



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Norway lobster in ICES Division 7a, Functional Unit 15*

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Norway lobster (<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>)
	Geographical area:	ICES Division 7a, Functional Unit (FU) 15
	Country of origin of the product:	UK & Ireland
	Stock:	Irish Sea, West
Date	August 2022	
Report Code	GBR22	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	UK & Ireland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	None	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Pelagia			
Country: UK & Ireland			
Email address: geraldine.fox@pelagia.com		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Kate Morris	0.25	Re-approval
Assessment Period		August 2021- August 2022	

Scope Details	
Main Species	Norway lobster (<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>)
Stock	Irish Sea, West
Fishery Location	ICES Division 7a, Functional Unit (FU) 15
Management Authority (Country/ State)	UK & EU
Gear Type(s)	Demersal trawls, creels
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	Approve byproduct

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Norway lobster is categorised by the IUCN as Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices. The stock in FU15 is managed with the aim of achieving a target reference point and an annual quota is set, therefore the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>The regular ICES stock assessment incorporates all fishery removals including an estimate of discards, and the stock was considered in its most recent assessment (conducted in 2021) to have an abundance above the target reference point. The byproduct, therefore, meets the requirements of Category C and should be approved for use as a raw material.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The by-product fishery under assessment here is the Norway lobster (<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>) fishery which is pursued by EU and UK vessels in ICES 7a and FU15. Norway lobster is managed by the EU Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters and the UK's Fisheries act and devolved administrations in UK waters. For this Marin Trust assessment, Norway lobster is scored as a category C species.</p> <p>All species scoring tables have been completed by the auditor with sufficient evidence presented to support their final determination.</p> <p>The peer review supports the auditor's recommendation to Pass this fishery under the Marin Trust IFFO RS v2.0 by-fishery standard for the production of fishmeal and fish oil.</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 a 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
Norway lobster	<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	Irish Sea, West	Yes	C	Least Concern ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

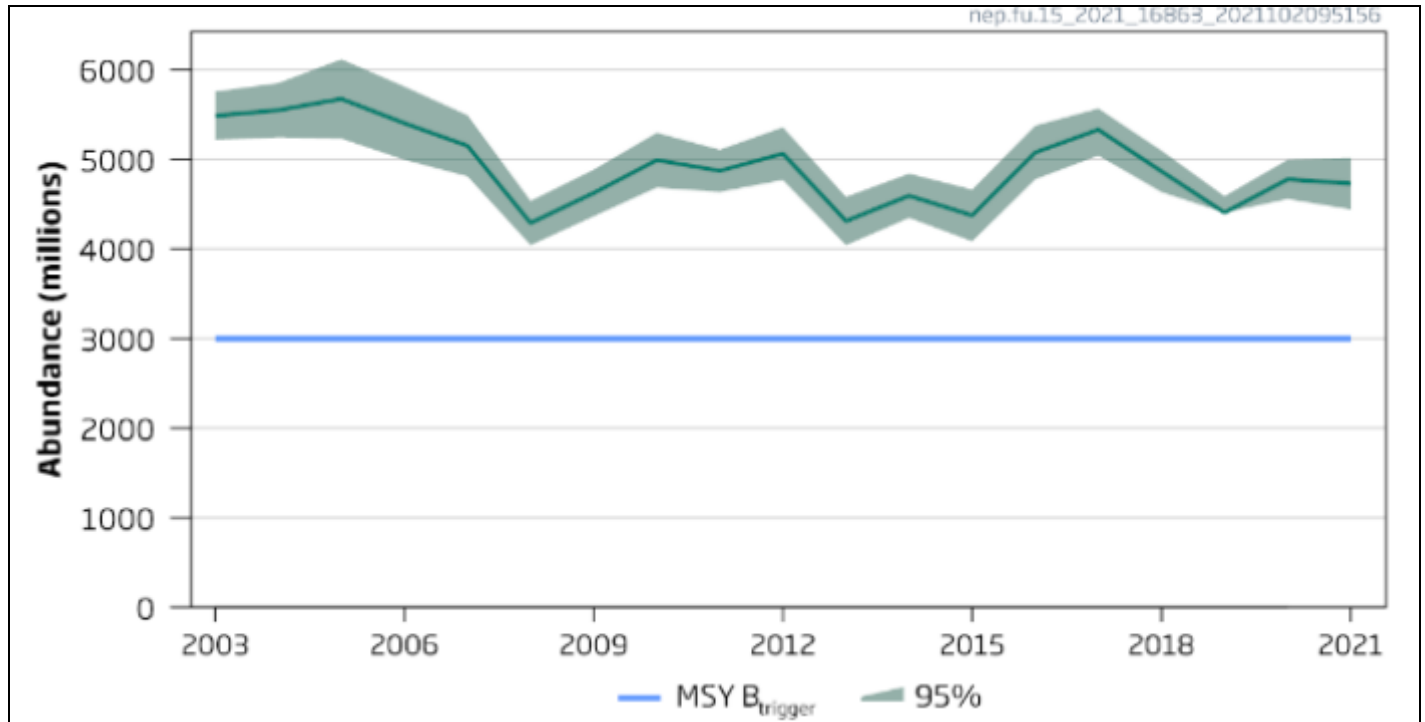
³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/169967/85697412>

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		
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>Regular stock assessments are conducted by the ICES Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE). The most recent stock assessment for which information is available was carried out in 2021 and utilised commercial catch data including international landings and length frequency data from catch sampling. Discards and bycatch have been included in the assessment since 2003. The annual ICES advice includes a section on “Issues relevant for the advice”, where any concerns regarding data completeness are discussed. The most recent advice, published in October 2021, notes that the discard rates incorporated into the assessment are estimates; however, this is not considered a risk to the accuracy of the assessment (ICES 2021). Overall, fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and C1.1 is met.</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 annual ICES catch advice provides an indication of the status of the stock relative to a target reference point. No limit reference points are defined. The target reference points $MSY B_{trigger}$ and $MAP MSY B_{trigger}$ are set at 3,000 million individuals. The most recent stock assessment, conducted in 2021, projected the stock abundance in 2022 to be 4,733 million individuals, substantially above the target reference point. The most recent catch advice, published in October 2021, states that “stock size is above $MSY B_{trigger}$” (ICES 2021). Although no limit reference point is established for the stock, abundance above the target reference point indicates that it would also be above any possible limit reference point. For this reason, C1.2 is met.</p>		



Norway lobster in FU15, stock abundance based on Underwater TV (UTV) data relative to target reference point (ICES 2021)

References

ICES (2021). Norway lobster (*Nephrops norvegicus*) in Division 7.a, Functional Unit 15 (Irish Sea, West). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, nep.fu.15, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7798>

Links

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

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which 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 a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

D1	Species Name		
	Productivity Attribute	Value	Score
	Average age at maturity (years)		
	Average maximum age (years)		
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)		
	Average maximum size (cm)		
	Average size at maturity (cm)		
	Reproductive strategy		
	Mean trophic level		
	Average Productivity Score		
	Susceptibility Attribute	Value	Score
	Availability (area overlap)		
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)		
	Selectivity of gear type		
	Post-capture mortality		
	Average Susceptibility Score		
	PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)		
	Compliance rating		
	Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant)		
	References		
<i>Standard clauses 1.3.2.2</i>			

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			
Impacts On Species Categorized as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements			
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.		
D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.		
			Outcome:
Evidence			
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.			
D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.			
References			
Links			
MarinTrust Standard clause		1.3.2.2, 4.1.4	
FAO CCRF		7.5.1	
GSSI		D.5.01	