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# FIUN Barents & Norwegian Seas Cod and Haddock



Conformity Assessment Body (CAB)	Lloyd's Register	CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD
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Fishery client	The Fishing Industry Union of the North (FIUN)	C
Assessment Type	First Surveillance	$\sqrt{2}$



# **Assessment Data Sheet**

Fishery name	FIUN Barents & Norwegian Seas Cod and Haddock							
Species and Stock	Atlantic Cod ( <i>Gadus morhua</i> <b>)</b> Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )							
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# Glossary

ETP	Endangered, threatened or protected species
FIUN	Fishing Industry Union of the North
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
JNRFC	Joint Norwegian–Russian Fisheries Commission
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
NEAFC	North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
PINRO	Knipovich Polar Research Institute for Marine Fisheries Research and Oceanography
TAC	Total allowable catch
VME	Vulnerable marine ecosystem
VMS	Vessel monitoring system



# **1** Executive Summary

The fishery was first certified 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and recertified 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018. It was recertified with two conditions.

The first surveillance audit in the second certification period was onsite, with Assessment Team Leader Geir Hønneland meeting General Director Konstantin Drevetnyak and MSC assessment responsible Ivan Tretyakov at FIUN in Kirkenes 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019. At the site visit, progress against the conditions and general developments in the fishery were discussed.

The conclusion is that both conditions are on target, and the fishery remains certified.

# 2 Report Details

# 2.1 Surveillance information

#### Table 1. Surveillance Information

1	Fishery name						
	FIUN Barents & Norwegian Seas Cod and Haddock						
2	Surveillance level and type						
	Level 4 – Onsite surveillance						
3	Surveillance number						
	1st Surveillance	x					
4	Proposed team leader						

Geir Honneland (P3) Onsite - Geir Hønneland holds a PhD in political science from the University of Oslo (2000) and has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on enforcement and compliance issues), international environmental politics and international politics in Polar regions. He was affiliated with the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo for more than 20 years, as PhD student and research fellow (1996-2006), research director (2006-2014) and director (2015-2019). Among his fisheries-related books are Making Fishery Agreements Work (Edward Elgar, 2012; China Ocean Press, 2016). Before embarking on an academic career, he worked five years for the Norwegian Coast Guard, where he was trained and certified as a fisheries inspector. Geir has been involved in MSC assessments since 2009 and has acted as P3 expert in approx. 50 full assessments and re-assessments, as well as a number of pre-assessments and surveillance audits. His experience from full assessments includes a large number of demersal, pelagic and reduction fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic, North Pacific and Southern Ocean, as well as inland and bivalve fisheries. In the Northeast Atlantic, he has covered the international management regimes in the Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea, North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat and the Baltic Sea, and the national management regimes in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Scotland and Germany, as well as the EU level. Since 2019, he has been affiliated with Lloyd's Register as Senior Project Manager for Northern Europe, Scandinavia and Russia.

Geir is qualified as an MSC Team Leader (Fisheries Standard v2.0, Fisheries Certification Process v2.1) and Chain of Custody Auditor (v2.0) and has also passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing.

#### 5 Proposed team members

**Giuseppe Scarcella (P1) Remote** - Dr Giuseppe Scarcella is an experienced fishery scientist and population analyst and modeller, with wide knowledge and experience in the assessment of demersal stocks. He holds a first degree in Marine Biology and Oceanography (110/110) from the Unversità Politecnica delle Marche, and a Ph.D. in marine Ecology and Biology from the same university, based on a thesis "'Age and growth of two rockfish in the Adriatic Sea"". After his degree he was offered a job as project scientist in several research programs about the structure and composition of fish assemblage in artificial reefs, off-shore platform and other artificial habitats in the Italian Research Council – Institute of Marine Science of Ancona (CNR-ISMAR). During the years of employment at CNR-ISMAR he has gained experience in benthic ecology, statistical analyses of fish assemblages evolution in artificial habitats, fisheries ecology and impacts of fishing activities, stock assessment, otholith analysis, population dynamic and fisheries management. During the same years he attended courses of uni- multivariate statistics and stock assessment. He is also actively participating in the scientific advice process of FAO





GFCM in the Mediterranean Sea. At the moment he is member of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries for the European Commission (STECF).

