



12th April 2016

Peer Reviewer Shortlist Consultation for the North Pacific Halibut and Sablefish (2nd reassessment)

The MSC's Peer Review College has compiled a shortlist of potential peer reviewers to undertake the peer review for the North Pacific Halibut and Sablefish Fisheries, which is currently undergoing the second re-assessment of MSC with the Conformity Assessment SCS. Two peer reviewers will be selected from the following list:

1. Dr Robert Edward Blyth-Skyrme
2. Dr Susan Hanna
3. Deirdre Hoare
4. Dr John Neilson

A summary of their experience and qualifications is included on the following pages. Full CVs are available on request by email to the [Peer Review College](#).

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on potential conflicts of interest of the short-listed reviewers with the fishery to the Peer Review College by email, telephone or post at the number and address below.

Please note that this peer review is being undertaken as part of a pilot project to test the effectiveness and efficiency of the system, before it is launched for all MSC fisheries in early 2017. For further details on the pilot and background to the Peer Review College, please visit the MSC's [Program Improvements website](#).

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The deadline for responses to the consultation is **17:00 GMT, 10 days from the publication date of this announcement on the MSC's website.**

Dr Robert Edward Blyth-Skyrme

Rob has worked in aquaculture and then in marine fisheries science, management and policy since 1996. Following his PhD which focussed on fisheries management and the environmental effects of fishing, he worked at the Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee, the largest inshore fisheries management organization in England, where he became the Deputy Chief Fishery Officer. He then became a senior advisor to the UK Government on marine fisheries and environmental issues, leading a team dealing with fisheries policy, science and nationally significant fisheries and environmental casework. Rob now runs Ichthys Marine Ecological Consulting Ltd., a marine fisheries and environmental consultancy. As well as working for Government and industry on fisheries science and management issues, he has undertaken all facets of MSC work as a Lead Assessor, expert team member and peer reviewer across a wide range of fisheries.

Dr Susan Hanna

Susan Hanna is professor emeritus of marine economics at Oregon State University. Her research and publications are in the area of marine economics and policy, with an emphasis on fishery management, ecosystem-based fishery management, property rights and institutional design. Dr. Hanna has served as a scientific advisor to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Minerals Management Service, Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Pacific Fishery Management Council. She served on the Ocean Studies Board of the National Research Council (NRC), National Academy of Sciences, and several NRC Committees, including the Committee to Review Individual Quotas in Fisheries and the Committee on Protection and Management of Pacific Northwest Anadromous Salmonids. She has conducted reviews for the Center for Independent Experts (CIE) and is a current member of the CIE Steering Committee. Dr. Hanna has been a member of Marine Stewardship Council assessment teams for West Coast Dungeness crab, Oregon pink shrimp, West Coast groundfish, Alaska Pollock, Alaska flatfish, and Alaska Pacific cod fisheries, and has served as a peer reviewer of several MSC assessment reports.

Deirdre Hoare

Deirdre Hoare is an independent fisheries consultant with more than 10 years of experience working in a wide range of projects associated with marine biodiversity and the sustainable use of living aquatic resources. Her principal area of expertise is in relation to stock assessment and ecosystem impacts of both artisanal and commercial fisheries. Her work currently involves evaluation and verification of fisheries management and sustainability against international standards. She also performs fish stock assessments, evaluates data and outlines the limitations.

From 2005 to 2010 she worked as a Fisheries Assessment Analyst and as a Scientific and Technical Officer for the Marine Institute in Ireland. This work involved fisheries research and stock assessment for ICES working groups. The work also involved coordination and management of a Fisher Self sampling program in the Irish Sea, with particular emphasis on spatial and temporal discard measurement tools.

As well as having worked as a researcher, she completed many trips on commercial fishing vessels in the capacity of scientific observer in the NAFO area, North West Atlantic and Irish Coast. She has also experience on finfish and shellfish aquaculture that she gained working in Scotland. She also works as an assessor for SAI Global in FAO Responsible Fisheries Management and Marine Stewardship Council assessments in both Iceland, Alaska and Ireland.

Dr. John D. Neilson

John D. Neilson is an internationally-recognized fisheries scientist, who has published more than 200 scientific and technical papers. His studies have taken place on all three of Canada's coasts, as well as throughout the Atlantic Ocean, and the Caribbean Sea. His work is highly cited (eight papers cited > 100 times), with one included in the top 100 cited papers in fisheries science.

His specialties include population ecology, age and growth, and stock assessment. He is considered by his peers to have good skills in consensus building, and he have taken on demanding and high profile roles chairing Canada's National Marine Mammal Peer Review Committee (2000-2003), and coordinating all swordfish stock assessments conducted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (2003 - 2013). He also has experience as a scientific editor. He also has considerable experience with fisheries development work, having conducted a two year long mission in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where he mentored national biologists, and helped to establish a regional program of data collection and stock assessment in the Eastern Caribbean. Thus, he has a broad range of experience with stock assessments ranging from data rich to data poor situations.

Although now retired from the Canadian federal government after a 30 year long career, he remains involved with voluntary scientific work (including serving on Canada's national committee dealing with species at risk (marine fish)), community initiatives, and fisheries consultancies with clients including the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the European Community, and the US Center for Independent Experts.