

Global Trust Certification

ISF Iceland lemon sole

MSC Surveillance Announcement

10 March 2022

1. Introduction

MSC certification requires regular surveillance audits of all certified fisheries and this Announcement marks the start of a surveillance audit of the above fishery. Global Trust Certification (hereafter Global Trust) is required to submit this announcement for posting on the MSC website at least 30 days before the audit activities are carried out.

The information Global Trust is required to provide when formally announcing annual surveillance activities, including how stakeholders may get involved in the process, is outlined on the following pages.

2. Marine Stewardship Council surveillance announcement

Table 1. Surveillance announcement.

1	Fishery name	
	ISF Iceland lemon sole	
2	Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)	
	The Units of Assessment (UoAs) are presented in the table below:	
	Units of Assessment (UoAs) 1 – 3 (of 3)	
	Common across all UoAs	
	Species:	<i>Microstomus kitt</i>
	Common name(s):	Lemon sole
	Geographical Area:	FAO Statistical Area 27 / ICES 5.a; Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone
	Stock(s):	Lemon sole (<i>Microstomus kitt</i>) in ICES subarea 5.a
	Management System:	Ministry of Industries and Innovation
	Client Group and other eligible fishers*:	All registered Icelandic vessels that carry valid permits, issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries, for fishing within the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone.
	Unique to each UoA	
	Fishing methods:	UoA 1 Bottom Trawl (TB)
		UoA 2 Nephrops Trawl (TN)
		UoA 3 Danish Seine (SD)
	*Includes any other eligible fishers that are outside the Unit of Certification	
3	Date certified	Date of expiry
	03/01/2019	02/07/2024
4	Surveillance level and type	
	Surveillance level 4, on-site surveillance audit (although intention is that Principle 1 auditor will be off-site).	
	The surveillance programme for this fishery has not changed significantly from that previously indicated in the PCR.	
5	Surveillance number	
	1 st Surveillance	
	2 nd Surveillance	
	3 rd Surveillance	X
	4 th Surveillance	
	Other (expedited etc)	
6	Proposed team leader	
	Conor Donnelly meets the fishery team leader qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A degree in a relevant subject. ▪ +3 years' fisheries experience. ▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually. ▪ Passed MSC's fishery team leader training within the last 5 years as well as new versions of online training modules where relevant. ▪ Passed an appropriate ISO Lead Auditor training course as required by MSC requirements. 	
	With respect to his additional duties under Principle 2, Conor has:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ +3 years' experience in research into, policy analysis for, or management of, the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems including the following topics: ii) Endangered, threatened, or protected (ETP) species, iii) Habitats and iv) Ecosystem interactions. 	
	With respect to his additional duties as the team member with primary responsibility for Traceability, Conor has:	

Table 1. Surveillance announcement.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Passed the MSC's traceability module within the last 5 years as well as new versions of online training modules where relevant. ▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC's traceability requirements at least annually where relevant. <p>While it is not the intention of the team to use the MSC's Risk Based Framework (RBF) in the conduct of this assessment, Conor has also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Passed the MSC's RBF training course within the last 5 years. ▪ Passed new versions of the training for any when new RBF requirements. ▪ Reviewed any updates to the RBF requirements at least annually. <p>Conor also has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders. ▪ +2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years. <p>Conor does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of his CV is provided in Appendix 1. The site visit will be conducted on-site.</p>
7	Proposed team members
	<p>Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella meets the fishery team member qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A degree in a relevant subject. ▪ Passed MSC's fishery team member training within the last 5 years. ▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually. ▪ Passed new versions of the compulsory online training modules where relevant. <p>With respect to his additional duties under Principle 1, Giuseppe has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ +3 years' experience applying relevant stock assessment techniques being used by the fishery under assessment. ▪ +3 years' experience working with the biology and population dynamics of the target or species with similar biology. ▪ Knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders. ▪ +2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years. <p>Giuseppe does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. A summary of Giuseppe's CV is provided in Appendix 1. The intention is that Giuseppe will be off-site during the audit and a Variation Request has been submitted to allow for this.</p>
8	Audit/review time and location
	<p>The site visit portion of this audit will take place in Reykjavik, Iceland between 11th and 14th April 2022. Conor will be on-site, whereas Giuseppe will be attending remotely from his home office. A Variation Request has been submitted to allow for this.</p>
9	Assessment and review activities
	<p>As per section 7.28.15 of the FCP v2.2, the following will be assessed/reviewed during this audit (note that this may not be an exhaustive list):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changes to the fishery and its management. 2. Performance in relation to the relevant conditions of certification 3. Any developments or changes within the fishery that impact traceability and the ability to segregate MSC from non-MSC products. 4. Any other significant changes in the fishery. <p>There are 2 open conditions in this fishery. As noted above, progress against these conditions will be evaluated during this surveillance audit (FCP v2.2, 7.28.16). None are due to be closed in this surveillance audit.</p>

Table 1. Surveillance announcement.

10	Stakeholder opportunities
	<p>As part of this surveillance audit, the following stakeholder opportunities are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholders may submit written input using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which is available here: https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment. ▪ Stakeholders may consult directly with the audit team during the period specified in the 8. Audit/review time and location above. <p>Further information on Stakeholder input opportunities is provided in 3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Surveillance Audits opportunities below.</p>

3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Surveillance Audits

During surveillance audits, CABs are required to seek the views of relevant parties. With this in mind, Global Trust wishes to invite organisations or individuals with an interest in this fishery to provide written information relevant to the surveillance audit process and/or consult directly with the audit team.