He is author and co-author of more than 30 scientific paper peer reviewed journals and more than 150 national and international technical reports, most of them focused on the evolution of fish assemblages in artificial habitats and stock assessment of demersal species. For some years now, Dr Scarcella has been working in fisheries certification applying the Marine Stewardship Council standard for sustainable fisheries, currently concentrating on Principle 1 of the Standard. Furthermore, Dr Scarcella holds the credential as Fishery team leader (MSC v2.0).

Giuseppe has passed MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Giuseppe has completed the MSC RBF training in the past 3 years. Full CV available upon request.

**Lucia Revenga (P2) Remote** - P2 Expert Lucia Revenga is a marine scientist, specializing in Fisheries Biology. Lucia holds degrees in Marine Sciences and in Environmental Sciences both by Cadiz University (Spain). Between years 2005 - 2010 Lucia worked with TRAGSA for the Spanish General Marine Secretariat, the Spanish Institute of Oceanography and the Canary Islands Marine Sciences Institute, conducting researches and writing reports concerning the biology and stock status of different species, studying and analyzing the catch composition and population of the stocks, the species biology (sex and maturity), as well as reporting all the information concerning retained species. Lucia worked with different species (bluefin tunas, skipjack tunas, albacores, mackerels, sardines, eels, scarlet shrimps, prawns, Norway lobsters, soles, halibuts, hakes, seabreams,...), on board fishing vessels with different fishing gears (bottom trawlers, tuna traps and artisanal fleet) on Atlantic waters (NAFO area, Moroccan and Spanish waters). Lucia has worked closely with different stakeholders, including fishermen, shipowners, institutional partners and the scientific Surveillance Announcement - Version 3.0 (09/04/15) community. Lucia has also taken part in oceanographic surveys focused in the search of vulnerable marine ecosystems, sampling benthic habitats of deep water canyons.

Since 2011 Lucia has worked for IFAPA (Institute for Research and Training in Fisheries) as a Fisheries biology teacher for fishermen. Lucia also conducts research in fishery local activities and tries to increase community awareness of the conservation of coastal ecosystems and encourage sustainable fishing practices.

Previously Lucia worked as a teacher and technician of environmental issues related to the ISO-14000 and ISO-9000 norms.

Lucia has passed MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available upon request.

Local Geir Honneland speaks both Norwegian and Russian. Lucia and Geir have both worked on multiple projects in the region over the last 10 years.

**Traceability** Geir has completed the MSC traceability module in the last year.

RBF	RBF has not been used in this assessment.
6	Audit/review time and location
	This surveillance took place in Kirkenes on the 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2019.
7	Assessment and review activities
	All relevant data, progress on the Client Action Plan and progress on the 1 open conditions.



# 2.2 Background

#### 2.2.1 Changes in management system

There are no changes in the management system at either international (the Joint Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission) or national level. Nor have there been any changes within FIUN (except in personnel; see 2.2.3 below), which acts as an umbrella for the UoC fishing companies.

#### 2.2.2 Changes in relevant regulations

No changes in relevant regulations have been identified.

#### 2.2.3 Changes to personnel involved in science, management or industry

No changes have been observed in the personnel involved in science or management.

At company level, there have been two important changes during the surveillance year. Former PINRO Director, Dr. Konstantin Drevetnyak, has taken over as new FIUN General Director, while Dr. Ivan Tretyakov, who also comes from PINRO as researcher, has been appointed responsible for MSC certification work within FIUN. Both are very experienced with the fishery and its management.

#### 2.2.4 Changes to scientific base of information, including stock assessments

#### Cod

The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been above MSY Btrigger since 2002. The SSB reached a peak in 2013 and now shows a downward trend. Fishing mortality (F) was reduced from well above Flim in 1997 to below FMSY in 2008. It remained below FMSY until 2018 when it increased to slightly above FMSY. There has been no strong recruitment since the 2004 and 2005 year classes (Fig. 2.2.4.1).

