

IRFM CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME



Iceland Responsible Fisheries Certification provides professional and credible third party certification. It is a straight forward, robust, practical and cost-effective approach allowing Icelandic fisheries to be verified as responsibly managed.

THE IRFM CERTIFICATION CONFIRMS:

Responsible fisheries management and good treatment of marine resources

FAO BASED CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME

The IRFM certification programme complies with strict international requirements. It is based on articles and substantive criteria of the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) reference documents, the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF(1995)) as well as the FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries (2005/2009).



TWO COMPLEMENTARY STANDARDS

The IRFM Certification Programme has two standards:

1. Iceland Responsible Fisheries Management Standard
2. Iceland Responsible Fisheries Management Chain of Custody Standard

The IRFM Standard is based on the FAO CCRF and the FAO Guidelines for Ecolabelling. Both standards are accredited under the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) code.



RECOGNISED BY GSSI

The IRFM Certification Programme is recognised by the Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI). IRFM is in alignment with all Essential Components of GSSI's Global Benchmark Tool, which is primarily based on international reference documents from the FAO.

GSSI is a global platform and partnership of seafood companies, NGOs, experts, and governmental and intergovernmental organizations. The mission of GSSI is to ensure confidence in the supply and promotion of certified seafood by increasing comparability and transparency in seafood certification.





THE IRFM STANDARD FOCUSES ON 6 KEY COMPONENTS

1. The fisheries management system
2. Science and stock assessment activities
3. The precautionary approach (harvest control rules)
4. Management measures
5. Implementation, monitoring, control and surveillance
6. Serious impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem

Assessment and certification of fisheries and chain of custody is conducted by an independent ISO17065 accredited third party certification body.

CHAIN OF CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

IRFM CoC Certification provides assurance for suppliers to demonstrate and claim that products originate from IRFM certified fisheries and minimises the risk of public confusion between certified and non-certified fish products. This guarantees to both buyers and consumers that certified Icelandic seafood products originate from responsibly managed fisheries.



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