

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

FISHERY By-Product:	South Pacific Hake/Merluza (<i>Merluccius gayi</i>)
LOCATION:	FAO 87
DATE OF REPORT:	November 2016
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: Ecuador	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Virginia Polonio	Initial
Assessment Summary		
1. Scope of Assessment	By-Product Initial year 2015-2016	
2. Fishery By-Product	South Pacific Hake (<i>Merluccius gayi</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	FAO 87	
4. Fishery Method	Purse seine	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>Ecuador has a fully developed administrative framework for fisheries management. Management of the South Pacific Hake is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends approval of this byproduct.</p>

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>	
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

Determination: A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

Fishery management framework:

The government body with responsibility for fisheries management in Ecuador is The National Fisheries Institute (Instituto Nacional de Pesca de Ecuador INP). The primary legal instrument is the Fisheries and Fisheries Development Law (Ley de pesca y desarrollo pesquero 1974) which has been revised in 1985 (Law reforming the Fisheries and Fisheries Development Law, *Ley Reformatoria de la Ley de Pesca y Desarrollo Pesquero*), in order to include aquaculture among the activities it regulates. The law covers capture, aquaculture, processing and trade.

The National Council for Fisheries Development (*Consejo Nacional de Desarrollo Pesquero*), which is a government body attached to the Ministry of Foreign Commerce, Industrialization, Fisheries and Competitiveness (*Ministerio de Comercio Exterior, Industrialización, Pesca y Competitividad*), is responsible for the development of the national fisheries policy, the approval of the fisheries development plans and programmes, and the yearly assessment of the results in order to allow authorities to make necessary changes. The council also determines which aquatic species can be exploited according to the technical reports of the National Institute for Fisheries (*Instituto Nacional de Pesca*), and issues the reports required by the Law and its Regulations.

The Ministry of Foreign Commerce, Industrialization, Fisheries and Competitiveness is in charge of the supervision and implementation of the national fisheries policy, via the Under Secretariat for Fishery Resources (*Subsecretaría de Recursos Pesqueros*). The Under Secretariat for Fishery Resources fulfils the following functions: it ensures compliance with the laws and regulations concerning fisheries; drafts the fisheries development plans and programmes and submits them to the National Council for Fisheries Development for approval; supervises the activities to be performed by the fisheries public sector and coordinates its relations with the private sector; manages the fisheries financial credit and supervises its use; and approves the reports and plans submitted by the companies working in the fisheries sector. Lastly, the Directorate General for Fisheries (*Dirección General de Pesca*) is the specialized body of the Ministry responsible for the control and supervision of fisheries, hunting and harvesting of aquatic resources, the implementation of the fisheries programmes adopted by the Government, and the control of the industry and the trade of fish products.

Species-specific management:

Management measures include registration of vessels, mandatory reporting of catches, closed areas, a 40% limit on landings destined for reduction purposes, vessels required to have refrigeration technology, VMS, observer program.

Table 1. Numbers and type of Personnel that work in the principle landing ports monitoring Hake during 2013

Puertos Pesqueros	Inspectores de Pesca	Observadores Pesqueros	Editores de Campo	Inspectores de Control Satelital	Coordinador	Digitadores	Total
Anconcito	3	8					11
Manta	5	4	1	3	1	11	25
Posorja	6	15	2				23
Pto. Bolívar	3	1					4
Pto. López	3	2					5
Total	20	30	3	3	1	11	68

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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.

LOW	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
HIGH	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Determination: Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Scientific research and advice in support of the management of Ecuadorian fisheries is provided by the National Fisheries Institute (INP). The mission of the INP is ‘Providing services and advice to the fisheries-aquaculture sector through research and scientific-technical assessment of aquatic resources and ecosystems for sustainable management and for quality assurance and safety of fishery and aquaculture products in all phases of production’. This includes the development of stock-specific management plans and the planning and conducting of research in support of these functions.

INP carried out monthly monitoring of the Hake fleet and produce technical reports that can be found on their website. Surveys are also carried out by the research vessel to estimate biomass and distribution.