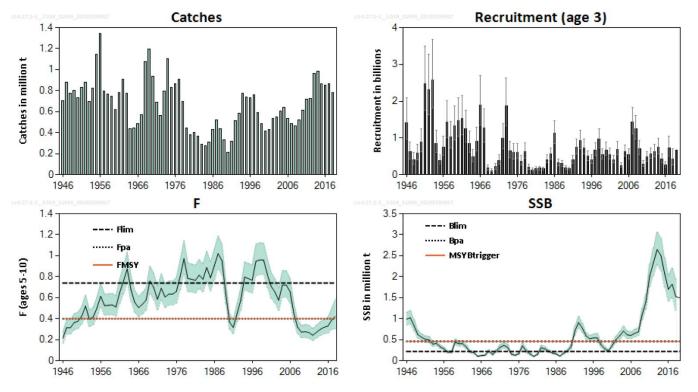


Figure 1 Cod in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic). Catch, recruitment, F, and SSB. Recruitment, F, and SSB have<br/>confidence intervals (95%) in the plot. For this stock, FMGT ranges from 0.40 to 0.60 (not shown) and there are two SSBMGT<br/>valuesvalues(460000tonnesand920000tonnes).Source:<br/>http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2019/2019/cod.27.1-2.pdf

ICES assesses that fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY and between Fpa and Flim, while the spawning stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim (Table 2.2.4.1).

ICES advises that when the Joint Russian–Norwegian Fisheries Commission management plan is applied, catches in 2020 should be no more than 689 672 tonnes.



Table 2.2.4.1 - Cod in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic). State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points. Source: http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2019/2019/cod.27.1-2.pdf

		Fishing pressure					Stock size				
		2016	2017		2018		:	2017	2018		2019
Maximum sustainable yield	F <sub>MSY</sub>	0	0	3	Above		MSY B <sub>trigger</sub>	0	0	0	Above trigger
Precautionary approach	F <sub>pa</sub> ,F <sub>lim</sub>	0	0	0	Increased risk		B <sub>pa</sub> ,B <sub>lim</sub>	0	0	0	Full reproductive capacity
Management plan	F <sub>MGT</sub>	0	0	0	Below		B <sub>MGT</sub>	0	0	0	Above

There are some conflicting signals from the different surveys and catch-at-age data. This increases the uncertainty of the assessment. An increasing proportion of older fish in the stock is outside the age range in the survey data used in the assessment; this may require a revision of the model tuning. The estimated selectivity-at-age is dome-shaped with selectivity sharply decreasing above age 12, which is not currently informed by survey data. These issues were investigated in 2019 (ICES, 2019a). However, no adequate solution was found so it will have to be investigated further at the next benchmark. The Russian bottom trawl survey was not conducted in 2018 and the joint ecosystem survey had a complete lack of coverage in southeastern part of the survey area. This adds uncertainty to the assessment in the final year. The sampling level from commercial catches was reduced around 2010 and remained at a lower level in the following years, but has improved in 2016–2018.

The median 2020 SSB is estimated as 1,227 kt and the lower 95% CI of SSB in 2018 have been above the estimate of BMSY (estimated as 2 \* BPA = 920 kt, MSC requirements). Thus, there is a high degree of certainty that current SSB is above MSY level.

Since 2017, TAC was set according to the new management plan agreed by JNRFC in October 2016, from ICES 2019a it is possible to observe that the catches were below and slightly above the TAC respectively in 2017 and 2018.

#### Haddock

The spawning-stock biomass (SSB) has been above MSY Btrigger since 1989. Due to the strong recruitment-at-age 3 in 2007–2009 (2004–2006 year classes) the stock reached an all-time high level in 2013. SSB is now decreasing, but remains well above MSY Btrigger. Fishing mortality (F) has increased since 2013 and was above FMSY in 2017 and 2018 (Fig. 2.2.4.2).

