

## **US Acadian Redfish, Pollock and Haddock Otter Trawl Fishery**

**Client Group:**

**Sustainable Groundfish Association, Inc.**

### **Release of Public Draft Report for Stakeholder Comment**

SAI Global would like to announce that the draft report on the MSC certification assessment of the above fishery is now available for comment by stakeholders for a period of 30 days. The scope of the assessment covers the US Acadian Redfish, Pollock and Haddock Otter Trawl Fishery, Acadian Redfish - NW Atlantic, US EEZ (Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank), Pollock - NW Atlantic, US EEZ (Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank), Haddock - NW Atlantic, US EEZ (i) Gulf of Maine and Haddock - NW Atlantic, US EEZ (i) Georges Bank caught using harvesting methods such as Otter Trawl.

Stakeholders are invited to comment on the factual contents of the report, either in relation to the specific sections of the report or specific scoring indicators. In order for comments to be actionable, the provision of objective evidence is crucial and SAI Global can only consider information that is relevant, factual and substantiated.

Any input should both clearly relate to specific report sections or scoring indicators and be supported by data or literature citations. To assist in contributing relevant information and to ensure that any contributions have maximum impact stakeholders should use the Stakeholder Input into MSC Fishery assessments template alongside the Stakeholder's Guide to the Marine Stewardship Council when providing input.

Following receipt of comments from stakeholders, SAI Global will consider all available information and make a determination on whether the fishery should be certified. Following this determination, the final report will be made available.

The report is available at the MSC website <https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/in-assessment/north-west-atlantic/us-acadian-redfish-haddock/assessment-downloads>

The initial proposed target eligibility date was February 2015, as the PCDR was initially scheduled to be published in August 2015. However, the PCDR is published today, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016, therefore the target eligibility date is now 17<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

Comments on the report should be submitted by:

- **17:00 GMT, Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Comments should be sent to:

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