

Certificate of Conformity

Acoura Marine Ltd. trading as Lloyd's Register certifies that:

Ekofish Group – North Sea Twin Rigged Otter Trawl Plaice Fishery

is a sustainable and well managed fishery which meets the requirements set out in the:

Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Fisheries Standard

The client for the fishery is:

Ekofish Group B.V.

Makkumerwaard 5

8321 WV

Urk

Netherlands

The scope of this certification is applicable to:

Species:

Pleuronectes platessa

Gear type(s):

Twin rig trawl using cod end mesh size >100mm and >120mm, and >120mm

Geographical Area:

Central North Sea, ICES Division IVb



Martin Gill

Head of Aquaculture and Fisheries

Issued by Acoura Marine trading as Lloyd's Register. This certificate is the property of Acoura Marine trading as Lloyd's Register and must be returned immediately on request. To check its validity telephone 0131 335 6662, or write to Lloyd's Register, 6 Redheughs Rigg, South Gyle, Edinburgh H12 9DQ.

Visit the MSC Track-a-Fishery pages <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/> to validate certificate authenticity.

Unit (s) of Certification (UoC)

UoC 1

Species:	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
Geographical area:	Central North Sea, ICES Division IVb Note that the client observes self-imposed closed areas within this area which exclude fishing within Natura 2000 sites.
Method of capture:	Twin rig trawl using cod end mesh size >100mm and <120mm.
Stock:	North Sea plaice (ICES Sub-Area IV)
Management System:	EU Common Fisheries Policy. National measures (Dutch and UK). Producers Organisations.
Client Group:	Ekofish Group owned trawlers

Note that other eligible fishers may also be included in some Units of Assessment but not initially certified (until covered by a certificate sharing arrangement).

Other Eligible Fishers:	Others operating in compliance with Ekofish Group Practices
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UoC 2

Species:	Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)
Geographical area:	Central North Sea, ICES Division IVb Note that the client observes self-imposed closed areas within this area which exclude fishing within Natura 2000 sites.
Method of capture:	Twin rig trawl using cod end mesh size >120mm.
Stock:	North Sea plaice (ICES Sub-Area IV)
Management System:	EU Common Fisheries Policy. National measures (Dutch and UK). Producers Organisations.
Client Group:	Ekofish Group owned trawlers

Note that other eligible fishers may also be included in some Units of Assessment but not initially certified (until covered by a certificate sharing arrangement).

Other Eligible Fishers:	Others operating in compliance with Ekofish Group Practices
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The units of certification are distinguished from one another by the cod-end mesh size, which is governed by EU Technical Regulations.

At the time of assessment, the client fleet operated only in UoC 1. Some trial fishing had been carried out in UoC 2 by the client as part of scientific research work, but this was not commercially active. The research information was used in the Public Certification Report to inform the assessment of the client fleet if it were to operate in these UoCs.

Please note that whilst the Units of Certification detail the full extent of what was assessed, it is the full and complete Public Certification Report (March 2016) that precisely defines the exact nature of certification for this fishery.

The point(s) at which fish and fish products may enter a chain of custody:

Only North Sea Plaice (*Pleuronectes platessa*) caught in the manner defined in the Units of Certification under restrictions detailed throughout the body of the final Public Certification Report (March 2016) for this fishery shall be eligible to enter the Chain of Custody. Chain of Custody should commence following the first point of landing, at which point the product shall be eligible to carry the MSC logo. There are no restrictions on the fully certified product entering further chains of custody.

All certified fish will pass through the sales system at Urk fish market. The certified fish remain the property of the individual vessels fishing under Ekofish Group until sold on the Urk fish auction. The assessment team and Acoura have determined that it is appropriate for the fishery certificate to extend to the point of sale at Urk fish auction in the Netherlands.

There are no Inseparable or Practicably Inseparable (IPI) stocks in this fishery

The parties, or categories of parties, that are entitled to use this certificate to enter fish from the certified fishery into certified chains of custody:

See the list of vessels at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/ekofish-group-north-sea-twin-riggged-otter-trawl-plaice/@@certificates>