#### Lloyd's Register 1st Surveillance Report FIUN Barents & Norwegian Seas Cod and Haddock

Catches in 1000 t

F (ages 4 -7)

0

1950

1960

1970

1980

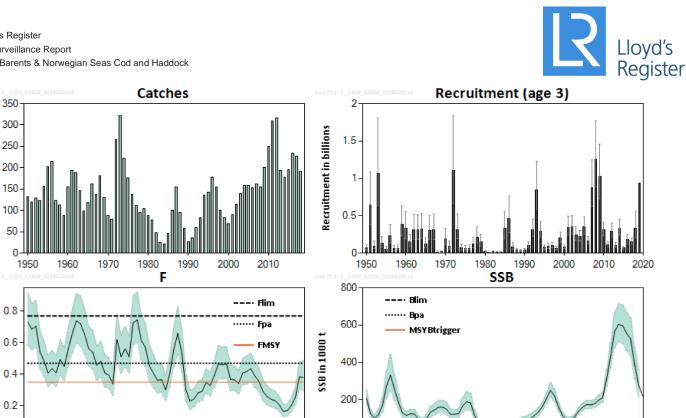


Figure 2 Haddock in subareas 1 and 2. Summary of the stock assessment (weights in thousand tonnes). Confidence intervals (95%) for recruitment, F, and SSB are shown in the plots. For this stock, FMGT = FMSY and SSBMGT = MSY Btrigger = Bpa; therefore, the horizontal lines representing these points in the graph overlap. Source: http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2019/2019/had.27.1-2.pdf

2010

1990

2000

0

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

ICES assesses that fishing pressure on the stock is above FMSY, but below Fpa and Flim, and that the spawning stock size is above MSY Btrigger, Bpa and Blim (Table 2.2.4.2).

ICES advises that when the Joint Russian–Norwegian Fisheries Commission management plan is applied, catches in 2020 should be no more than 215 000 tonnes.

	Fishing pressure						Stock size				
		2016	2017	017 2018			2017 2018 2019		2019		
Maximum sustainable yield	F <sub>MSY</sub>	0	8	0	Above		MSY B <sub>trigger</sub>	0	0	Above trigger	
Precautionary approach	F <sub>pa</sub> ,F <sub>lim</sub>	٢	٢	0	Harvested sustainably		B <sub>pa</sub> ,B <sub>lim</sub>	0	0	Full reproductive capacity	
Management plan	F <sub>MGT</sub>	0	8	8	Above		B <sub>MGT</sub>	0	0	O Above	

Figure 3 Haddock in subareas 1 and 2. State of the stock and fishery relative to reference points. Source: http://ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2019/2019/had.27.1-2.pdf

This year's assessment is consistent with last year's assessment. However, the retrospective pattern in SSB in previous years raises concerns about the reliability of the assessment; this will be investigated in a benchmark prior to the next assessment (2020).

For this year's assessment only indices from the Joint Barents Sea winter survey for 2019 were used, since the Russian bottom trawl survey was not conducted in 2018 and the joint ecosystem survey had a complete lack of coverage in the southeastern part of the survey area where most of the haddock is distributed. This adds uncertainty in the final year.

There is a likelihood of higher catch of undersized fish in the next year(s) due to strong cohorts entering the fisheries. It is therefore important that the fishery is regulated by spatial and temporal closures in the next couple of years as this will reduce the likelihood of high catch and possible discarding of undersized fish of the abundant 2016-2017 year classes.

The short-term forecast indicates a significant increase in SSB in 2021. This increase is highly dependent on the strength of the large incoming year classes, which are uncertain estimates. They are estimated to contribute almost 60% of the



total stock biomass in 2020, and over 40% of the catches. However, the harvest control rule states that: "(the) TAC should not be changed by more than  $\pm 25\%$  compared with the previous year TAC". This provides a buffer to the uncertainty in estimation of incoming year class strength.

The median 2020 SSB is estimated as 216 kt and the lower 95% CI of SSB in 2018 have been above the estimate of BMSY (estiamted as 2 \* BPA = 160 kt, MSC requirements). Thus, there is a high degree of certainty that current SSB is above MSY level.

The current HCR for haddock is as follows (see details in Protocol of the 46th Session of the Joint Russian–Norwegian Fisheries Commission – JRNFC, 2016):

TAC for the next year will be set at level corresponding to FMSY.

