

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Blue Ling (<i>Molva dypterygia dypterygia</i>)
LOCATION:	Northeast Atlantic (France)
DATE OF REPORT:	December 2015
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: France	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:		
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Giles Bartlett	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
IFFO RS By-Product surveillance		
2. Fishery By-Product		
Blue Ling (<i>Molva dypterygia dypterygia</i>)		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
Northeast Atlantic (France)		
4. Fishery Method		
Directed trawl and longline; trawl bycatch		
5. Outcome of Assessment		
Maintain approval		

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and France levels which is applied specifically to the blue ling stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by some species-specific data collection and stock assessment, but improvements could be made. The assessment team recommends approving this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard.

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: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment.

H

Fishery management framework:

France is a member of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implements the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In force since 1983, the CFP aims to reconcile resource conservation with the preservation of income and jobs in coastal zones that offer few alternatives in terms of production or employment. It therefore covers not just resources but also markets and structures.

The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1st January 2014. The principal aim of the new CFP is to achieve maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for all stocks by 2015 where possible, and at the latest by 2020. The 2014 reform also details the gradual roll-out of a landing obligation (prohibiting discards), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. Finally, the 2014 reform increases the role and importance of management at the regional level, and encourages more intensive stakeholder engagement.

The primary authority with responsibility for implementing the CFP in France is the Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture (*Direction des Pêches Maritimes et de l’Aquaculture, DPMA*), within the government Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (*Ministère de l’Écologie, du Développement Durable et de l’Énergie*).

Species-specific management:

Blue Ling in the Northeast Atlantic is subject to annual quota in four management units. These units and the associated TACs for 2015 are as follows:

- EU and international waters of Vb, VI, VII: 5,406t
- International waters of XII: 558t
- II and IV: 53t
- III: 8t

Blue ling is also subject to a combined TAC with ling in the Faroese waters of Vb, which in 2015 was set at 1,500t for EU vessels. ICES reports no known specific management objectives for any of the management units, which are similar to but do not precisely match the ICES advice areas. Although understanding of most stocks is limited, the largest (in Division Vb and Subareas VI and VII) is currently estimated to be subjected to fishing pressure below the target reference point (F_{MSY}).

R1 – R5

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B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>		
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.	
<p><i>Determination: Some species-specific data collection and research is carried out, but there is significant room for improved understanding of all three stock units.</i></p> <p>Fisheries management in EU waters is supported by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES utilises the best available scientific information collected by 20 member countries and others, and develops advice for the majority of commercially fished stocks in European waters.</p> <p>ICES provides stock assessment and management advice reports for blue ling in three units in the Northeast Atlantic, as follows:</p> <p><i>Division Va and Subarea XIV (Iceland and Reykjanes ridge)</i></p> <p>A catch and survey trends-based assessment is conducted using catch data from Division Va and Subarea XIV, and the Icelandic autumn survey. The stock is considered data-limited and no quantitative reference points are defined. ICES reports that the uncertainties associated with the survey index are low.</p> <p><i>Division Vb and Subareas VI and VII</i></p> <p>A Multi-Year Catch Curve (MYCC) assessment is conducted using international landings and age composition data from French landings. One reference point is defined (F_{MSY}). Time-series estimates of fishing mortality, recruitment and SSB are available, although ICES states that historical recruitment estimates may not be accurate.</p> <p><i>Divisions IIIa and IVa, and in Subareas I, II, VIII, IX, and XII</i></p> <p>A catch trends-based assessment is conducted biennially using landings from Divisions IIIa and IVa, and Subareas I, II and XII. No quantitative reference points are defined and no standardised estimates of abundance are available.</p> <p>R5, R6</p>		M
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.	
<p><i>Determination: Blue ling has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.</i></p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Molva dypterygia dypterygia</i>, and it is not listed in the CITES appendices.</p>		M

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R7, R8	
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5. REFERENCES

R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm

R2 – CFP – Managing fish stocks: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm

R3 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation:
http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm

R4 – French Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture: <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-Les-peches-maritimes-et-l-.html>

R5 – ICES advice for 2015, 2016, blue ling, 2014:

- Division Va and Subarea XIV (Iceland and Reykjanes ridge):
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/bli-5a14.pdf>
- Division Vb and Subareas VI and VII:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/bli-5b67.pdf>
- Divisions IIIa and IVa, and in Subareas I, II, VIII, IX, and XII:
<http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/bli-oth.pdf>

R6 – EU fishing quotas 2015: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2015.022.01.0001.01.ENG

R7 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R8 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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