



Association Française pour la Promotion de la Marque Anguille Responsable  
ZA Le Riveau – 8 rue Jules COURDAVAULT – 17560 Bourcefranc – Le Chapus.

<https://anguilleresponsible.com/>

## Certificate of AFPMAR Membership:

### A commitment to a responsible eel industry

Page 2 includes details regarding capture, storage and transport, as well as the inspection process carried out to certify the legality, quality and traceability of eels caught and commercialised.

Certificate valid from the 06.07.2024, for the fishing season 2024/2025.

Company Name and AFPMAR membership number:

– Number

Signature of AFPMAR president: Alexandre THIBURCE:

**Fishing:** fishing must be carried out by a professional with a valid licence. The quota is to be defined by two independent committees: scientific and social- economic. This quota is then divided according to Article 7 §6 of EU Regulation 1100/2007 into consumption and restocking. They are then allocated between river and maritime professional fishers in each Management Eel Unit (French Atlantic coastal regions).

Regulation defines the specific equipment authorised to be used on each boat, including size and nature of the device (hand sieve, anchored sieve, pushed sieve or “pibalour”). In river areas, only hand sieves or anchored sieves are allowed. The mesh size and boat speed are specified in the “guide of good practices” published jointly by the CNPMM (National Committee for Maritime Fisheries and Marine Farming), the CONAPPED (National Committee for Professional Freshwater Fishing) and WWF France<sup>1</sup>. Professionals agree to follow good practices guidelines when obtaining his license, which is included in the AFPMAR charter.

Controls are carried out by the environmental police (French Office for Biodiversity). The fisherman must fill in a fishing log-book on the vessel indicating the place and date of fishing, weight of fish caught, equipment used, destination (consumption or restocking) and the storage address. An electronic declaration must be submitted within 24hrs to the administration.

**Transport to the storage site:** Glass eels must be stored immediately in a tank (the characteristics of which are given in the guide of good practice cited above). The tank is topped with a sorting system to remove plant debris and bycatch which is immediately returned to the water. On arrival at the landing point, the destination of the storage site must be indicated in the fishing log-book.

**Buyer's storage:** As soon as they arrive the glass eels are drained, weighed and quality is noted. The buyer produces a delivery note (DN) which indicates the weight purchased with the price per kg. This DN must also indicate the unique traceability number (corresponding to the fishing log) and destination. The fisherman then produces an invoice, and the glass eels are stored in oxygenated tanks and kept in optimal conditions.

Stock must be updated daily with the origin and destination of the fish. A mortality of 4% is tolerated on top of the weight loss. Inspections occur randomly by French authorities (French Office for Biodiversity, Maritime Affairs, the National Gendarmerie or customs). Inspections include traceability, weight, origin and destination.

**Buyers authorisation:** each buyer's storage facility must have valid health and animal-sanitary certificates. This includes the implementation of a Health Control Plan (HCP) and a very precise HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) system. Buyers have to make daily electronic declarations of their purchases and sales of glass eels via the ‘Visiomer’ and ‘TRACES’ system. Buyers are regularly inspected to verify their compliance with the health and safety standards.

**Transport to the final buyer:** Glass eels must be transported in optimal conditions. When exporting fish, a European health certificate "TRACES" (Trade Control and Expert System) is mandatory along with a document showing full traceability, enabling cross referencing between Fisherman and trader declarations. This allows both the exporting and importing countries to be aware of all eel trading.

**AFPMAR and its members** agree to respect these rules. Working with the authorities, the members implement a responsible exploitation and perfect traceability in compliance with national and European regulations. **Any breach of these conditions results in withdrawal of certification and exclusion from AFPMAR.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://repeuplementanguille.fr/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2021/11/GBPCiville-VF.pdf>