

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	Lemon sole ( <i>Microstomus kitt</i> )
<b>LOCATION:</b>	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	28/02/2014
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	Sam Peacock

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
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
Sam Peacock	David Garforth	Re-certification
Summary of Assessment		
1. Scope of Assessment	Byproduct re-certification	
2. Fishery By-Product	Lemon sole ( <i>Microstomus kitt</i> )	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)	
4. Fishery Method	Beam trawl, otter trawl, gillnet	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct	

## 2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

## 3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

**There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, but the extent to which these frameworks are applied specifically to lemon sole is limited. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, although ICES categorises the stock as data-deficient. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard at a medium compliance level.**

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>		
<b>LOW</b>	There is no satisfactory legal and management framework for fisheries in the region.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative and legal framework that underpins management of fisheries in the region is established, but it is not directly applied to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management for fisheries in the region is established and applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
<p><b>Determination: <i>There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels; however the extent to which these frameworks are applied specifically to lemon sole is limited.</i></b></p> <p><b>Fishery management framework:</b></p> <p>The UK &amp; 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.</p> <p>The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> 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), starting in 2015 and eventually encompassing 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.</p> <p>The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, and the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in the UK.</p> <p><b>Species-specific management:</b></p> <p>Lemon sole in the area appropriate to this assessment is defined as “Lemon sole in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIIId”. There are no specific management objectives for the stock, but an EU TAC is set for Division IIa and Subarea IV together with witch. There is no minimum landing size. Lemon sole is mainly a bycatch species in mixed fisheries, and ICES states that a TAC may not be appropriate as a management tool.</p>		M

R1 – R7

**B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

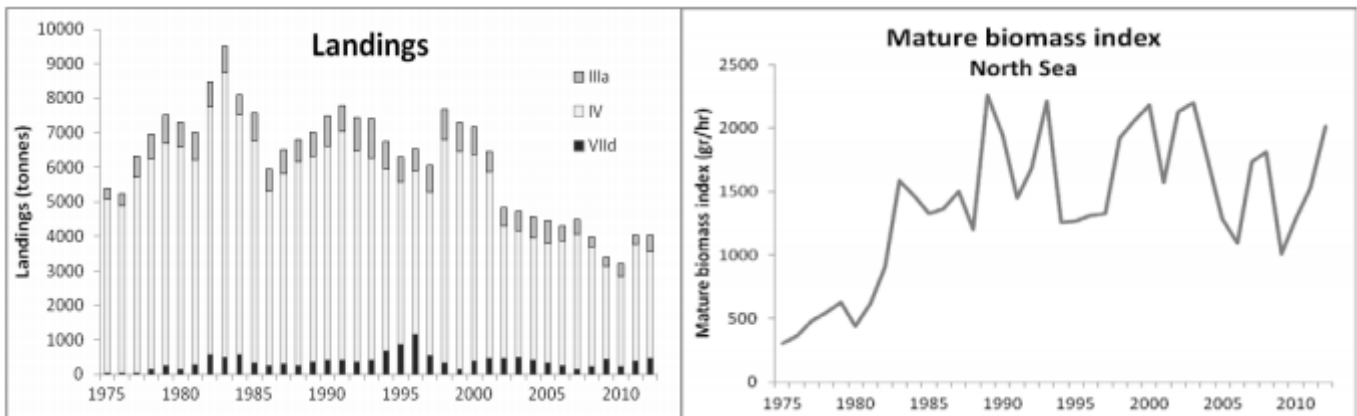
*B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.*

<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of regional fisheries does not exist.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists; however research programmes are not specifically directed at the byproduct stock under assessment.
<b>HIGH</b>	Research specifically targeting the byproduct stock under assessment is carried out in support of sustainable fisheries management.

**Determination: Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists, and lemon sole is subjected to ICES assessment. However there is insufficient information for a qualitative evaluation of the stock, and no reference points have been defined.**

M

Lemon sole is assessed by ICES using commercial catch data and one survey index. ICES states that the 2013 advice is based on a biomass index used as an indicator of stock size, and the uncertainty associated with the index is not known. The methods applied to derive quantitative advice for data-limited stocks are expected to evolve as they are further developed and validated. The harvest control rules are expected to stabilize stock size, but they may not be suitable if the stock size is low and/or overfished. ICES categorises lemon sole as a data-limited stock.



Lemon sole in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId. Left: Official landings per area (in tonnes). Right: index for mature biomass for Subarea IV (g/hr from IBTSQ1). From the ICES advice, June 2013.

R6		
<b>C. STOCK STATUS</b>		
<b>LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE</b>		
<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>		
<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered by the IUCN.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	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. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN and no additional information is available.	
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities. Alternatively if a species is listed as ‘not assessed’ or ‘data deficient’ by the IUCN but other sources of evidence (e.g. MSC certification) demonstrate that the species is not critically at risk.	
<b>Determination: Lemon sole has not been assessed by the IUCN redlist and no additional information on vulnerability is available.</b>		<b>M</b>
The IUCN has not assessed Microstomus kitt.		
R8		

## 5. REFERENCES

- R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](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](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](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/>
- R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>
- R6 – ICES advice, lemon sole in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId, June 2013: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/lem-nsea.pdf>
- R7 – EU fishing quotas 2013: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster\\_tac2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2013_en.pdf)
- R8 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>