MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment
FRA22
Ling (*Molva molva*)
in ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, & 14

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:	Ling (*Molva molva*)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27
	Country of origin of the product:	France
	Stock:	ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, & 14
Date		July 2024
Report Code		FRA22
Assessor		Sam Peacock
Country of origin of the product - PASS		France
Country of origin of the product - FAIL		n/a

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Copalis Industrie			
Country: France			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification Ltd. / NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Matthew Jew	0.2	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	July 2024 – July 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Ling (*Molva molva*)
Stock	ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, & 14
Fishery Location	FAO 27
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU
Gear Type(s)	Gillnets, longlines
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	**APPROVED**

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin trust raw material. Ling (*Molva molva*) has been categorised by the IUCN as Least Concern, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices. Therefore, *Molva molva* is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.   Although ling in ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, and 14 is managed under an annual TAC, there are no biomass-based reference points established for the stock[1]. For this reason, it was assessed under Category D.   Ling was assigned a Productivity score of 1.71 and a Susceptibility score of 3, leading to an outcome of Pass on Table D3.   Therefore, ling (*Molva molva*) in ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, and 14 is **APPROVED** for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products.

Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The assessor correctly classified ling (*Molva molva*) in ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, and 14 as Category D, the stock is not managed.   The assessor correctly assigned attribute scores under the PSA and correctly calculated the average scores for Productivity and Susceptibility, respectively. The stock passes per Table D3.   Ling (*Molva molva*) in ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, and 14 passes Category D and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.3

Notes for On-site Auditor
N/A

---

[1] ICES (2023). Ling (*Molva molva*) in subareas 3, 4, 6–9, 12, and 14 (Northeast Atlantic and Arctic Ocean). ICES Advice: Recurrent Advice. Report. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21828360.v1

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[2]	CITES Appendix 1[3]
Ling	*Molva molva*	ICES Subareas 3, 4, 6-9, 12, & 14	No	D	Least Concern[4]	No

---

[2] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[3] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php
[4] https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198593/45132914

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which 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.
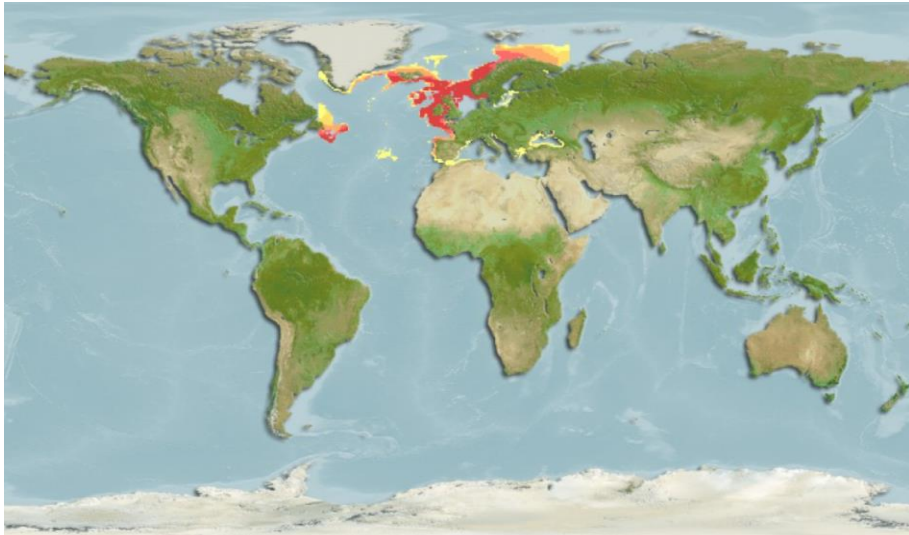
D1	**Species Name**		**Ling (*Molva molva*)**	
	Productivity Attribute		**Value**	**Score**
	Average age at maturity (years)		4.2 years	1
	Average maximum age (years)		20.6 years	2
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)		60,000,000	1
	Average maximum size (cm)		200cm	2
	Average size at maturity (cm)		71.1cm	2
	Reproductive strategy		Broadcast spawner	1
	Mean trophic level		4.4	3
			Average Productivity Score	**1.71**
	Susceptibility Attribute		**Value**	**Score**
	Availability (area overlap)		>30% overlap	3
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)		Target	3
	Selectivity of gear type		Retained	3
	Post-capture mortality		Retained	3
			Average Susceptibility Score	**3**
			PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)	**PASS**
			Compliance rating	**PASS**

Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant)
For susceptibility attributes, please provide a brief rationale for scoring of parameters where there may be uncertainty affecting your decision

Ling, native range (Fishbase, https://www.fishbase.se/summary/33)

References

Fishbase, Ling: https://www.fishbase.se/summary/33

Standard clauses 1.3.2.2

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	High productivity (Low risk, score = 1)	Medium productivity (medium risk, score = 2)	Low productivity (high risk, score = 3)
Average age at maturity	<5 years	5-15 years	>15 years
Average maximum age	<10 years	10-25 years	>25 years
Fecundity	>20,000 eggs per year	100-20,000 eggs per year	<100 eggs per year
Average maximum size	<100 cm	100-300 cm	>300 cm
Average size at maturity	<40 cm	40-200 cm	>200 cm
Reproductive strategy	Broadcast spawner	Demersal egg layer	Live bearer
Mean Trophic Level	<2.75	2.75-3.25	>3.25

Susceptibility attributes	Low susceptibility (Low risk, score = 1)		Medium susceptibility (medium risk, score = 2)		High susceptibility (high risk, score = 3)	
Areal overlap (availability) Overlap of the fishing effort with the species range	<10% overlap		10-30% overlap		>30% overlap	
Encounterability The position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear, and the position of the stock/species within the habitat relative to the position of the gear	Low overlap with fishing gear (low encounterability).		Medium overlap with fishing gear.		High overlap with fishing gear (high encounterability). Default score for target species	
Selectivity of gear type Potential of the gear to retain species	a	Individuals < size at maturity are rarely caught	a	Individuals < size at maturity are regularly caught.	a	Individuals < size at maturity are frequently caught
	b	Individuals < size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b	Individuals < half the size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b	Individuals < half the size at maturity are retained by gear.
Post-capture mortality (PCM) The chance that, if captured, a species would be released and that it would be in a condition permitting subsequent survival	Evidence of majority released post-capture and survival.		Evidence of some released post-capture and survival.		Retained species or majority dead when released.	

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