



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

**MarinTrust Programme**

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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 Major Fishing Area 27
	Country of origin of the product:	UK & Ireland
	Stock:	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in Divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland)
Date	12/11/2021	
Report Code	BP221	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	PASS	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name: Pelagia			
Address:			
Country: UK & 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 2
Assessment Period	To November 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Plaice
Stock	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in Divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland)
Fishery Location	FAO Major Fishing Area 27
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework / UK & Ireland management authority
Gear Type(s)	Beam and otter trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

## 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. Plaice in ICES Division 7 b-c is not is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red list nor is listed in Appendix 1 of CITES.</p> <p>ICES is not aware of any agreed precautionary management plan for plaice in this area. The last stock assessment performed by ICES in 2020 showed that when the precautionary approach is applied, landings should be no more than 19 tonnes in each of the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.</p> <p>ICES cannot quantify the corresponding total catches as catches in this fishery are extremely limited. The ICES framework for category 6 stocks was applied for this stock. For stocks without information on abundance or exploitation, ICES considered that a precautionary reduction of catches should be implemented unless there is ancillary information clearly indicating that the current level of exploitation is appropriate for the stock.</p> <p>There are no reference points for either biomass or fishing mortality for this stock and landings in the past 10 years have been the lowest on record. Due to the lack of data indication stock status, the stock is assessed as category D using the PSA tool.</p> <p>With an average of susceptibility 2.6 of and availability 2 of the stock has been scored in table D4. The stock has achieved a PASS in D4.1 and D4.2 and therefore, the by-product covered by this report is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MARINTRUST v2 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified plaice in Divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland) as category D, reference points are undefined to assess status of the stock relative to.</p> <p>With an average productivity score of 2 and an average susceptibility score of 2.6, it does not pass D3. Consequently, it was further assessed under Clause D4.</p> <p>The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts. There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species. It PASSES Clause D4.</p> <p>Therefore, West of Ireland plaice stock should be approved.</p>
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 Red list Category

By-product 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.

By-product 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice in divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework / UK & Ireland	D	LC	Not listed

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

## CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which make up less than 5% of landings and are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that

D1	Species Name	Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	
	Productivity Attribute	Value	Score
	Average age at maturity (years)	10.5 years	3
	Average maximum age (years)	Max. reported age: 50 years	3
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	158,114 eggs estimated as geometric mean	1
	Average maximum size (cm)	100.0 cm SL male/unsexed	2
	Average size at maturity (cm)	L <sub>m</sub> 30.8 cm	2
	Reproductive strategy	Broadcast spawner	1
	Mean trophic level	3.2 +/- s.e. 0.27. Estimated from diet data.	2
	<b>Average Productivity Score</b>		<b>2</b>
	Susceptibility Attribute	Value	Score
	Overlap of adult species range with fishery	Unknown.	
	Distribution	The distribution of the species is extending all across European waters.	1
	Habitat	As this is flatfish living on the seabed, its habitat will overlap with that where bottom trawls operate.	3
	Depth range	Depth range 0 - 200 m, usually 10 - 50 m. High overlap with trawl gear.	3
	Selectivity	The species is likely to be > 2 time the mesh size.	3
	Post-capture mortality	The survival percentage falls within the range of 12-35% or around 19% <sup>3</sup> . Most would be dead after release in trawl gear.	3
	<b>Average Susceptibility Score</b>		<b>2.6</b>
	<b>PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)</b>		<b>Go to TABLE D4</b>
	<b>Compliance rating</b>		<b>Pass D4</b>
<b>References</b>			
Freyhof, J. 2015. <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> . The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T135690A55118705. Downloaded on 26 May 2021.			
ICES. 2020. Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, ple.27.7bc. <a href="https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5769">https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5769</a> .			
Van der Reijden, Ampe B., Van Bogaert N., Vanderperren E., Torreele E., Polet H. 2018. Survival of plaice caught and discarded by Belgian beam trawlers. Institute for Agricultural, Fisheries and Food Research Animal Sciences Unit - Fisheries and Aquatic Production Ankerstraat 1 8400 Oostende.			
<a href="https://www.nwwac.org/_fileupload/Discards/2018/Annex%20VIIIa%20-%20Report_Survival%20Plaice_9-04-2018_final.pdf">https://www.nwwac.org/_fileupload/Discards/2018/Annex%20VIIIa%20-%20Report_Survival%20Plaice_9-04-2018_final.pdf</a>			
<i>Standard clauses 1.3.2.2</i>			
a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.			

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.nwwac.org/\\_fileupload/Discards/2018/Annex%20VIIIa%20-%20Report\\_Survival%20Plaice\\_9-04-2018\\_final.pdf](https://www.nwwac.org/_fileupload/Discards/2018/Annex%20VIIIa%20-%20Report_Survival%20Plaice_9-04-2018_final.pdf)

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	Low productivity/ High risk	Medium productivity/ Medium risk	High productivity/ Low risk
	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk	Low susceptibility/ Low risk
		Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

**Note:** Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.



D3		Average Susceptibility Score		
		1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

D4	Species Name	Plaice, <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	
<b>Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements</b>			
D4.1	The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.	Yes	
D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.	Yes	
<b>Outcome:</b>			<b>PASS</b>
<p><b>Evidence</b></p> <p><b>D4.1. The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.</b></p> <p>The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process as advice and TAC are set. In recent years, since 2016 ICES has been applying the precautionary approach by using buffers (e.g. 0.8 buffer used in 2020) to limit catches until better information becomes available. Catches have been very small in the region, the information showed in the last stock assessment reported that in 2019 in UK the landing was 0 tonnes and 8 tonnes in Ireland.</p> <p>Therefore, the potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts and it PASSES clause D4.1.</p> <p><b>D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species</b></p> <p>Catches for UK and Ireland are very low as mentioned above. Combined UK &amp; Ireland catches are within the catch corresponding to advice. There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species, and it PASSES clause D4.2.</p>			
<b>References</b>			
ICES. 2020. Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> ) in divisions 7.b–c (West of Ireland). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, ple.27.7bc. <a href="https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5769">https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5769</a> .			
ICES. 2020. Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE). Draft report. ICES Scientific Reports. 2:40. xx pp. <a href="http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.5978">http://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.5978</a> . Publication of the full report is expected end of 2020.			
<b>Links: See above</b>			
<b>MARINTRUST Standard clause</b>		1.3.2.2, 4.1.4	
<b>FAO CCRF</b>		7.5.1	
<b>GSSI</b>		D.5.01	