



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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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 and Ireland
	Stock:	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea)
Date	12/11/2021	
Report Code	BP264	
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 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 2
Assessment Period	To November 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Plaice
Stock	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO Major Fishing Area 27
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework / UK & Ireland
Gear Type(s)	Beam and otter trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
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. Plaice in ICES Division 7a is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red list nor is listed in Appendix 1 of CITES.</p> <p>The EU multiannual plan (MAP) for stocks in Western Waters and adjacent waters (EU, 2019) takes into account bycatch of this species. There is no agreed shared management plan with the UK for this stock, and ICES provides advice according to ICES MSY approach. Therefore, there is a species-specific management plan and the stock has been assessed under category C.</p> <p>Removals of the species has been considered in the stock assessment therefore the stock passes clause C1.1</p> <p>The spawning–stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 2012 and has been well above MSY Btrigger since 2013. Therefore, 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, as this is the case here Plaice in ICES Division 7a is APPROVED 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 Division 7.a (Irish Sea) as category C, reference points are defined to assess status of the stock relative to.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. The plaice stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Irish Sea 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 ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Plaice in Division 7.a (Irish Sea)	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework / UK & Ireland	C	LC	Not listed

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

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.

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 should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		Plaice, <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	
C1	EU Common Fisheries Policy Framework		
	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.	Yes
	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.	Yes
			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 stock is assessed using an age-based analytical assessment (SAM; Nielsen and Berg, 2014; ICES, 2019) that uses landings and discards in the model and in the forecast. Input data include commercial catch-at-age data; three survey indices (UK (E&W)-BTS-Q3, NIGFS-WIBTS-Q1, and NIGFS-WIBTS-Q4); fixed maturity ogive; natural mortality constant over the years and different across the ages. Discard values are available from 2004. Estimates of modelled discards are available for 1981–2003 (WKIRISH3; ICES, 2017). Only the dead fraction of discards (estimated to be 0.6) is accounted for in the model. In the forecast discard values are raised to include the live portion.</p> <p>Catches can be seen in the figure 1 and they have been decreasing in recent years. Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and it 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>As shown below, the plaice spawning–stock biomass (SSB) has increased since 2012 and has been well above MSY Btrigger since 2013. Recruitment (R) has declined in recent years. Fishing mortality (F) has been generally decreasing since 1992 and has been below FMSY since 2011.</p>			

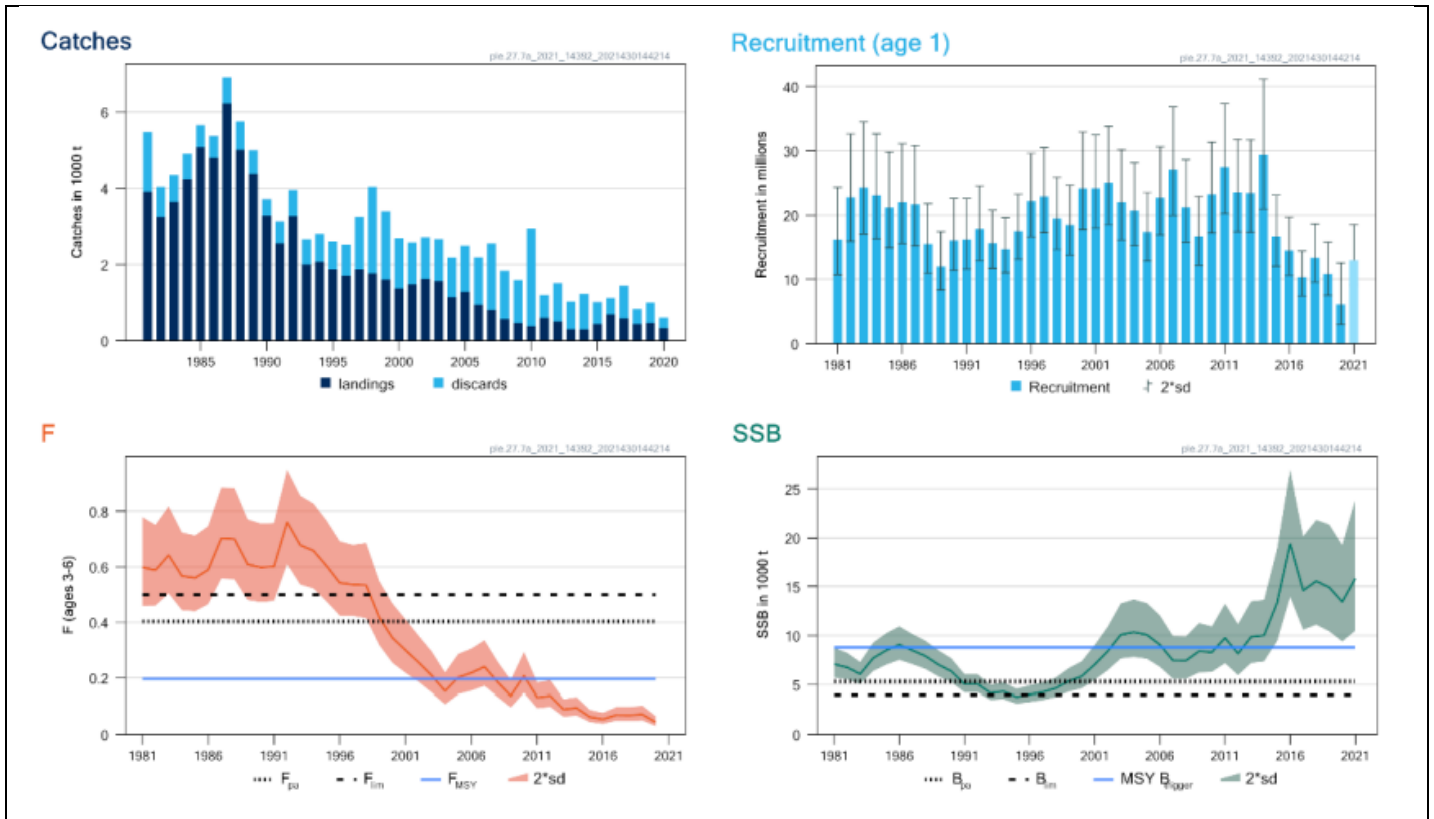


Figure 1. Plaice in Division 7.a. Summary of the stock assessment. The assumed recruitment value for 2021 is shaded in a lighter colour. ICES 2021

Therefore, Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY and spawning-stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

Freyhof, J. 2015. *Pleuronectes platessa*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T135690A55118705.

ICES. 2021. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in Division 7.a (Irish Sea). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, ple.27.7a. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7820>

Links: see above

MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01