The TAC should not be changed by more than ±25% compared with the previous year TAC.

If the spawning stock falls below Bpa, the procedure for establishing TAC should be based on a fishing mortality that is linearly reduced from FMSY at Bpa to F= 0 at SSB equal to zero. At SSB-levels below Bpa in any of the operational years (current year and a year ahead) there should be no limitations on the year-to-year variations in TAC.

At the 46th Session of the Joint Russian–Norwegian Fisheries Commission in 2016 it was decided to keep the existing HCR for haddock for the next five years. ICES evaluated this HCR in 2016 (ICES, 2016) and concluded that it is precautionary and the catches are below the TAC and advice (ICES 2019b).

# 2.2.5 Any developments or changes within the fishery which impact traceability or the ability to segregate between fish from the Unit of Certification (UoC) and fish from outside the UoC (non-certified fish)

No changes were identified.

#### 2.3 Version Details

#### Table 2. Fisheries program documents versions

Document	Version number
MSC Fisheries Certification Process	Version 2.1
MSC Fisheries Standard	Version 2.0
MSC General Certification Requirements	Version 2.4
MSC Surveillance Reporting Template	Version 2.01



# **3 Results**

## 3.1 Surveillance results overview

# 3.1.1 Summary of conditions

#### Table 3. Summary of conditions

Condition number	Condition	Performance Indicator (PI)	Status	PI original score	PI revised score
1	By the 4th Surveillance audit there must be evidence that the partial strategy for ensuring the bottom trawl fisheries for cod and haddock do not pose a serious risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types is being implemented successfully.	PI 2.4.2 c	On target	75	Not revised
2	By the 4th Surveillance audit there must be evidence that the partial strategy for ensuring the bottom trawl fisheries for cod and haddock do not pose a serious risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types is being implemented successfully.	PI 2.4.2 c	On target	75	Not revised

# 3.1.2 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and catch data

#### Table 4. Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and catch data

Cod

TAC	Year	2018	Amount	775 000 t
UoA share of TAC	Year	2018	Amount	104 610.63 t
UoA share of total TAC	Year	2018	Amount	104 610.63 t
Total green weight catch by UoC	Year (most recent)	2018	Amount	104 610.63 t
Total green weight catch by UoC	Year (second most recent)	2017	Amount	115 630.2 t



TAC	Year	2018	Amount	202 305, t
UoA share of TAC	Year	2018	Amount	28 141.61 t
UoA share of total TAC	Year	2018	Amount	28 141.61 t
Total green weight catch by UoC	Year (most recent)	2018	Amount	28 141.61 t
Total green weight catch by UoC	Year (second most recent)	2017	Amount	30 057.41 t

#### 3.1.3 Recommendations

Two non-binding recommendations have been made by the assessment team:

Recommendation 1: The information gathered by the FIUN fleet on ETP species should continue. Analysis of the data should enable the identification of areas and/or seasons where risk of interaction is higher and help to evaluate the impact of the fisheries on the species. Mitigation measures should then be introduced where appropriate. The condition of discarded ETP species, e.g. dead, injured, undamaged etc. should also be recorded.

Recommendation 2: The level of scientific observers should be increased.

#### 3.2 Conditions

#### Table 5. Condition 1 & 2

Performance Indicator	2.4.2c There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types. SIc: There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully
Score	75
Justification	There is evidence that mandatory measures are successfully implemented, e.g. the mandatory use of VMS, the monitoring and confirmation that fishing is excluded from MPAs, no reports of infractions within the MPAs. There is also evidence that some of the management measures described in "FIUN Barents Sea Plan" (for the protection of habitat types) are already implemented, such as the recording and analysis of benthic impacts and the identification of vulnerable areas to FIUN bottom trawling activity. Other key measures of this plan have not yet been implemented. These include the establishment of mandatory area closures by management authorities, the signing of Code of Conducts to avoid fishing in these areas, enhanced observer programs and the adoption of lower impacting trawling gear. Given the recency of some of the FIUN measures and the planned adoption of others in the short to medium term, it is considered that there is insufficient evidence to allow the assessment team to conclude that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully. Therefore, the SG80 is not met for the bottom trawl fleet UoCs.
Condition	By the 4th surveillance audit there must be evidence that the partial strategy, designed to ensure that the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types, is implemented successfully
Milestones	By the 1st surveillance audit:



The client shall present a written update and evidence on the continued progress toward fully implementing the "FIUN Barents Sea Plan", together with the level of performance and timeline for achieving each activity.

