



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark
	Stock:	Subdivisions 21–23 (Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound)
Date	31/03/2021	
Report Code	BP37	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Denmark		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	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
Stock	Subdivisions 21–23 (Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 Atlantic Northeast
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union through Common Fisheries Policy and Danish Directorate of Fisheries
Gear Type(s)	Beam trawls and otter 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. Plaice does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, plaice is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p> <p>The EU Multiannual Plan for the Baltic Sea (EU, 2016) takes bycatch of this species into account. Currently no management plan covers subdivision 21. There are reference points defined related to this stock and therefore, the stock has been assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment removals are considered and the stock is above B_{lim} and $MSYB_{trigger}$, therefore the fishery PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Plaice in ICES subdivisions 21-23 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 Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound plaice 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 $MSYB_{trigger}$. Therefore, the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point.</p> <p>The Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound plaice 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
Plaice	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	ICES Subdivisions 21–23 (Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound)	EU (CFP) and Danish Directorate of Fisheries	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		Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</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 catches; two combined survey indices (NS-IBTSQ1 and BITS-Q1, NS-IBTSQ3 and BITS-Q4); mean maturity data for the modelled period (from commercial catch and surveys); natural mortalities are fixed and assumed to be 0.1 except for age 1, which has 0.2. Discard information is available from 1999 from the main fleets (covering 89% of the landings in 2018) and 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 increased significantly from 2009 and has been above MSY Btrigger since 2012. Fishing mortality (F) has declined since 2008, but F remains above FMSY. Recruitment has fluctuated without trends between 1999 and 2016 and the last two-year classes are the highest observed. (Figure 1).</p>			



Figure 1. Plaice in subdivisions 21–23. Summary of the stock assessment. Weights in thousand tonnes. Recruitment, F, and SSB show confidence intervals (95%) in the plot. Assumed recruitment is unshaded. Source: ICES 2020

ICES assesses fishing pressure on the stock to be above FMSY, but below Fpa and Flim, and the size of the spawning stock to be above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim.

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. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in subdivisions 21–23 (Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, ple.27.21-23. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5870>.

ICES. 2019. Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) in subdivisions 21–23 (Kattegat, Belt Seas, and the Sound). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2019, ple.27.21-23, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4751>

Links

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