

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:	Saithe, <i>Pollachius virens</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Norway
	Stock:	ICES subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)
Date	March 2021	
Report Code	BP19	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Norway	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Norway		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	March 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Saithe, <i>Pollachius virens</i>
Stock	ICES subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)
Fishery Location	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU Common Fishery Policy and Norway Department of Fisheries
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl, purse seine and gillnets
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. Saithe, <i>Pollachius virens</i> does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Saithe, <i>Pollachius virens</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marintrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The harvest control rule, as revised in 2013 and communicated to ICES by the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs, contains the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Estimate the average TAC level for the coming 3 years based on FMP = 0.32. TAC for the next year set to this level as a starting value for the 3-year period. The year after, the TAC calculation for the next 3 years is repeated based on the updated information about the stock development. However, the TAC should not be changed by more than +/- 15% compared with the previous year’s TAC. ▪ If the spawning-stock biomass (SSB) in the beginning of the year for which the quota is set (first year of prediction), is below Bpa, the procedure for establishing TAC should be based on a fishing mortality that is linearly reduced from FMP at SSB = Bpa to 0 at SSB equal to zero. At SSB levels below Bpa in any of the operational years (current year and 3 years of prediction) there should be no limitations on the year-to year variations in TAC. ▪ The harvest control rule (HCR) was last evaluated by ICES in 2011 (ICES, 2011), with FMP = 0.35. The evaluation concluded that the HCR is precautionary. The FMP was lowered to the current value of 0.32 by Norwegian authorities in 2013. The inter-benchmark for this stock in 2014 (ICES, 2014) did not result in Advice significantly different estimates of stock dynamics and the former HCR evaluation is still considered valid. <p>Therefore, there is a species-specific management plan and the species has been evaluated under Category C.</p> <p>Removals are considered in the stock assessment and therefore the species PASSES clause C1.1. Further, Biomass is above reference points and therefore the species PASSES clause C1.2.</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, as this is the case here, Saithe, <i>Pollachius virens</i> in FAO 27is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marintrust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified the Northeast Arctic saithe 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 well above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Therefore, the Northeast Arctic saithe fishery passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and therefore Northeast Arctic saithe is approved.</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
Saithe	<i>Pollachius virens</i>	subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic	C	LC	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>Saithe, Pollachius virens</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 input data used in the stock assessment are: commercial catches (international landings, ages and length frequencies from Norwegian, German, and Russian catch sampling); one survey index (NOcoast-Aco-4Q, split in 2002) recalculated for the period 2004–2018 (using StoX); three-year running average maturity based on spawning zones from otoliths from commercial catches and surveys for 1985–2006, constant (2005–2007 average) for later years. Discarding is considered negligible. Bycatch is included.</p> <p>Therefore, Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the species 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 been above Bpa since 1996 and is presently estimated to be well above Bpa. The fishing mortality (F) has been below Fpa since 2013. Recruitment (R) has been close to the long-term geometric mean level in the last decade (figure 1).</p>			

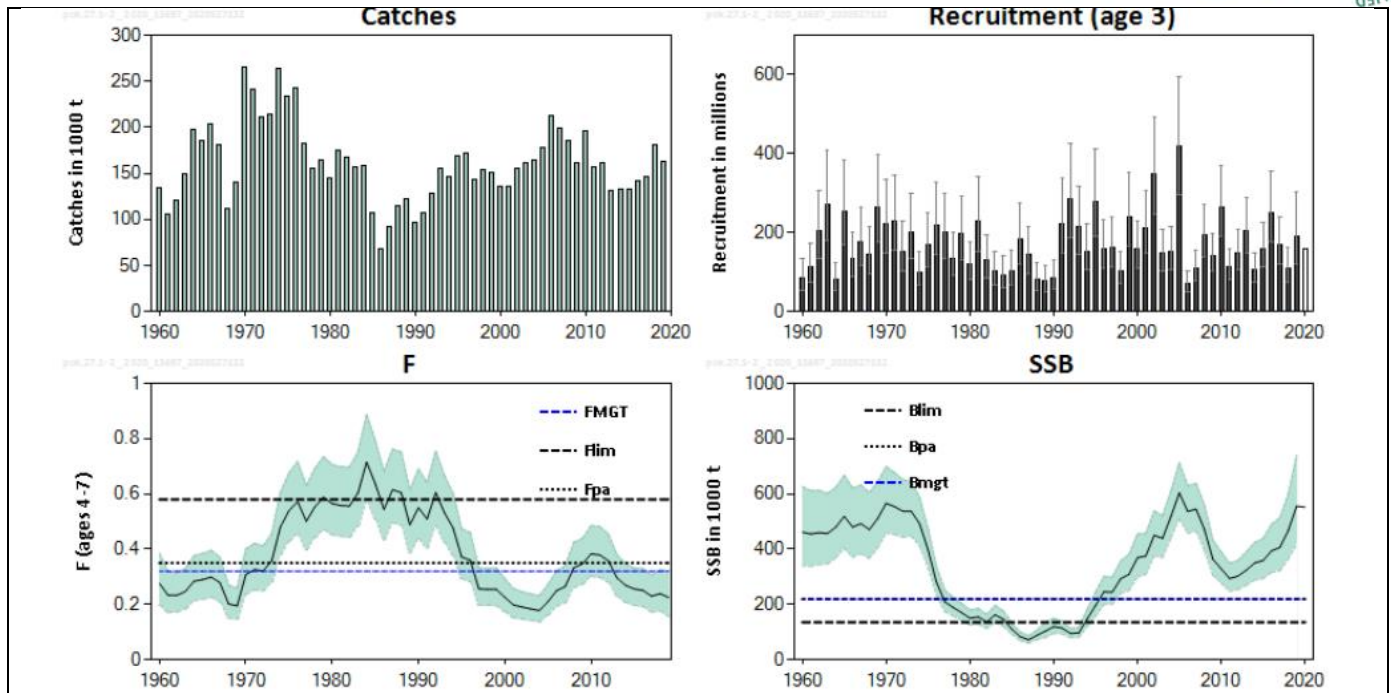


Figure 1. Saithe in subareas 1 and 2. Historical development of the stock from the summary of stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). Uncertainty bounds (95%) for recruitment (R), fishing mortality (F), and spawning-stock biomass (SSB) are indicated in the plots. Assumed recruitment is unshaded. Source: ICES 2020

Following the last stock assessment, however BMSY is not defined, the species showed the SSB above BMGT and Blim. Consequently, 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. Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, pok.27.1-2. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5831>

ICES. 2019. Saithe (*Pollachius virens*) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, pok.27.1-2, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4714>

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