



## MarinTrust Standard V2

### By-product Fishery Assessment

### ESP13

### Mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*)

### in ICES Subareas 1-8, 14 and Division 9a, Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters

**MarinTrust Programme**

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**Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome**

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO 27, northeast Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	Spain Flag countries: Spain, Portugal
	Stock:	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> ) in subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)
Date	May 2024	
Report Code	ESP13	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Spain Flag countries: Spain, Portugal	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Arteixo, Hijos de Emilio Ramirez SA - Pescave			
Country: Spain Flag countries: Spain, Portugal			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF / Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Matthew Jew	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	May 2024 – May 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )
Stock	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> ) in subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)
Fishery Location	FAO 27, northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU/Common Fisheries Policy and Spain & Portugal management authority
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine & pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

**Table 2. Assessment Determination**

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on Union for Conservation of Nature’s Red List of Threatened Species – IUCN’s Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora – CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MarinTrust raw material. Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is no long-term management strategy for Northeast Atlantic mackerel agreed by all parties involved in the mackerel fishery. Nevertheless, reference points are defined for this stock therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. Further, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point so the stock PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1-8, 14 and Division 9a, Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1-8, 14 and Division 9a as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above <math>B_{MSY}</math>, <math>B_{pa}</math>, and <math>B_{lim}</math>. Therefore, the stock is considered to have biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy). It passes Category C.</p> <p>Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1-8, 14 and Division 9a passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.3</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>N/A</p>

## 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 a 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Mackerel	<i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> ) in subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a (Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters)	Yes	C	LC <sup>3</sup>	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/170354/18207463>

## CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

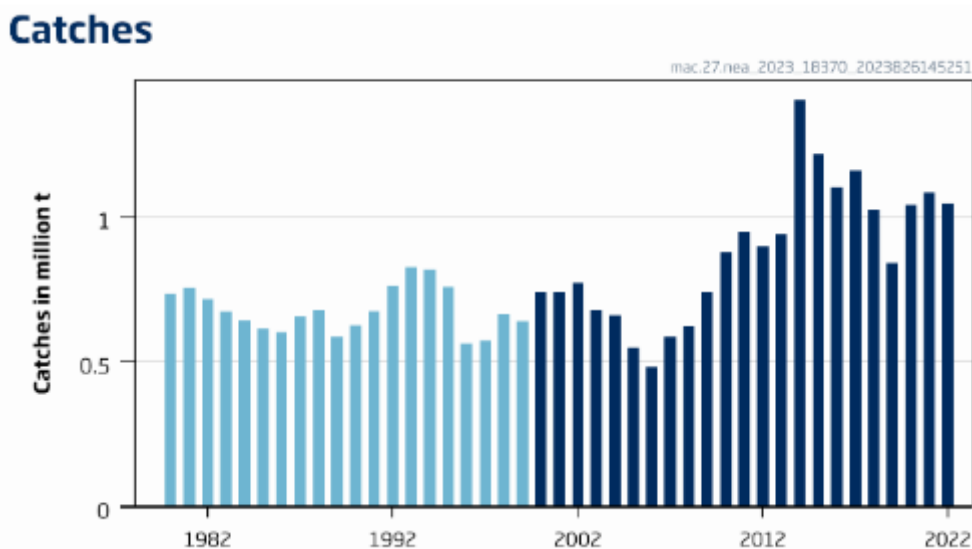
Clause C1 should be completed for each Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

<b>Species Name</b>		Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	<b>C1.1</b>	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.	PASS
	<b>C1.2</b>	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.	PASS
			<b>Clause outcome:</b> 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.**

Mackerel in the northeast Atlantic is subject to annual stock assessment by the ICES Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE). The assessment type used is an Age-based analytical model (SAM). Input data include catch data, steel tagging data ([L3182] 1980–2006) and RFID tagging data ([L5543] 2014–2022), and three survey indices: SSB index from the triennial egg survey ([I4189] 1992–2022), abundance indices from the IBTS survey (G1022, G1179, G3239, G4299, G4493, G4748, G4815, G7212 and G9527) (combined Q1 and Q4; age 0, 1998–2020, 2022), and from the IESSNS survey ([A7806] ages 3–11, 2010, 2012–2023). Catches prior to 2000 are given a very low weight in the assessment. Natural mortality (0.15 for all ages and years) is based on tagging studies from the early 1980s. Discarding is known to take place (0.3% of the total catch in weight in 2022) but is only quantified for part of the fisheries; the proportion of the landings covered cannot be calculated. Partial discard estimates are included in the assessment and overall discarding in recent years is assumed negligible.

ICES (2023) advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 739,386 tonnes.

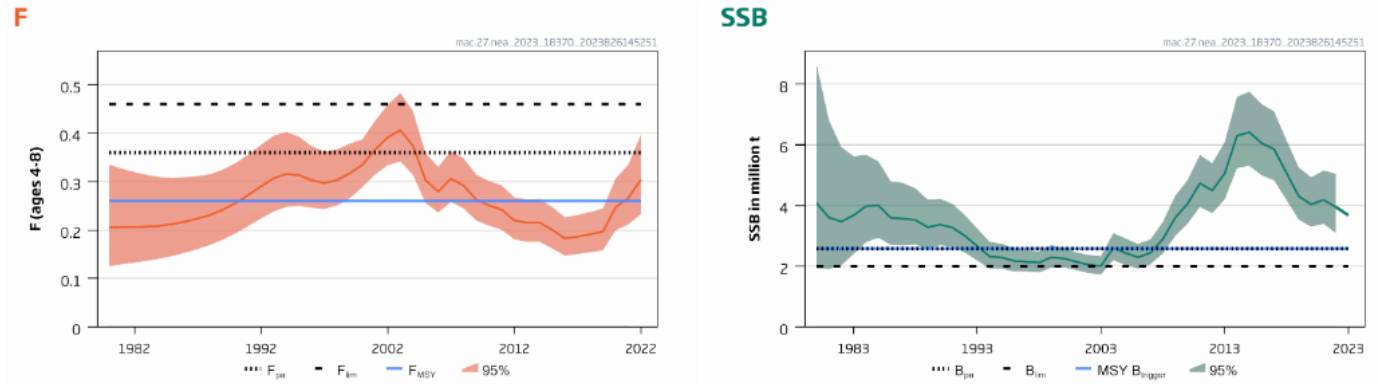


**Figure 1. Catches of Mackerel in subareas 1–8 and 14, and in Division 9.a. Summary of the stock assessment. Catches prior to 2000 have been down-weighted in the assessment because of the considerable underreporting suspected to have taken place in this period.**

**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.**

ICES defines the reference points in accordance with the MSY (target) and precautionary (target/limit) approaches. MSY  $B_{trigger}$  and  $B_{pa}$  are set at 2,580,000 tonnes,  $B_{lim}$  is set at 2,000,000 tonnes,  $F_{MSY}$  is 0.26,  $F_{pa}$  is 0.36, and  $F_{lim}$  is 0.46.

Fishing pressure on the stock is above  $F_{MSY}$ , but below  $F_{pa}$  and  $F_{lim}$ ; spawning-stock size is above MSY  $B_{trigger}$ ,  $B_{pa}$ , and  $B_{lim}$ .



**Figure 2. Summary of the stock assessment.**

**References**

ICES. 2023. 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, 2023. ICES Advice 2023, mac.27.nea. Published 29 September 2023. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21856533>

**Links**

<b>MarinTrust Standard clause</b>	1.3.2.2
<b>FAO CCRF</b>	7.5.3
<b>GSSI</b>	D.3.04, D5.01