



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment GBR08 – Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)
	Country of origin of the product:	UK & Ireland Flag countries: UK & Ireland
	Stock:	Herring in ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)
Date	April 2024	
Report Code	GBR08	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	UK & Ireland Flag countries: UK & Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s):	Killybegs (Pelagia), Aberdeen (Pelagia), Lunar FPR Ltd, Bressay (Pelagia), Grimsby (Pelagia)		
Country:	UK & Ireland	Flag countries:	UK & Ireland
Email address:	Applicant Code:		
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	April 2024 – April 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
Stock	Herring in ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)
Fishery Location	FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union (Common Fishery Policy), Ireland - Sea-Fisheries Policy & Management Division, UK - Marine Management Organization
Gear Type(s)	All
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's determination
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species - IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MarinTrust raw material. Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is no agreed precautionary management regime in place for herring in the considered area, however, the ICES advice basis is made according to the MSY approach. The stock is assessed by ICES with reference points, therefore the species is assessed under category C here. The latest stock assessment was published in May 2023.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, and the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (proxy), so it PASSES Clauses C1.1 and C1.2</p> <p>Therefore, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel) under Category C, the stock being subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process and the most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above limit reference point (proxy). Therefore, the stock is considered to satisfy C1.1. and C1.2.</p> <p>In conclusion, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel) passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v2.3.</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
Herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Herring in ICES Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel)	Yes	C	LC ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/155123/4717767>

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 should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</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

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.

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 532 166 tonnes (ICES, 2023). Catches of Western Baltic Spring-Spawning (WBSS) herring in the fishery for North Sea autumn-spawning herring in the east of 4.a and 4.b should be kept as low as possible.

The assessment type is an Age-based analytical assessment, SAM that uses catches in the model and in the forecast. The input data include commercial catches disaggregated by fleets and split for NSAS/WBSS, five survey indices: IBTS-Q1 1-ringer (G1022); IBTS0 (I8304); LAI as SSB index (I2359, I9086, I2687); HERAS 1–8-ringers (includes split for NSAS/WBSS, A5092); IBTS-Q3 0–5-ringers (G2829); annual maturity data from HERAS survey and natural mortalities from SMS North Sea multispecies model. Discarding is considered to be negligible.

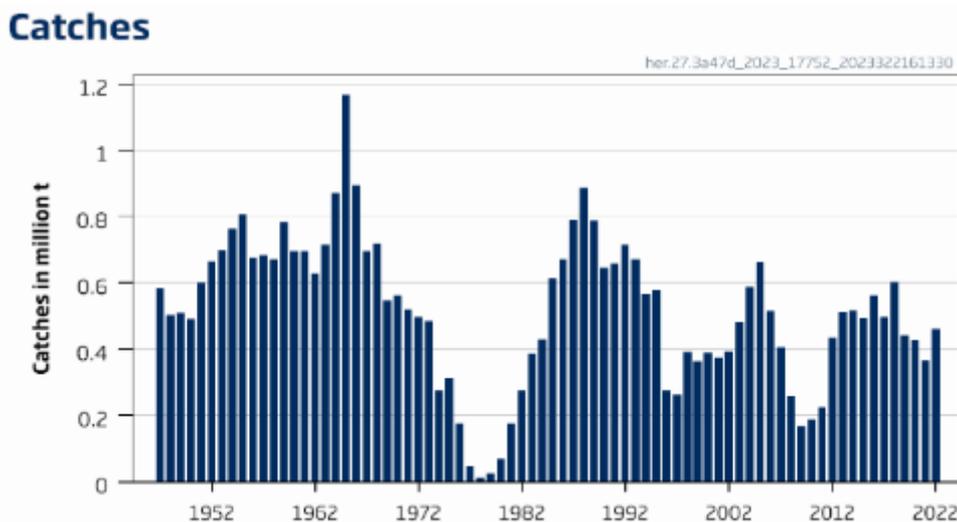


Figure 1. Catches of herring in Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (ICES, 2023).

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. C.1.1 is met.

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.

Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY and the spawning-stock size is above MSY B trigger, Bpa and Blim (ICES, 2023).

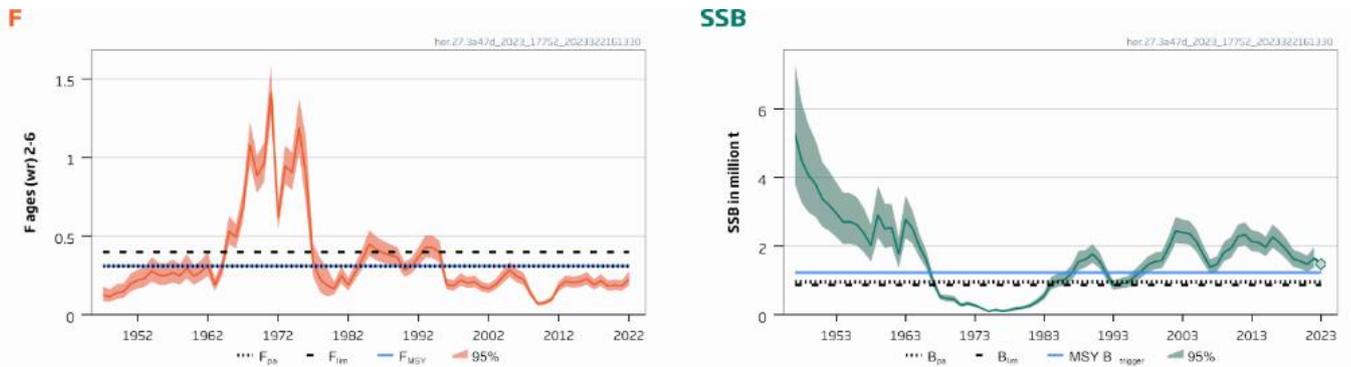


Figure 2. Summary of the stock assessment of herring in Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners. The grey diamond in the SSB plot is a predicted biomass for 2023 at spawning time.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. C.1.2 is met.

References

ICES. 2023. Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in Subarea 4 and divisions 3.a and 7.d, autumn spawners (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, eastern English Channel). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, her.27.3a47d. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21907947> (Published 31 May 2023).

Links

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