



## MarinTrust Standard V2

## MSC Verification Report

*Norway*

*Sandeel (Ammodytes spp.)*

*FAO 27, ICES 3.a.20, 4.a, b, Sandeel Area 3r  
(Skagerrak, northern and central North Sea)*

*MSCV28*

**MarinTrust Programme**

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery For Verification	Species:	Sprat ( <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> )
	Geographical area:	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes marinus</i> )
	Stock:	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in divisions 4.a–b and Subdivision 20, Sandeel Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)
	Gear:	Trawl
MSC Certification Report Reference	<a href="#">Norway sandeel and North Sea sprat</a>	
Date	November 2025	
Report Code	MSCV28	
Assessor	ANA ELISA ALMEIDA AYRES	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome		
Company Name(s): Prima Protein AS, Pelagia AS - Egersund Sildoljefabrikk, Lovund, Karmsund, Måløy Sildoljefabrikk, TripleNine Vedde AS		
Country: Norway		
Email address:		Applicant Code:
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:		NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd
Assessor	Ana Ayres	
Verification Period	September 2025 – September 2026	

## Table 2 Summary of Results

Verification	MSC Report	MarinTrust applicant	Results
Scope (Species and Area)	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in Northeast Atlantic Ocean - ICES 3 and 4.	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in FAO 27 ICES 3a20 and 4.a–b, Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)	Scope matches
Stock	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in divisions 4.a–b and Subdivision 20, Sandeel Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in divisions 4.a–b and Subdivision 20, Sandeel Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)	Scope matches
Vessel list	According to the Public Certification Report from December 2023, the MSC certificate for this stock covers all fishing vessels in the UoCs operating under Norwegian flag and licensed by Norwegian authorities. The client group is Norges Fiskarlag. It is stated on the report that sales operations for the Norway sandeel are done through the sale organization Norges Sildesalgslag, which have monopoly on first-hand sale of fish in Norway.	The MarinTrust applicant stated that all sandeel is purchased through Norges Sildesalgslag, which has the responsibility to verify if the sandeel is MSC certified.	Scope matches
<b>Determination</b>			
The applicants are sourcing from an MSC fishery and the scope of the clients's application with regard scope/stock/vessel list and the MSC UoA matches. The stock is APPROVED in line with the MarinTrust Standard			
<b>Notes for On-site Auditor</b>			
N/A			

## Assessor Guidance

### HOW TO COMPLETE THIS VERIFICATION REPORT

The process for completing the template for MSC Verification is as follows:

1. Compare the scopes of the MSC certification and the MarinTrust applicant fishery. Use **TABLE 3** definitions to complete Results section.
2. Reach a final approval recommendation. After completing Scope **TABLE 3** the assessment team will be able to provide a final decision on approval. Results shown in **TABLE 2**.

**Table 3 Scope definitions according to standards**

Definition	MSC Unit of Certification Definition (V1.3)	MSC Unit of Certification Definition (MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements v 2.0)	MARINTRUST Unit of Approval definition	Scope comparison
Target Species	The target species	The target species	Intended species which is sought after and the focus of fishing effort	
Results		<b>Sandeel (<i>Ammodytes</i> spp.)</b>	<b>Sandeel (<i>Ammodytes</i> spp.)</b>	<b>Scope matches</b>
Stock Definition	The target stock (s)	A description of the biological unit stock exploited by the fishery, as commonly used in management and assessment reports (e.g. North Sea spring spawning herring).	Subpopulation of species which is self-sustaining within a distinct area, as commonly used in management and assessment reports (e.g. North Sea spring spawning herring).	
Results		<b>Sandeel (<i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in divisions 4.a–b and Subdivision 20, Sandeel Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)</b>	<b>Sandeel (<i>Ammodytes</i> spp.) in divisions 4.a–b and Subdivision 20, Sandeel Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)</b>	<b>Scope matches</b>
Geographic Area	NA	A description of the geographic area within which the fishery is undertaken. This may be only a part or the entire stock unit included under stock name. FAO and ICES definitions used.	Area of the sea designated by the FAO and ICES	
Results		<b>Northeast Atlantic Ocean - ICES 3 and 4</b>	<b>FAO 27 ICES 3a20 and 4.a–b, Area 3r (northern and central North Sea, Skagerrak)</b>	<b>Scope matches</b>

Harvest Method	The fishing method or gear	FAO defined gear terminology and/or legally defined/recognised in that jurisdiction used to describe fishing gears.	Fishing equipment as defined by the FAO or that designated by the legal authorities	
Results		<b>Trawl (bottom and midwater)</b>	<b>Trawl</b>	<b>Scope matches</b>
Fleets, individual vessels	Practice (including vessels) pursuing that stock	Named vessels on a client list.  Named fishing organisations/entities that have access to the certificate.	Named vessels on a client list.  Named fishing organisations/entities that have access to the certificate, through the factory.	
Results		<b>According to the Public Certification Report from December 2023, the MSC certificate for this stock covers all fishing vessels in the UoCs operating under Norwegian flag and licensed by Norwegian authorities. The client group is Norges Fiskarlag. It is stated on the report that sales operations for the Norway sandeel are done through the sale organization Norges Sildesalgslag, which have monopoly on first-hand sale of fish in Norway.</b>	<b>The MarinTrust applicants stated that all sandeel is purchased through Norges Sildesalgslag, which has the responsibility to verify if the sandeel is MSC certified. Moreover, it was clarified that If sandeel is landed by Norwegian vessels, it has already gone through extensive checks in the Sales Producer Organisations - POs landing note system, ensuring it is in fact legally licenced vessel and fishing under the relevant MSC UoC.</b>	<b>Scope matches</b>