>PASS</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>PASS</b>
<b>Clause outcome:</b>		<b>PASS</b>
<b>C1.1 Evidence</b>		
This assessment covers Saithe harvested from Subareas 1,2 as outlined in <b>Figure 1:</b>		



**Figure 1:** Subareas and Divisions of FAO fishing areas 27 and 37, including the assessment Subareas 1,2 (Northeast Arctic) **R1**

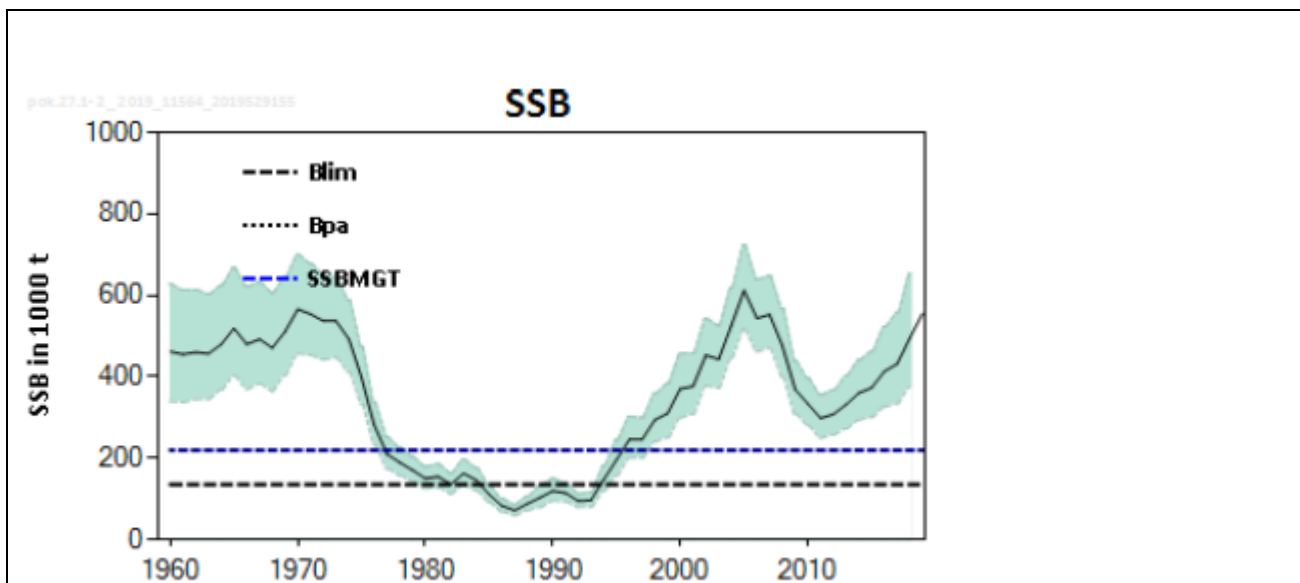
The stock is assessed annually. The assessment is an age-based analytical assessment using catches in model and forecast. Input data includes data from commercial catches (landings, age and length frequencies from Norwegian, German, and Russian catch sampling); one survey index recalculated for the period 2004-2018 and three-year running average maturity indices based on spawning zones from otoliths collected from commercial catches and surveys from 1985-2006.

Discards are considered negligible. Bycatch is included. An inter-benchmark assessment was undertaken in 2014 (**R3**). The inter-benchmark did not result in significantly different estimates of stock dynamics. The Harvest Control Rule (HCR) evaluation derived from the Norwegian Management Plan (2013) is still considered valid by ICES.

## **C1.2**

### **Evidence**

Spawning-stock biomass ( $SSB_{2020}$  537, 009t) has been above Bpa since 1996, and is presently estimated to be well above Blim (136,000t) (**Figure 2**):



**Figure 2:** Saithe in subareas 1 and 2. Summary of the stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). Uncertainty boundaries (95%) for spawning-stock biomass (SSB) shown in the plots. **R2**

ICES advise that when the Norwegian management plan (2013) is applied, catches in 2020 should be no more than 171, 982t.

#### References

**R1** Subareas and Divisions FAO fishing areas 27 and 37:

[https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/sites/fisheries/files/docs/body/fishing\\_areas\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/sites/fisheries/files/docs/body/fishing_areas_en.pdf)

**R2** ICES (2019) Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)

<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2019/2019/pok.27.1-2.pdf>

**R3** ICES. 2014. Report of the Inter-Benchmark Protocol on Northeast Arctic Saithe in Subareas I and II (IBP NEA saithe), March/April 2014, by correspondence. ICES CM 2014/ACOM:53. 94 pp.

**R4** Integrated Management of the Marine Environment of the North Sea and Skagerrak (Management Plan) – Meld. St. 37 (2012-2013) Report to the Storting (white paper)

<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/meld.-st.-37-2012-2013/id724746/>

*Standard clauses 1.3.2.2*