

FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Pollack/Lythe (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)
LOCATION:	North Sea, North-East Arctic, Skagerrak
DATE OF REPORT:	05/12/13
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, 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:		
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	Dave Garforth	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
		By-Product surveillance
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Pollack/Lythe (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		North Sea, North-East Arctic, Skagerrak
4. Fishery Method		
		Mainly bycatch in pelagic fisheries
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Maintain approval

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

The robust legal and administrative frameworks of Norway and the EU, identified in the previous and initial assessments, remain in place. However, from the evidence available there is no species-specific management regime in place, and although fishery assessments are carried out, there is a lack of data available on either the population or biology of pollack. As there have been no major changes in management or research since the previous assessment, the assessment team recommend that pollack byproducts should remain approved at a medium compliance level.

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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.
<i>Determination: There have been no substantial changes to the Norwegian fishery management framework since the previous assessment, but it still does not appear to be applied at a species or stock level.</i>	
<p>Administrative and legal framework:</p> <p>The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs is responsible for, amongst other activities, ensuring long-term, optimal exploitation of living marine resources; ensuring sound management of the marine environment; and progressing towards a profitable, self-sustained fisheries industry.</p> <p>The regulatory system for fisheries management in Norway is an interactive and iterative process based on incremental changes, and is sometimes referred to as the regulatory chain. The chain has no set start or finish, but can rather be seen as a continuous process.</p> <p>About 90 per cent of Norway’s fish stocks are shared with other states, and bilateral or multilateral negotiations for these stocks take place as the first stage of quota-setting. After these negotiations, the Directorate of Fisheries makes a proposal regarding the regulations for the upcoming year to a broad range of stakeholders. After this consultation, the Directorate of Fisheries recommends next year’s fisheries regulations to the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. The Ministry bases its final decision on outcomes from the quota negotiations with other states, discussions from the consultation process, the recommendation from the Directorate of Fisheries, as well as input from various fisheries industry organisations.</p> <p>Enforcement:</p> <p>Norwegian fisheries regulations are enforced at sea, when the fish is landed and when it is exported. At sea, the Coast Guard is responsible for inspecting fishing vessels and checking their catch against their log books.</p> <p>Both Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels are subject to stringent controls in all Norwegian fishing waters. The Coast Guard performs more than 1800 inspections of Norwegian and the foreign vessels that fish in Norwegian waters annually. Vessels over 24 meters (15 meters for vessels from EU) are required to carry satellite transponders which make it possible to track their activity 24 hours a day.</p> <p>Management of Pollack:</p> <p>The available evidence suggests there is no management of pollack at a species level. There appears to be no TAC set for the North Sea and Skagerrak fishery, and due to a lack of data it is currently unclear whether this represents one or a number of stocks.</p> <p>(R1 – 4)</p>	

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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: Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty. There have been no major changes in the research or assessment activities carried out on this stock since the previous assessment.</i></p> <p>ICES advice:</p> <p>The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) provides annual advice on quotas and management of pollack in the North Sea and Skagerrak. The relevant report is <i>Pollack in Subarea IV and Division IIIa</i>, which has been published annually since 2011. From the information available, ICES does not provide advice on pollack in the North-East Arctic. As the ICES advice for this stock is biennial, no new advice has been published since the previous assessment.</p> <p>The North Sea and Skagerrak advice is based on landings data only, which have previously been considered insufficient to evaluate stock trends. The 2012 advice was the first time ICES provided quantitative advice for data-deficient stocks, representing an improvement in scientific advice for the fishery. Pollack’s preference for wrecks and rocky bottom makes it difficult to catch with trawls and is therefore poorly monitored by existing research surveys. Some length frequency data from landings are available for recent years, but data on life history parameters are missing. Data on growth and maturity, as well as more information from the fisheries are needed.</p> <p>Norway Institute of Marine Research:</p> <p>The Institute of Marine Research (IMR) is Norway's largest centre of marine science. The aim of the research and management advice provided by IMR is to ensure that Norway's marine resources are harvested in a sustainable way. IMR's headquarters are in Bergen, but important activities are also carried out in Tromsø, at the research stations in Matre, Austevoll and Flødevigen and on board research vessels, which are at sea for a total of 1600 days a year. The Institute is heavily engaged in development aid activities through the Centre for Development Cooperation in Fisheries. The IMS conducts research to support Norway fishery management decisions, but does not appear to be currently conducting research specifically on pollack.</p>		M
(R4, R5)		

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.	
<p>Determination: The fish By-Product comes from a fishery that has still not been assessed by the IUCN redlist. There have been no significant changes since the previous assessment.</p> <p>The IUCN has not assessed <i>Pollachius pollachius</i>. ICES has not recommended the closure of the fisheries, although there is a lack of data for these stocks. The MCS has rated pollack 4 out of 5 (where 1 is the most highly recommended for purchase).</p> <p>(R4, R6)</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

- R1 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘The Regulatory Chain’: http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/setting_quotas/The-regulatory-chain/
- R2 – Norway Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs website: <http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/fkd/The-Ministry-of-Fisheries-and-Coastal-Affairs.html?id=262>
- R3 – Norway Fisheries website, ‘Control and Enforcement’: http://www.fisheries.no/resource_management/control_monitoring_surveillance/Control_and_enforcement/
- R4 – ICES 2013 pollack advice: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/Pol-nsea.pdf>
- R5 – Institute of Marine Research, about: http://www.imr.no/om_havforskningsinstituttet/en
- R6 – IUCN red list: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R7 – MCS pollack: <http://www.fishonline.org/fish/pollack-or-lythe-103>

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