MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report Template

MarinTrust Programme
Unit C, Printworks
22 Amelia Street
London
SE17 3BZ
E: standards@marin-trust.com
T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Atlantic mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Faroe Islands
	Stock:	ICES subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)
Date	June 2021	
Report Code	BP125	
Assessor	Jose Peiro Crespo	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Pass	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name: Havsbrún			
Address:			
Country:		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address: havsbrun@havsbrun.fo		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Lloyd's Register	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Jose Peiro Crespo	Kate Morris	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	June – July 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Atlantic mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*)
Stock	ICES subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)
Fishery Location	FAO 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Faroe Islands
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl, purse seine, others (1%)
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Approve
Recommendation	Approve

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
Atlantic mackerel (*Scomber scombrus)* does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, the species is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material. The species is assessed by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). The assessment covers ICES subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters) (the Faroe Islands are situated in ICES area Vb). The last assessment for the assessment was published on 30 September 2020. The stock has been therefore assessed under category C. All removals are included in the stock assessment. The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) of mackerel is estimated to have increased since 2007, reaching a maximum in 2014, and has been declining since then. It has, however, remained above MSY Btrigger since 2008. The stock is at full reproductive capacity (ICES sense). Sub-clauses C1.1. and C.1.2 are met. Therefore, mackerel from ICES subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters) passes this assessment.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
Notes for On-site Auditor

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as an MARINTRUST raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category[1]	CITES Appendix 1[2]
Mackerel	*Scomber scombrus*	ICES subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)	Faroe Islands (there is no long-term management strategy for Northeast Atlantic (NEA) mackerel agreed by all parties involved in the mackerel fishery).	C	Least concern	Not listed

[1] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[2] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment.

Clause C1 should be completed for **each** Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		
C1	**Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements**	
	C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes
	C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes
	Clause outcome:	Pass

C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.

In the Faroe Islands all vessels larger than 15GT must maintain a daily log of their activities in an authorised catch logbook, recording data for each set or haul. Vessels smaller than 15GT must submit a sales note to the Faroese Fisheries Inspection, which is responsible for monitoring and inspecting catches and landings, following each landed catch to document their activities (Faroese seafood 2021).

The Faroes participate as a coastal state in multilateral negotiations on the management of shared fish stocks in the Northeast Atlantic such as Atlanto-Scandic herring, mackerel, blue whiting and redfish. The Faroese marine research uses catch and effort data from logbooks to assess demersal and shared straddling stocks, under the auspices of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea – ICES (Faroese seafood 2021).

According to ICES 2020, catch data is used as input data for the assessment of the stock of mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic.

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, **sub-clause C1.1 is met.**

C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.

Currently, there is no long-term management strategy for Northeast Atlantic (NEA) mackerel agreed by all parties involved in the mackerel fishery. However, in 2019 Coastal State delegations from Norway, the EU, and the Faroes requested ICES to review new harvest control rule (HCR) options for a management strategy. ICES evaluated management strategies for mackerel in 2020 on the request of the EU, Norway, and Faroe Islands (ICES 2020b). During this evaluation, the reference points were also revised (ICES 2020a).

According to the last ICES report, the spawning-stock biomass (SSB) of mackerel is estimated to have increased since 2007, reaching a maximum in 2014, and has been declining since then. It has, however, remained above MSY Btrigger since 2008 (ICES 2020a). There has been a succession of large year classes since 2001, with year classes since 2011 estimated to be above average.

