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:**	Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 North East Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	UK and Ireland
	Stock:	Subarea 4 (North Sea)
Date	February 2021	
Report Code	BP21	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	UK and 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:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	**Peer Reviewer**	**Assessment Days**	**Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval**
Virginia Polonio	Geraldine Criquet	0.5	Surveillance
Assessment Period	February 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*)
Stock	Subarea 4 (North Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 Northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union, CEFAS and Department for food, agriculture and marine in Ireland
Gear Type(s)	Demersal trawls, seines, gillnets, beam trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	**APPROVED**

TABLE 2. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

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 MarinTrust raw material. Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) do not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor do they appear in CITES appendices; therefore, turbot in the area Subarea 4 (North Sea) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material. The turbot stock is managed under an EU multiannual plan (MAP) in the North Sea (EU, 2018) and adjacent waters under the framework of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and so is assessed under Clause C. Fishery removals of the stock are included in the stock assessment process then, the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1. 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. In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass all Clauses in category C. Consequently, as per guidance the stock has passed category C. Therefore, Turbot in area Subarea 4 (North Sea) is **APPROVED** by the assessor in the assessment area for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standard.
Peer Review Comments
The assessor correctly classified the North Sea turbot stock as category C, the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against. 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. The North Sea turbot passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved.
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 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]
Turbot	*Scophthalmus maximus*	Subarea 4 (North Sea)	EU	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		**Turbot,** *Scophthalmus maximus*	
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.

Input data considered in the stock assessment are: commercial landings raised to international landings, two survey indices (SNS, BTS-Isis), one standardized commercial biomass index (NL_BT2). Assumed constant annual maturity ogive (over years) and natural mortality (over ages and years) and bycatch. Discard data are not included in the assessment but are used to provide catch advice. The discard rate was 14% (average of 2016–2018). 69% of the landings include discard information in 2018, and 4% of the discards were sampled for age.

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the fishery achieves **PASSES** in 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.

The last ICES advice was reviewed in November 2020. This advice has been abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption and more detailed are provided in 2019 stock assessment.

Data has shown that recruitment (R) is variable without a trend. Fishing mortality (F) has decreased since the mid-1990s, and has been just below FMSY since 2012. The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 2005 and has been above MSY Btrigger since 2013 (Figure 1).

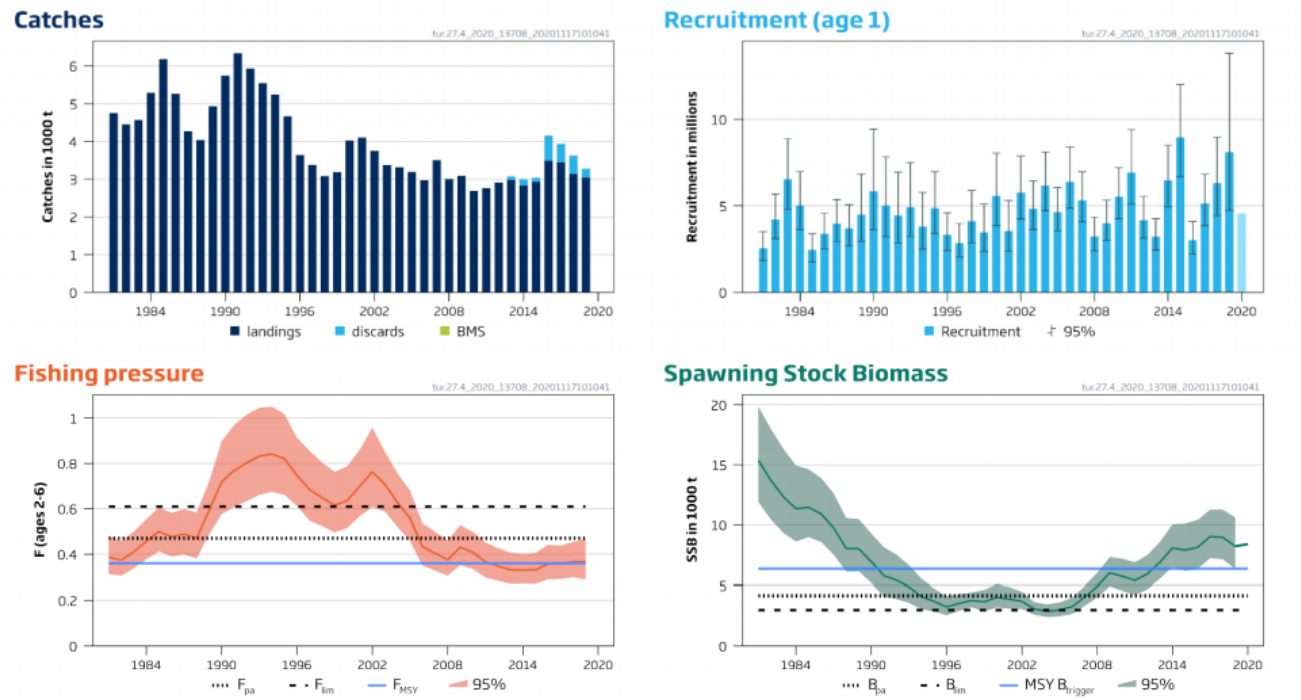

Figure 1. Turbot in Subarea 4. Summary of the stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). Discards are only available from 2013. Shaded areas represent 95% confidence intervals. Assumed recruitment is unshaded. Landings below minimum conservation reference size (BMS) are those officially reported. Source: ICES 2020

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy). Hence, the fishery **PASSES** clause C1.2.

References

Munroe, T., Costa, M., Nielsen, J., Herrera, J., de Sola, L., Rijnsdorp, A.D. & Keskin, Ç. 2015. *Scophthalmus maximus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198731A45790581. Downloaded on 17 September 2020.

ICES. 2020. Turbot (Scophthalmus maximus) in Subarea 4 (North Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, tur.27.4. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5914. Version 2: 18 November 2020

ICES. 2020. Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, tur.27.4. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5914.

ICES. 2019. Turbot (*Scophthalmus maximus*) in Subarea 4 (North Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, tur.27.4, https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4876

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