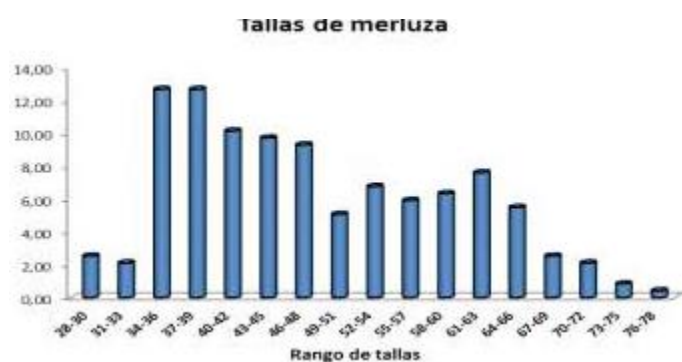


Figure 1. length frequency distribution from the artisanal fleet September 2016

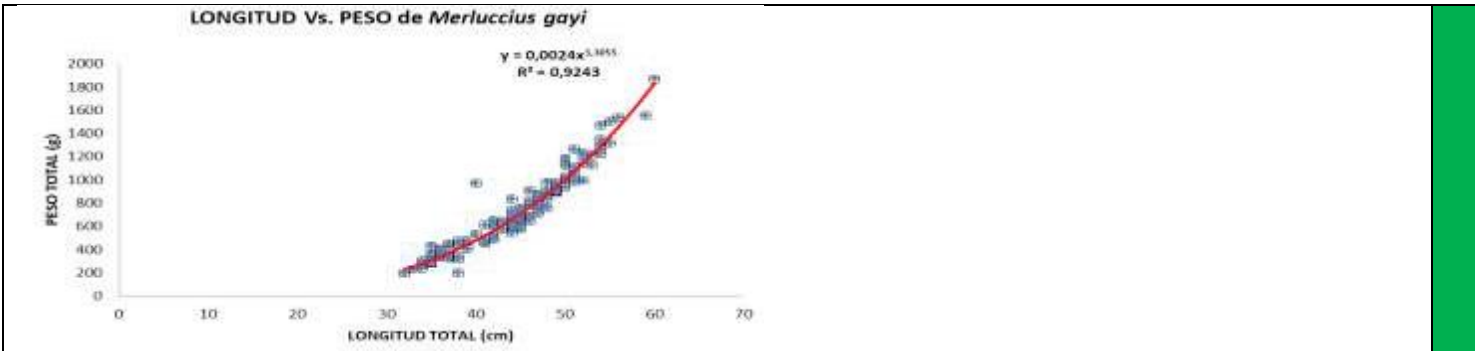


Figure 2. Length weight relationship from the artisanal fleet September 2016

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C. STOCK STATUS	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>	
LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
MEDIUM	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
HIGH	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.
<i>Determination: The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is data Deficient, there is not enough information available to determine the current population trend.</i>	
<p><i>Merluccius gayi</i> has been assessed by the IUCN and has been found to be Data Deficient. This species does not have enough information available to determine the current population trend. The catch data available suggests that it may be under pressure from fisheries. Therefore, it is listed as Data Deficient. Further monitoring of this species should be conducted in order to determine the extent of the pressure of the fisheries and the current population trend.</p>	
R6	

5. REFERENCES

R1 - Image of *Merluccius gayi* by Klaus Busse

<http://fishbase.org/photos/PicturesSummary.php?ID=324&what=species>

R2- FAO fisheries and aquaculture country page, Ecuador:

http://www.fao.org/fishery/legalframework/nalo_ecuador/en

R3- Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Acuicultura y Pesca <http://www.institutopesca.gob.ec/valores-mision-vision/>

R4 – Ecuador Hake fishery. 2013 (Pesquería del recurso merluza (*Merluccius gayi*) en el Ecuador Continental. 2013)

<http://www.cedepesca.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Informe%202013%20merluza%20Ecuador.pdf>

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R5- INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE PESCA INFORME DE SEGUIMIENTO DEL ESTADO BIOLÓGICO DE MERLUZA (*Merluccius gayi*) – SEPTIEMBRE, 2016 <http://www.institutopesca.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/MERLUZA-SEPTIEMBRE-2016.pdf>

R6 – IUCN Redlist. Iwamoto, T., Eschmeyer, W., Alvarado, J. & Bussing, W. 2010. *Merluccius gayi*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2010: e.T183527A8128809. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2010-3.RLTS.T183527A8128809.en>. Downloaded on **01 November 2016**.

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