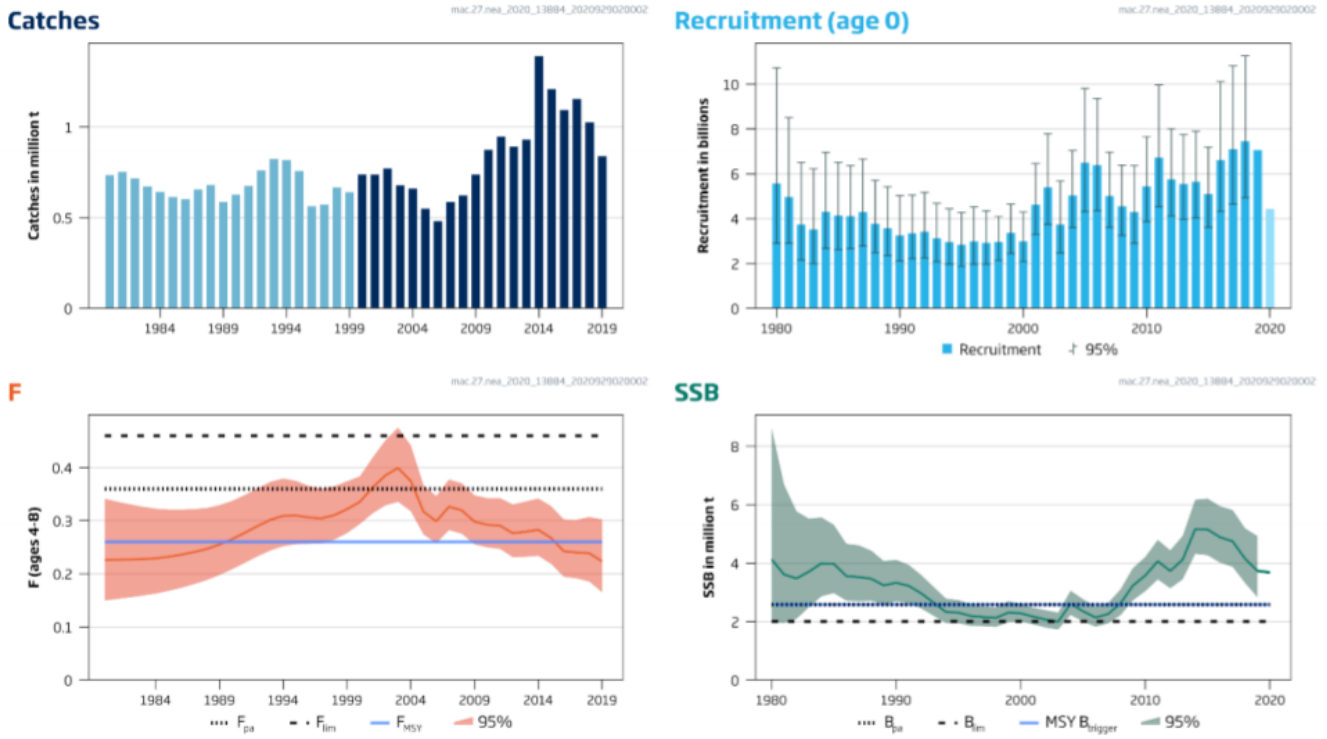

FIGURE 1 MACKEREL IN SUBAREAS 1–8 AND 14, AND IN DIVISION 9.A. SUMMARY OF THE STOCK ASSESSMENT (ICES 2020).

The fishing mortality (F) has declined since 2003 and is estimated to have been below FMSY since 2016 (ICES 2020). ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2021 should be no more than 852,284 tonnes (ICES 2020).

		Fishing pressure				Stock size			
		2017	2018	2019		2018	2019	2020	
Maximum sustainable yield	F_{MSY}	✓	✓	✓	Below	MSY $B_{trigger}$	✓	✓	✓ Above trigger
Precautionary approach	F_{pa},F_{lim}	✓	✓	✓	Harvested sustainably	B_{pa},B_{lim}	✓	✓	✓ Full reproductive capacity
Management plan	F_{MGT}	–	–	–	Not applicable	B_{MGT}	–	–	– Not applicable

FIGURE 2 MACKEREL IN SUBAREAS 1–8 AND 14, AND IN DIVISION 9.A. STATE OF THE STOCK AND THE FISHERY RELATIVE TO REFERENCE POINTS (ICES 2020).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. Therefore, **sub-clause C.1.2 is met**.

References

ICES. 2020. Mackerel (Scomber scombrus) in subareas 1–8 and 14, and Division 9.a (the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, mac.27.nea. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5907.

ICES 2020b. EU, Norway, and the Faroe Islands request for advice on the long-term management strategies for Northeast Atlantic mackerel (full feedback approach). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2020. ICES Advice 2020, sr.2020.07. 12 pp. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7446.

Faroese seafood 2021. Scientific assessment and advice. Available at: www.faroeseseafood.com

Links	
MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which make up less than 5% of landings and are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

D1	Species Name		
	Productivity Attribute	**Value**	**Score**
	Average age at maturity (years)		
	Average maximum age (years)		
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)		
	Average maximum size (cm)		
	Average size at maturity (cm)		
	Reproductive strategy		
	Mean trophic level		
		Average Productivity Score	
	Susceptibility Attribute	**Value**	**Score**
	Overlap of adult species range with fishery		
	Distribution		
	Habitat		
	Depth range		
	Selectivity		
	Post-capture mortality		
		Average Susceptibility Score	
		PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)	
		Compliance rating	
References			
Standard clauses 1.3.2.2			

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	Low productivity/ High risk	Medium productivity/ Medium risk	High productivity/ Low risk
	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk	Low susceptibility/ Low risk
		Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

Note: Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.

D3		Average Susceptibility Score		
		1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

D4	Species Name		
	Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements		
	D4.1	The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.	
	D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.	
		Outcome:	

Evidence

D4.1: The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.

D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.

References

Links	
MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2, 4.1.4
FAO CCRF	7.5.1
GSSI	D.5.01