Prior to participating, stakeholders should familiarise themselves with the MSC process using the resources provided on the MSC's website: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

Global Trust would like to encourage stakeholders not to withhold information, including their concerns and knowledge about the fishery in question. With this being said, information that they cannot be shared with all stakeholders cannot be referenced in an assessment or used in determining assessment outcomes unless it relates to; a) financial transactions about certification, b) the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being made public, or c) information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the client's country.

3.1 Submitting written information

Please note that Global Trust can only accept written stakeholder input as public record if it is submitted using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which can be found on the MSC website here: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

When submitting information, stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or any claimed errors of fact.

In order for your written submissions to be considered as part of this audit, you must:

1. Use the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments.
2. Submit it by **17:00 UTC on Sunday, 10 April 2022**.
3. Send it to Global Trust Client Services: ClientServicesie@nsf.org

3.2 Consulting directly with the audit team

As part of this audit, the audit team will be available for direct consultations with stakeholders during the period specified in the "Audit/review time and location" Section of Table 1 above.

If you would like to consult directly with the audit team during this period, please advise us of your interest in doing so by:

1. Contact us at Global Trust Client Services: ClientServicesie@nsf.org.
2. **17:00 UTC on Friday, 08 April 2022**.
3. Provide at least the following details when doing so:
 - Your name and contact details.
 - Your association with the fishery.
 - The issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation).

Appendix 1: Summary of Audit Team's CVs

Surveillance Audit Team Leader: Conor Donnelly, Primary Responsibility for Principle 2 and Traceability.

Conor is an experienced marine ecologist and environmental manager with a background of over 17 years at the UK statutory nature conservation body, Natural England, where he was Senior Marine Adviser responsible for marine delivery across the East Midlands, Norfolk and Suffolk. He has a BSc. in Environmental Science from King's College, University of London and an MRes. in Marine and Coastal Ecology and Environmental Management from the University of York.

Conor has extensive experience of working with fisheries managers, the fishing sector, local communities and eNGOs, particularly from assessing the environmental impacts of mussel, cockle and shrimp fisheries in The Wash, UK and providing advice on their management. He was Natural England's representative on the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and its predecessor. He also advised and supported the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) on fisheries casework in the southern North Sea under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) including meetings with other member states. Other experience includes Marine Protected Area designation, conservation advice and condition assessment; conservation legislation and policy; and working with partners and stakeholders to deliver positive environmental outcomes. Conor is certified as a Fisheries Team Leader and an ISO lead auditor.

Surveillance Audit Team Member: Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella, Primary Responsibility for Principle 1.

With a PhD in Marine Biology and Ecology at the Università Politecnica delle Marche (2009), Giuseppe has worked for the last 10+ years as a project scientist in several research programs about artificial reef and the impact of offshore platform. During this time, he has gained experience in benthic ecology, fish assemblages of artificial structures, fisheries ecology and impacts of fishing activities, stock assessment, otholith analysis, population dynamic. As a scientist at CNR-ISMAR, he is responsible for the sampling design and statistical analyses of numerous research activities. In particular, he has worked as a project scientist on several research programs about fishery activities in the Mediterranean and Black sea. In the framework of such activities he has gained experience in stock assessment, management plans, benthic ecology, fish assemblages of artificial structures, analysis of stomach contents, fisheries ecology and the impacts of fishing activities. Moreover, during his employment at ISMAR-CNR he worked as part of a team of scientists operating within different fields of marine biology, including population dynamics, taxonomy and fisheries as well as with physical oceanographers and fisheries technologists. The application of EAF principles to fisheries management have been at the core of these collaborations. For some years now, Giuseppe has been working in fisheries certification applying the Marine Stewardship Council standard for sustainable fisheries, currently concentrating on Principle 1 of the Standard. Giuseppe has previously worked on other MSC-certified Icelandic fisheries including lemon sole and Greenland halibut and as such is familiar with the Icelandic fisheries management system.

Appendix 2: Surveillance frequency

As noted previously, the surveillance programme for this fishery has not changed significantly from that previously indicated in the PCR or a previous surveillance report.

The only change is that this year's audit will be undertaken on-site rather than off-site. The second surveillance audit undertaken last year was due to be on-site but was undertaken remotely due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This year's audit was due to be off-site but is being undertaken on-site (although the P1 assessor will be participating remotely and a Variation Request has been submitted for that purpose). Otherwise the surveillance programme is unchanged and the surveillance level remains unchanged at Level 4.

As such the most up-to-date fishery surveillance programme may be viewed in the PCR.

4. Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Surveillance Announcement Template v2.1'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with Global Trust Certification's corporate identity, Global Trust has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

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Table 2. Template version control.

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	8 October 2014	Date of issue.
1.1	12 June 2015	Appendix 2 with surveillance frequency Table added.
2.0	17 December 2018	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.1.
2.01	28 March 2019	Minor document change for usability.
2.1	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2.

A controlled document list of MSC programme documents is available on the [MSC website \(www.msc.org\)](http://www.msc.org).

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