



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:	Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
	Country of origin of the product:	UK & Ireland
	Stock:	ICES subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay)
Date	31/03/2021	
Report Code	BP29	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	UK & Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
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	Re-Approval
Assessment Period	March 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)
Stock	ICES subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU (CFP), CEFAS and Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Gear Type(s)	Longline, gillnets and trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's determination
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>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 Marin Trust raw material. Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>) in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p> <p>The EU multiannual plan (MAP) for stocks in the Western Waters and adjacent has been agreed by the EU for this stock (EU, 2019). This plan is not adopted by Norway; thus, it was not used as the basis of the advice for this shared stock. ICES was requested to provide advice based on the MSY approach and to include the MAP as a catch option. There are reference points defined for this stock and therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment, removals are considered and the stock is above B_{lim} and $MSY_{trigger}$, therefore the fishery PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>) in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay) is APPROVED by the assessor for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the Marin Trust v 2.0 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay) hake stock as category C, this stock is managed and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is well above B_{lim} and $MSY_{trigger}$. Therefore, the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point.</p> <p>The Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay) hake stock passes both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved under the Marin Trust v 2.0 by-products standard.</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 Redlist 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
Hake	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	ICES in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay)	EU (CFP), CEFAS and Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	C	LC	No

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 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		Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</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 data used in the stock assessment are: commercial landings; four survey indices (FR-EVHOE-WIBTS-Q4, SP-PORC-WIBTS-Q3, IE-IGFS-WIBTS-Q4, and RESSGASC); maturity data: constant maturity (Martin, 1991); natural mortality: constant value of 0.4. Discards and bycatch Data series from most fleets are available. All the observed discards are included in the assessment. 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 increased substantially since 2006. In 2016 it reached the maximum in the time series, and since then it has declined slightly. Fishing mortality (F) decreased markedly between 2005 and 2012 and has been stable below FMSY since then. Recruitment is variable without trend. Recent recruitment is uncertain. (Figure 1).</p>			

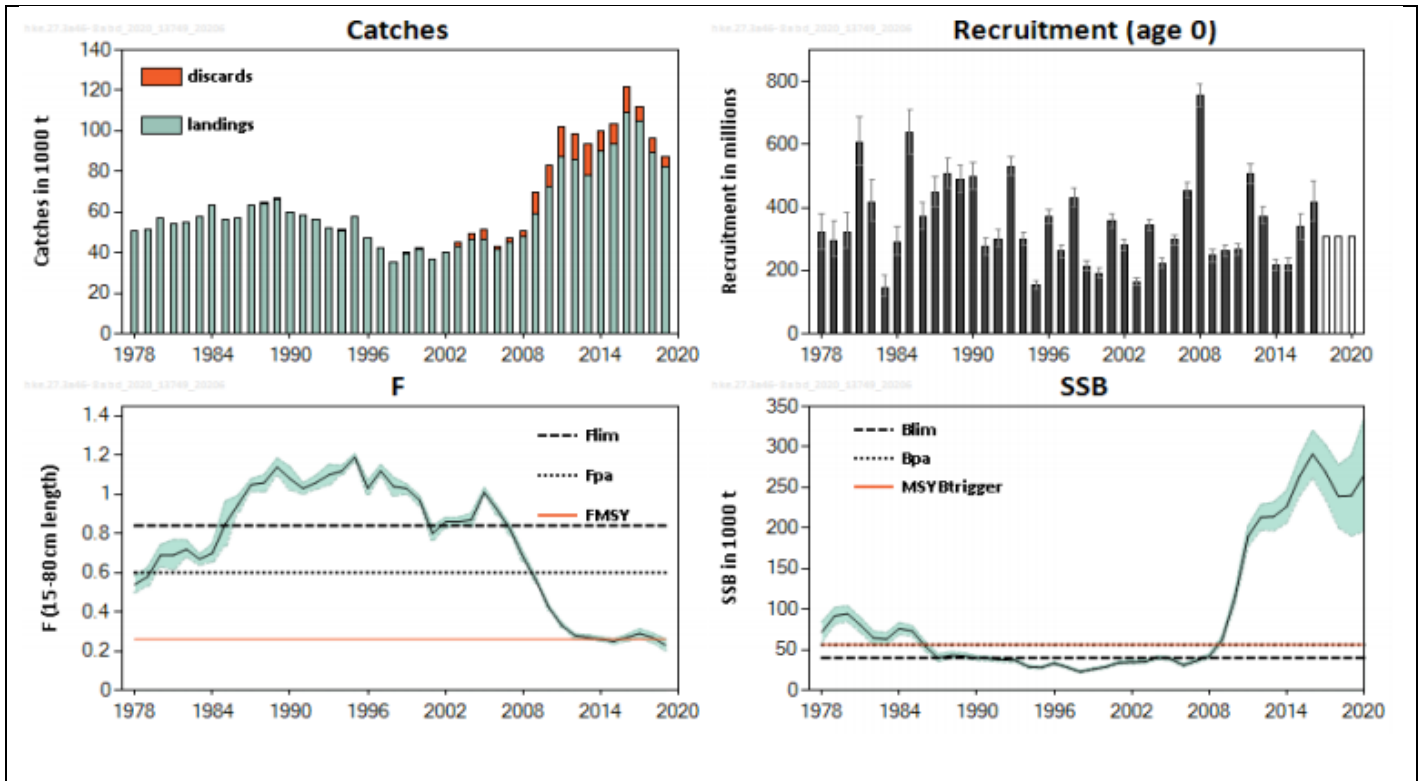


Figure 1. Hake in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and in divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock. Summary of the stock assessment. Complete discard estimates are available only since 2003. Plots show 95% confidence intervals (shaded area). Fishing mortality (F) confidence intervals derived from standard deviations, calculated internally by the model for F-at-age values. Assumed recruitment (R) values are unshaded. ICES 2020

ICES assess that fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY; spawning-stock size is above MSYB_{trigger}, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and the species **PASSES** the clause C1.2.

References

ICES. 2020. Hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, hke.27.3a46-8abd. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5945>.

ICES. 2019. Hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) in subareas 4, 6, and 7, and divisions 3.a, 8.a–b, and 8.d, Northern stock (Greater North Sea, Celtic Seas, and the northern Bay of Biscay). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019. ICES Advice 2019, hke.27.3a46-8abd, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4759>

Links

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