



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

FRO02

Herring (*Clupea harengus*)

in ICES Subareas 1, 2 and 5, and

Divisions 4a and 14a

(Norwegian Spring-Spawning herring)

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, Norway
	Stock:	Norwegian Spring-Spawning herring
Date	June 2024	
Report Code	FRO02	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, Norway	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	n/a	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Havsbrún, Faroe Marine Products			
Country: Faroe Islands			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Léa Lebechnech	0.2	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	June 2024 – June 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)
Stock	Norwegian Spring-Spawning herring
Fishery Location	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, Russia, UK
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine, pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's determination
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>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. Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Clupea harengus</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>Norwegian spring-spawning herring are managed under a long-term management strategy agreed between the EU, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, Russia, and the UK. The stock is managed relative to reference points, and was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Spring-spawning herring is subject to annual stock assessment by ICES. The most recent stock assessment incorporated catch and survey data, and considered discards and bycatch to be negligible. C1.1 is met. Stock biomass was estimated to be higher than the limit reference point level, and C1.2 is met.</p> <p>Therefore, herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1, 2 and 5, and Divisions 4a and 14a is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1, 2 and 5, and Divisions 4a and 14a under category C, as the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process, and the most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass well above limit reference point. Consequently, the fishery passes both clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Norwegian spring-spawning herring (ICES Subareas 1, 2 and 5, and Divisions 4a and 14a) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust V2.3 by-products standards.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
N/a

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
Herring	<i>Clupea harengus</i>	Norwegian spring-spawning herring	Yes	C	Least Concern ^{3,4}	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198609/45128934>

⁴ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198610/45128985>

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.

Species Name		Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)	
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.	PASS
	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.	PASS
			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.

Norwegian spring-spawning herring are subjected to annual stock assessment by the ICES Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE). The most recent assessment was conducted in 2023 using a statistical assessment model which incorporated commercial catches-at-age, three survey indices, the International Ecosystem Survey in the Nordic Seas, and maturity and natural mortality estimates from surveys. Discards and bycatch are considered negligible.

The 2023 catch advice states that “ICES advises that when the long-term management strategy agreed by the UK, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, and the European Union is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 390,010 tonnes.” (ICES 2023).

Catches are presented in the figure below:

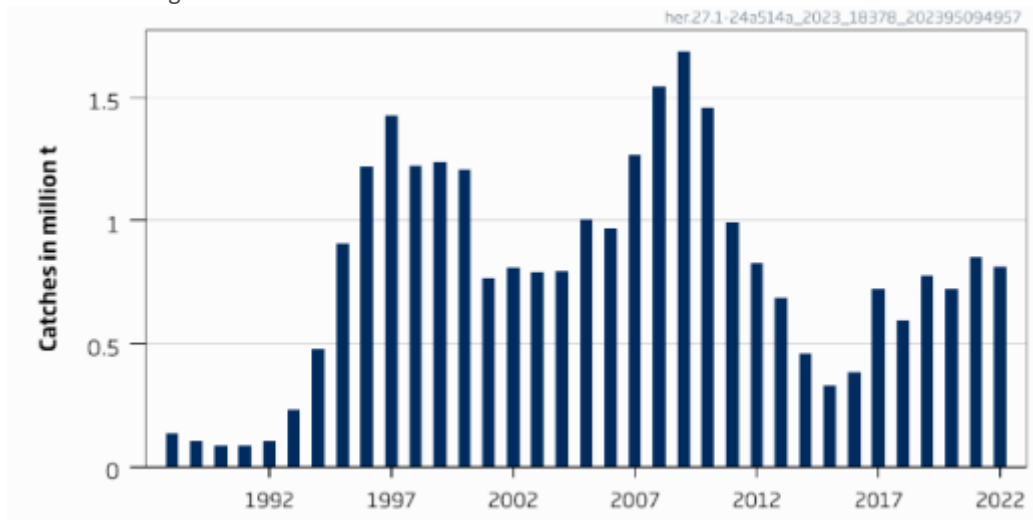


Figure 1. Norwegian spring-spawning herring, catches (ICES 2023)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock PASSES clause C1.1.

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.

The regular ICES catch advice provides an indication of the status of the stock relative to established reference points. The target reference points $MSY B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} , and SSB_{mgt} have been set at 3.184 million tonnes. The limit reference points B_{lim} and SSB_{mgt_lower} have been set at 2.5 million tonnes. The 2023 catch advice included a short-term projection for SSB, estimating that it would be 3,059,464t in 2024.

The 2023 ICES catch advice states that “Fishing pressure on the stock is above F_{MSY} and between F_{pa} and F_{lim} , and spawning-stock size is above $MSY B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} , and B_{lim} .” (ICES 2023). See figure 2, below.

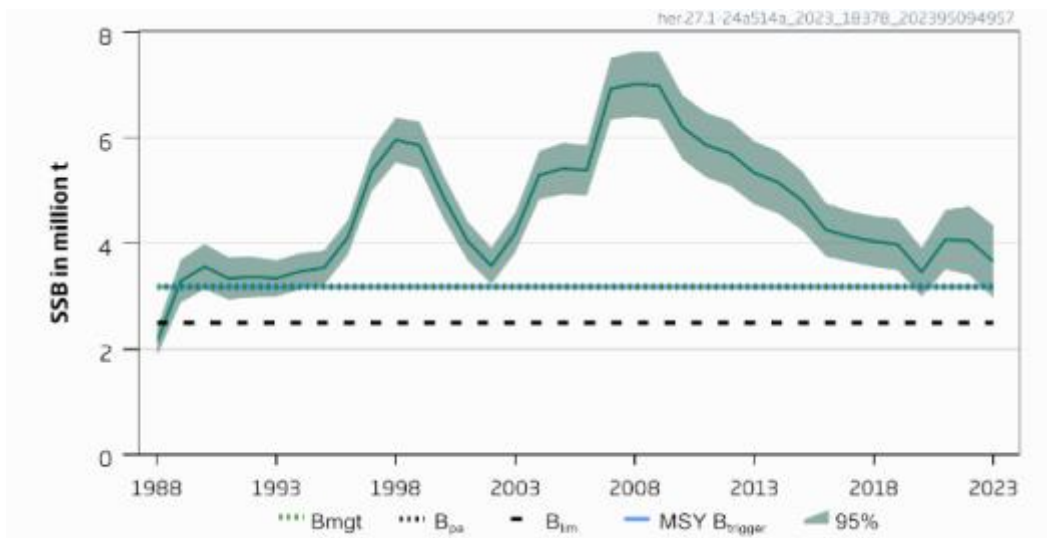


Figure 2. Norwegian spring-spawning herring, estimated SSB relative to current reference points (ICES 2023).

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy) and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

ICES (2023). Herring (*Clupea harengus*) in subareas 1, 2, and 5, and in divisions 4.a and 14.a, Norwegian spring-spawning herring (Northeast Atlantic and Arctic Ocean). ICES Advice: Recurrent Advice. Report. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21856509.v1>

Links

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