



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

ISL07

Capelin (*Mallotus villosus*)

in ICES Subareas 1 & 2

excluding 2a West of 5⁰W

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27
	Country of origin of the product:	Iceland
	Stock:	ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W
Date	October 2024	
Report Code	ISL07	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Iceland	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	n/a	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Fiskimjölsverksmiðja (Lodnuvinnslan hf)			
Country: Iceland			
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	Initial
Assessment Period	October 2024 – October 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>)
Stock	ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W
Fishery Location	FAO27
Management Authority (Country/ State)	EU
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl, purse seines
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. Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Mallotus villosus</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>This stock is managed under a Joint Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission Harvest Control Rule, which has previously been evaluated by ICES and found to be precautionary. The stock is managed relative to established reference points and therefore was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>The most recent stock assessment was conducted in 2024 and utilised all international catch data, therefore C1.1 is met. The stock assessment concluded that SSB is below the target reference point level but above the limit reference point, therefore C1.2 is also met.</p> <p>Therefore, capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W 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 capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</i>) in ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W under category C, as the stock is managed with established reference points.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. Therefore, the stock PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>In conclusion, capelin in ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W, 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
<p>Please note that the fishery will be closed from next year and no by-products should originate from this fishery.</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 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
Capelin	<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding Division 2a West of 5°W	Yes	C	Least Concern ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/18155925/56707167>

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		Capelin (<i>Mallotus villosus</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.

Regular stock assessments for this stock are conducted by the Joint Russian-Norwegian Working Group on Arctic Fisheries (JRN-AFWG). Results are summarised in annual catch advice published as a joint report between the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research (IMR) and the Polar Branch of the Russian Federal State Budgetary Scientific Institution (“PINRO”). The most recent assessment was conducted in 2024 using a model based on acoustic survey and prediction six months ahead to calculate spawning biomass. The model incorporates all catches. Discarding is assumed to be zero and capelin bycatch is “very low”.

The most recent IMR-PINRO catch advice states “The Joint Russian-Norwegian Working Group on Arctic Fisheries (JRN-AFWG) advises that when the Joint Norwegian–Russian Fisheries Commission management plan is applied, there should be zero catches of Barents Sea capelin in 2025” (IMR-PINRO 2024).

Catches are presented in the figure below:

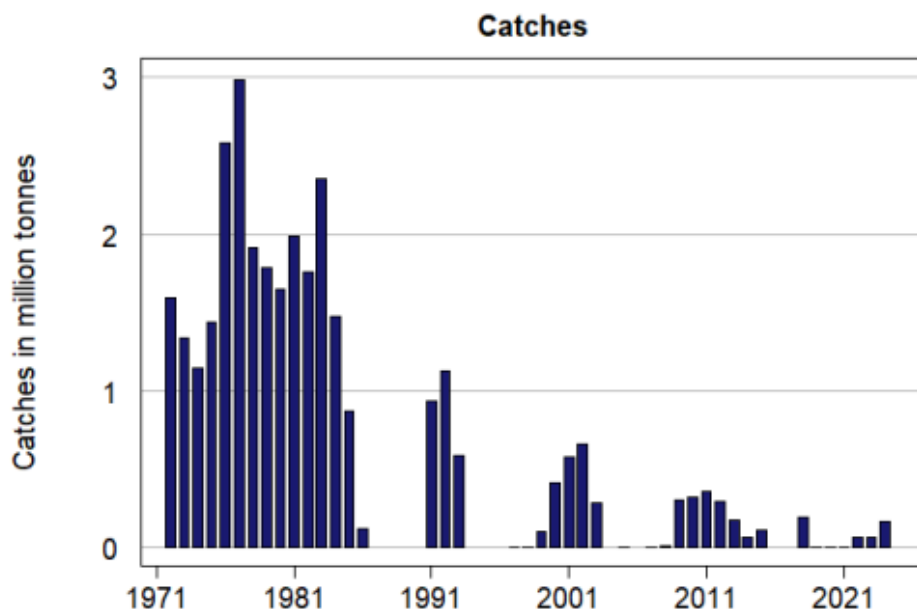


Figure 1. Capelin in ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding 2a West of 5°W: Catches (IMR-PINRO 2024).

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.

An indication of current stock status is provided in the annual JRN-AFWG catch advice. The target reference point $B_{\text{escapement}}$ is set at 200,000t. The limit reference point B_{lim} is set at 68,000t. The catch advice includes a projection of SSB in 2025 with no fishery removals, estimating it to be 177,000t, below $B_{\text{escapement}}$ but above B_{lim} .

The 2024 catch advice states, “There is less than 95% probability that the spawning stock size will be above $B_{\text{escapement}}$ (200 000 tonnes) in 2025. No reference points for fishing pressure have been defined for this stock (IMR-PINRO 2024).

Estimated SSB relative to current reference points is shown in Figure 2 below.

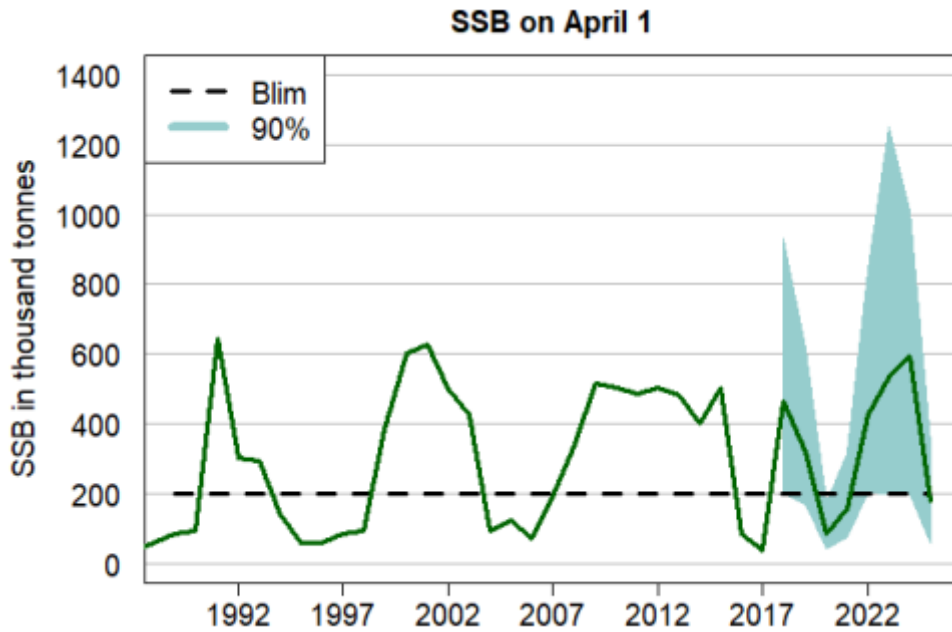


Figure 2. Capelin in ICES Subareas 1 & 2 excluding 2a West of 5°W: SSB relative to current reference points. Note that the labelling of the dashed line as “ B_{lim} ” appears to be an error, as the report later states that B_{lim} is set at 68,000t. The dashed line actually represents $B_{\text{escapement}}$, set at 200,000t (IMR-PINRO 2024).

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
 IMR-PINRO (2024). Advice on fishing opportunities for Barents Sea capelin in 2025.
<https://www.hi.no/templates/reporteditor/report-pdf?id=99246&47743081>

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