

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



Image source: FishBase

FISHERY By-Product:	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
LOCATION:	ICES subareas V, VI, XII and XIV
DATE OF REPORT:	February 2016
ASSESSOR:	Giles Bartlett

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: UK & Ireland	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
Giles Bartlett	Deirdre Hoare	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
IFFO RS By-Product surveillance year 2015		
2. Fishery By-Product		
Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
ICES subareas V, VI, XII and XIV		
4. Fishery Method		
Demersal trawl & gillnet		
5. Outcome of Assessment		
Maintain byproduct approval		

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

As at the time of the 2014 re-assessment, there is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to the Greenland halibut stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment. The assessment team recommends maintaining the approval of 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 stock under assessment. There is some evidence that management measures have led to landings in excess of scientific advice, but on balance the assessment team considers the high compliance rating to remain appropriate.

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Fishery management framework:

The UK & Ireland are members of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implement 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 authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland; the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in England and Wales; and Marine Scotland, a Directorate of the Scottish Government, in Scotland.

Species-specific management:

Greenland halibut is subject to a number of different quotas throughout the area assessed by ICES as a single stock (Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV). The EU quota regions, along with their 2016 TACs, are as follows:

- EU waters of IIa and IV, Vb and VI: 2,500t (including Norway)
- Greenland waters of V and XIV: 4,515t (plus 575t to Norway, 110t to Faroes)

TACs are also set for the Icelandic EEZ (12,500t in 2016) and Greenland (9,800t in 2016). In Faroese waters total effort is limited by number of fishing licences. A common management plan is currently being developed by the various coastal states prosecuting this vastly widespread fishery. The objective of the plan is to resolve historical issues with total landings exceeding ICES advice.

R1 – R9

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

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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>Determination: Management of the fishery is supported by stock-specific research, both fishery-dependent and fishery-independent. The level of data collection is generally considered sufficient by ICES.</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 produces an annual stock assessment and management advice for Greenland halibut in Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV. The assessment is based on commercial catches (including landings and length frequencies from catch sampling), two fishery-independent survey indices, and three commercial indices. ICES states that there is considerable uncertainty in the use of commercial CPUE data prior to 1995. Precautionary and MSY-based reference points have been calculated for the stock.</p> <p>R7 – R9</p>		H
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>Determination: Greenland halibut 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.</p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R10, R11</p>		M

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 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>

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R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>

R6 - Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

R7 – ICES advice, Greenland halibut in Subareas V, VI, XII and XIV, September 2015:

<http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/ghl-arct.pdf>

R8 – EU fishing quotas 2016: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1457430103171&uri=CELEX:32016R0072>

R9 – The Marine Research Institute (MRI)
http://www.hafro.is/Astand/2015/english/greenlandhalibut_2015.pdf

R9 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R10 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>