



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

NOR07

Anglerfish

(Lophius budegassa & L. piscatorius)

in ICES Subareas 4 and 6,

and Division 3a

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	Norway
	Stock:	ICES Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a
Date	May 2024	
Report Code	NOR07	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Norway	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	n/a	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Prima Protein AS			
Country: Norway			
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	Matthew Jew	0.2	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period		May 2024 – May 2025	

Scope Details	
Main Species	Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>)
Stock	ICES Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a
Fishery Location	FAO 27 northeast Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Norway
Gear Type(s)	Demersal trawls, gillnets, Norway lobster trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
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. Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>) do not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and do not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i> are eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>Anglerfish in Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a are managed under a Multiannual Plan put in place by the EU, but there is no agreement with the UK or Norway to use this plan and it is not used as a basis for ICES advice. The two species are co-managed as a single stock assemblage, relative to reference points, and were assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Anglerfish is subject to biennial stock assessment by ICES. The most recent stock assessment remains that identified by the previous MT byproduct assessment, and incorporated catch, survey data and discards. C1.1 is met. Stock biomass was estimated to be substantially higher than the limit reference point level, and C1.2 is met.</p> <p>Therefore, Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a are 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 anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a 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 MSY $B_{trigger}$ proxy ($I_{trigger}$). Therefore, as the stock is considered to have biomass above the MSY $B_{trigger}$ proxy, then it has biomass above limit reference point (or proxy). It passes Category C.</p> <p>Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>) in ICES Subareas 4 and 6 and Division 3a 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
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
Anglerfish	<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</i>	ICES Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a	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		Anglerfish (<i>Lophius budegassa</i> & <i>L. piscatorius</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
<p>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.</p> <p>Anglerfish in Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a are subjected to biennial stock assessment by the ICES Working Group for the Celtic Seas Ecoregion (WGCSE). The most recent assessment is that identified by the previous MT assessment, conducted in 2022, implementing a survey biomass trend-based approach. The assessment incorporated commercial catch data, plus one survey index. Discards were included.</p> <p>The 2022 catch advice states that “ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches should be no more than 9,881 tonnes in each of the years 2023 and 2024.” (ICES 2022).</p> <p>Catches are presented in the figure below:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">anf.27.3a46_2022_17594_2022914155056</p>			
<p>Figure 1. Anglerfish in Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a, catches (ICES 2022)</p>			

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 an established target reference point. The target reference point $MSY B_{trigger\ proxy}$ has been set at 46,554t.

The 2022 ICES catch advice states that “The fishing pressure proxy on the stock is above $F_{MSY\ proxy}$...and the stock-size index is above $MSY B_{trigger\ proxy} (I_{trigger})$.” (ICES 2022). See figure 2, below.

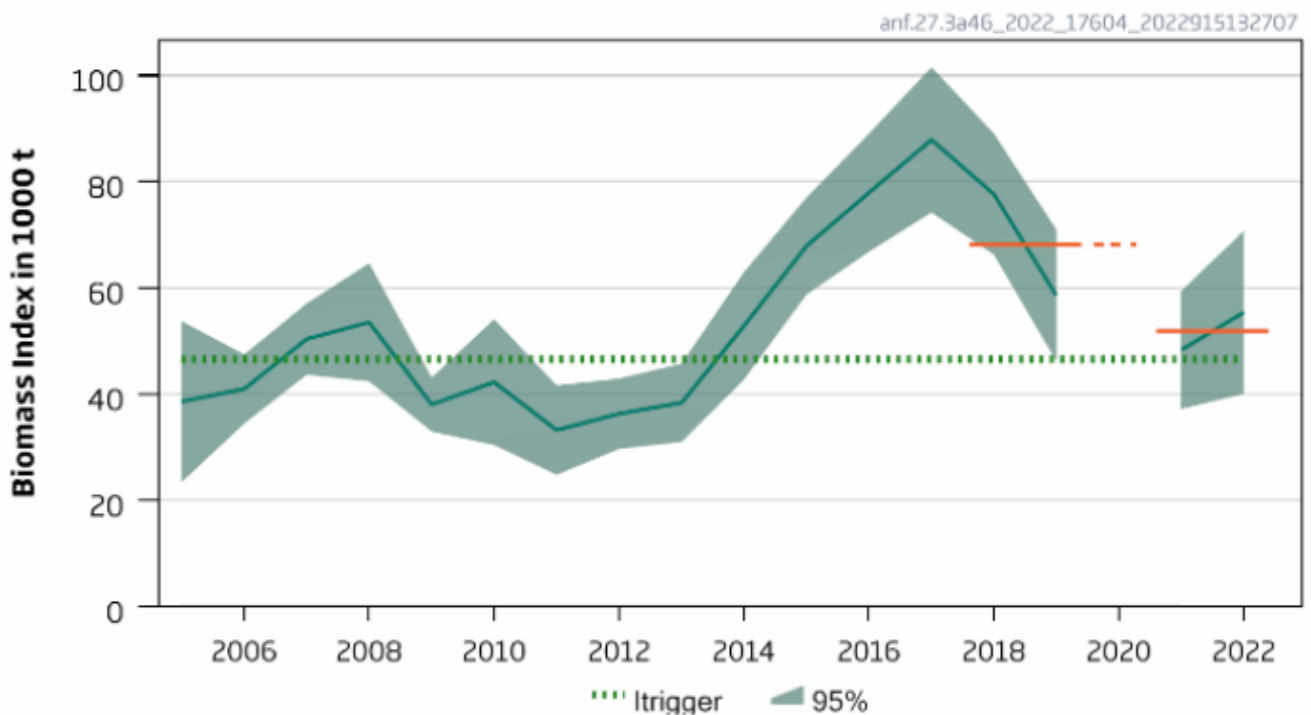


Figure 2. Anglerfish in Subareas 4 and 6, and Division 3a, biomass index over time (ICES 2022).

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 (2022). Anglerfish (*Lophius budegassa*, *Lophius piscatorius*) in subareas 4 and 6, and in Division 3.a (North Sea, Rockall and West of Scotland, Skagerrak and Kattegat). ICES Advice: Recurrent Advice. Report. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772359.v2>

Links

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