
FISHERY By Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By Product:	Red fish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>)
LOCATION:	Iceland ICES (Division Va)
DATE OF REPORT:	13/12/2010
ASSESSOR:	Vito Ciccia Romito

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: Fishmeal Association of Iceland		
Address:		
Country:	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Vito Ciccia Romito	Mike Platt	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
1. Scope of Assessment		By product surveillance
2. Fishery By Product		
2. Fishery By Product		Red fish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>)
3. Fishery By Product Location		
3. Fishery By Product Location		Iceland ICES (Division Va)
4. Fishery Method		
4. Fishery Method		Bottom trawl
5. Outcome of Assessment		
5. Outcome of Assessment		Highly compliant to IFFO RS Standard

2. COMPLIANCE LEVEL ACHIEVED
The Icelandic Red fish (<i>Sebastes mentella</i>) if fit to use as by-product with the IFFO RS standard.
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
Auditor to check that the fish by products used by the factory have had a fish by product surveillance

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4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

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 conservation of the fishery.

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 conservation of the stock.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery for its conservation is established and works efficiently toward the conservation of the stock.

Determination: *Iceland has a responsible management regime. The allocated quotas for 2011 have been set lower than scientific advice.*

Management framework and procedure

Icelanders have structured a fisheries management system to ensure responsible fisheries, focusing on the sustainable utilization of the fish stocks and good treatment of the marine ecosystem (*Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture*). According to Icelandic law the total allowable catch (TAC) is set by the Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture and this decision should be based on scientific advice from the Icelandic Marine Research Institute (MRI). The present comprehensive fisheries management system is based on Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs). The Ministry is supported by the Marine Research Institute, the Icelandic Fisheries Laboratory (IFL) and the Directorate of Fisheries. The Directorate is responsible for implementing legislation on fisheries management. It collects and publishes data and other fisheries statistics. It issues fishing permits to vessels and allocates catch quotas. (*Directorate of Fisheries*).

Management considerations

The 2009 landing and logbook data do not change the perception of the stock. **The advice for the fishery in 2011 is therefore the same as the advice given in 2009 for the 2010 fishery. ICES suggests that catches of Deep Pelagic *S. mentella* be reduced since indices from surveys and the fishery suggest that the stock has been declining over the last decades.** ICES has previously advised that most deepwater species like redfish can only sustain low rates of exploitation, since slow-growing, long-lived species that are depleted have a long recovery period.

ICES advises on the basis of precautionary considerations that the fishery be reduced below the 2008 level to 20 000 t and that a management plan be developed and implemented. **ICES suggests that catches of Deep Pelagic *S. mentella* are set at 20 000 t as a starting point for the adaptive part of the management plan (ICES 2010). The Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture has followed the advice and set Haddock quotas for 2011 at 10 000 tonnes** (*Directorate of Fisheries*).

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

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<i>B. Research in support of fisheries conservation and management should exist.</i>	
LOW	Research to support the conservation and management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment does not exist
MEDIUM	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.
HIGH	Research to support the conservation and the management of the stock, non-target species and physical environment exist, and existent research is considered adequate for the long term conservation of the target, non-target and physical environment

Determination: *Iceland has a comprehensive stock assessment regime and uses internationally recognized stock assessment procedures.*

Stock assessment and trends

Survey indices, catches, CPUE and biological data are available for the stock, but the assessment is mainly based on surveys. Based on the trawl survey estimates, there is indication of a decreasing trend in the time series and the 2009 estimate is the lowest in the series. Catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) has been variable over the years, but on average the recent CPUEs are lower than in the early part of the time series. The exploitation rate for this stock is unknown. Therefore, the abundance estimates by the trawl-method must only be considered as a rough attempt to measure the abundance of the deep pelagic stock (ICES 2010).

Effects of the fisheries on the ecosystem

None apart from the removal of the target species. In fact, in 2009 the Total catch (2009) 51 828 kt where 100% landings (100 % pelagic trawl), **0% discards, 0% industrial by-catch, 0% unaccounted removals** (MRI). With some exceptions, pelagic fisheries generate scarce or no bycatch at all (ICES 2010).

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C. STOCK STATUS

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

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.

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.

Determination: *The Red fish (*Sebastes mentella*) fishery has an established management framework (see section A) and the species is of least concern on the IUCN Red list.*

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5. REFERENCES

- R1. R1. Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
<http://www.fisheries.is/management/>
- R1.2 <http://www.fisheries.is/main-species/redfishes/>
- R.2 Directorate of Fisheries
<http://www.fiskistofa.is/>
- R.2.2 <http://en.fiskistofa.is/heildastodur.php>
- R.3 Marine Research Institute
http://www.hafro.is/index_eng.php
- R.4 ICES 2010 2.4.8 Advice June 2010 Iceland and East Greenland STOCK Beaked Redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) in Division Va and Subarea XIV (Icelandic Slope stock).
<http://www.ices.dk/committe/acom/comwork/report/2010/2010/smn-con.pdf>