

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Ling (<i>Molva molva</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:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Giles Barlett	Surveillance

1. Scope of Assessment	IFFO RS By-Product Surveillance
2. Fishery By-Product	Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location	Northeast Atlantic (France)
4. Fishery Method	Longline, trawls
5. Outcome of Assessment	Maintain approval

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

As with the 2014 re-assessment there is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and France levels which is applied specifically to the ling stocks in the assessment area. Management is supported by some species-specific data collection and stock assessment, but the quality and quantity of data collected could be improved. 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:

Ling is subject to annual quota in five management units in EU waters. The management areas and their associated quotas for 2016 are as follows:

- EU and international waters of I and II: 36t
- IIIa, EU waters of IIIb,c,d: 87t
- EU waters of IV: 2,912t
- EU and international waters of V: 33t
- EU and international waters of VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XII and XIV: 10,297t

These units do not precisely match the stock units for which ICES provides management advice. Ling are primarily caught as bycatch in other fisheries, although there is a targeted fishery in Norwegian waters. There are no specific management objectives for the stocks, which are not necessarily representative of biological populations. The assessment team could find no evidence of any other species-specific regulations in EU waters.

R1 – R5		
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 stock assessment is conducted, but significant improvements could be made as most ling stocks are assessed qualitatively using CPUE data only.</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 advice for ling in the EU waters of the Northeast Atlantic as four stock units, as follows:</p> <p><i>Subareas I and II</i></p> <p>The advice is based on a standardized catch per unit effort (CPUE) series from the Norwegian long-line reference fleet which covers the main areas of the stock (Helle et al., 2015). A biennial trends-in-CPUE assessment is conducted using landings and CPUE data only. There are no reference points and the stock is categorised as data-limited. ICES states that there may be considerable uncertainty in the assessment outcomes.</p> <p><i>Division Va</i></p> <p>An analytical length-based assessment is conducted using the results of the March Icelandic groundfish survey and commercial catch data. Reference points have been defined based on both MSY and the precautionary approach. ICES reports that the uncertainty on recruitment estimates for recent years is high.</p> <p><i>Division Vb</i></p> <p>A biennial survey CPUE trends-based assessment is conducted using commercial longline CPUE and two survey CPUE. The stock is categorised as data limited and no reference points are defined.</p> <p><i>Divisions IIIa and IVa, and Subareas VI, VII, VIII, IX, XII and XIV (other areas)</i></p> <p>A biennial CPUE trends-based assessment is conducted using commercial CPUE data. The advice is based on a standardized CPUE series from the Norwegian long-line reference fleet which shows an increasing trend. Other time-series covering smaller areas of the stock distribution show a similar trend. The stock is considered data-limited and no reference points are defined.</p>		M
R5, R6		
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.	

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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: 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 molva</i> and the species does not occur in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R7, R8</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 – French Directorate of Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture: <http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/-Les-peches-maritimes-et-l-.html>
- R5 – ICES advice, ling, 2014:
 - Subareas I and II: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/lin-arct.pdf>
 - Division Va: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/lin-icel.pdf>
 - Division Vb: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/lin-faro.pdf>
 - Divisions IIIa and IVa, and Subareas VI, VII, VIII, IX, XII and XIV (other areas): <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/lin-oth.pdf>
- R6 – EU fishing quotas 2016: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/agrifish/2015/12/st15276_en15_pdf
- R7 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R8 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>