MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

Vietnam Alaska Pollack

FAO Area 67

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Alaska pollack *Gadus chalcogrammus / Theragra chalcogrammus*
	Geographical area:	FAO 67 Pacific Northeast (Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)
	Flag country:	USA
	Stock:	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)
Date	26/07/2022	
Report Code	BP101	
Assessor	Heri	
Flag country - PASS	PASS	
Flag country - FAIL		

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Thien Quynh Co Ltd			
Country: Vietnam			
Email address: thienquynh.co@gmail.com		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Heri	Kate Morris	0,5	Surveillance
Assessment Period	To July 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Alaska pollack *Gadus chalcogrammus / Theragra chalcogrammus*
Stock	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)
Fishery Location	FAO 67 Pacific Northeast (Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. Alaska Pollack, (*Gadus chalcogrammus*) is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Near Threatened (NT) and is not listed in CITES such that Alaska Pollack-derived products are eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust byproduct raw material. The Guidelines for Fishery Management Plans (602 Guidelines) published by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) require that a stock assessment and fishery evaluation (SAFE) report be prepared and reviewed annually for each fishery management plan (FMP), therefore Alaska Pollack is classified as Category C. Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the stock assessment process, so the stock and the latest stock assessment shows the stock is not being subject to overfishing, is not currently overfished, nor is it approaching a condition of being overfished, hence the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. and Clause C1.2 In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2. Therefore, Pacific Cod in Western Bering Sea is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v 2.0 by-product standard.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The by-product fishery under assessment here is the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) pollock (*Gadus chalcogrammus*) fishery, targeted by Vietnamese flagged vessels operating in FAO 67. Pollock is correctly classified by the auditor as category C species and the C1 scoring table has been completed with sufficient evidence to support the auditor's final determination. The fishery under assessment may pass C1 scoring. The peer review supports the auditor's recommendation to approve this fishery under the Marin Trust IFFO RS v2.0 by-product standard for the production of fishmeal and fish oil.
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. material[1]. If the IUCN assessment was completed more than 5 years prior to the time of the assessment please refer to the most recent stock assessment, ICES advice[2], current national legislation or international binding agreements.

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]
Alaska pollack	*Gadus chalcogrammus*	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	C	NT	No

[1] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[2] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php

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.	Yes
	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.	Yes
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.

The Council and NMFS must have the best available biological and socioeconomic information with which to carry out their responsibilities for conserving and managing groundfish resources. The purpose of the Observer Program is to verify catch composition and quantity, including catch discarded at sea, and collect biological information on marine resources. Used in conjunction with reporting and weighing requirements, the information collected by observers or electronic monitoring systems provides the foundation for in-season management and for tracking species-specific catch and bycatch amounts. Scientists use information collected by observers or electronic monitoring systems for stock assessments and marine ecosystem research

The Guidelines for Fishery Management Plans (602 Guidelines) published by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) require that a stock assessment and fishery evaluation (SAFE) report be prepared and reviewed annually for each fishery management plan (FMP)

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process

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.

The stock is not being subject to overfishing, is not currently overfished, nor is it approaching a condition of being overfished. The tests for evaluating these three statements on status determination require examining the official total catch from the most recent complete year and the current model projections of spawning biomass relative to B35% for 2021 and 2022. The official total catch for 2020 is 3,205 t which is a small fraction of the 2020 OFL of 66,973 t; therefore, the stock is not being subjected to overfishing. The estimates of spawning biomass for 2021 and 2022 from last year's assessment model (Barbeaux et al. 2020) and the current year (2021) projection model are 89,906 t and 85,785 t, respectively. The 2021 estimate from the current year projection is

above B35% at 64,916 t and the 2022 estimate is above ½ B35% and the stock is expected to be above B35% in 2033 under projection Scenario 7, therefore, the stock is not currently overfished nor approaching an overfished condition as seen in Table 1.

Quantity/Status	As estimated or specified *last* year for 2021	2022	As estimated or recommended *this* year for 2022	2023
M (natural mortality rate)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Tier	3a	3b	3a	3b
Projected total (age 3+) biomass (t)	1,097,340	812,182	848,878	1,205,850
Female spawning biomass (t)	184,530	169,577	186,481	167,840
$B_{100\%}$	443,000	443,000	430,000	430,000
$B_{40\%}$	177,000	177,000	172,000	172,000
$B_{35\%}$	155,000	155,000	150,000	150,000
F_{OFL}	0.33	0.30	0.31	0.29
$maxF_{ABC}$	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.26
F_{ABC}	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.26
OFL (t)	123,455	106,767	154,983	153,097
maxABC (t)	105,722	91,934	133,081	131,912
ABC (t)	105,722	91,934	133,081	131,912
Status	As determined *last* year for 2019	2020	As determined *this* year for 2020	2021
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

Table 1. Summary result from the latest stock assessment in 2021. Source: Assessment of the pollock stock in the Aleutian Islands

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point

References

https://www.npfmc.org/wp-content/uploads/BSAIfmp.pdf

https://apps-afsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/refm/docs/2021/AIpollock.pdf

https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/alaska-pollock-gulf-of-alaska/

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