Activities of particular interest include:

- The recording and analysis of benthic interactions;
- · Signing of the Code of Conduct;

• The approach the client makes to both Russian and Norwegian management authorities in relation to proposals for area closures and regulations to protect habitat types;

- Implementation of NEAFC Recommendation 19/2014; and,
- Implementation of a scientific observer program.

This milestone is an incremental step toward fulfilling the condition. Its successful completion will not result in a change of score to the PI; the score will remain at 75.

#### By the 2nd surveillance audit:

The client shall present a written update and evidence on the continued progress toward fully implementing the, "FIUN Barents Sea Plan". As well as an update on the activities of particular interest highlighted in year 1, the client shall also present evidence of progress toward or changes (if any) in official regulations affecting the protection of vulnerable habitat types.

This milestone is an incremental step toward fulfilling the condition. Its successful completion will not result in a change of score to the PI; the score will remain at 75.

#### By the 3rd surveillance audit:

The client shall present a written update and evidence that the activities identified in the, "FIUN Barents Sea Plan" have been implemented by and applied to the FIUN cod and haddock trawl fishery. The client shall also present evidence of progress toward or changes (if any) in official regulations affecting the protection of vulnerable habitat types.

This milestone is an incremental step toward fulfilling the condition. Its successful completion will not result in a change of score to the PI; the score will remain at 75.

#### By the 4th surveillance audit:

The client shall present a written update and evidence that the activities identified in the, "FIUN Barents Sea Plan" have been fully implemented and changes have been made in official regulations affecting the protection of vulnerable habitat types.

Successful completion of this and the previous milestones will demonstrate that the partial strategy, designed to ensure that the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types has been successfully implemented. The score shall be 80.

Consultation on Commitment and collaboration of the key third party participants is provided in Appendix 1.4 of the Public Certification Report which can be viewed here:

#### https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/fiun-barents-norwegian-seas-cod-andhaddock/@@assessments

The client has presented information on the progress of this condition.

Progress on Condition (Year

• The recording and analysis of benthic interactions;

1<sup>st</sup> surveillance) The client has provided updated information (maps and catch tables) with records of benthic interactions (and also interactions with seabirds, marina mammals and ETP species). Such information is collected on a continuous basis and serves to identify areas of potential higher impact. This activity is on target.

condition

2019.



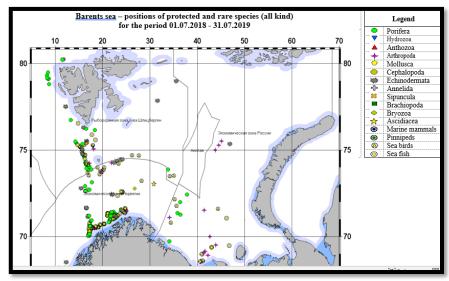


Figure 4 Map of interactions of the UoA with vulnerable habitats and species.

• Signing of the Code of Conduct;

There is no update as regards the elaboration and signing of a Code of Conduct by members of the UoA.

FIUN is member of the Coordination Council for sustainable fisheries in the NEA, which is a network of Russian MSC certified fisheries in the Barents Sea. As such, they have signed the voluntary agreement not to enter into new fishing grounds north of Svalbard. The compliance with this agreement by the different fleets has been reviewed by the company Ocean Mind, which has provided a confidential report "Analysis of industry group agreement to cod fishery in the NE Atlantic: Monitoring and compliance review. 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018- 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018". This analysis shows that the UoA is compliant with this agreement.

In any case, there is however no progress yet as regards the signing of a Code of Conduct by the UoA. This activity is behind target.

• The approach the client makes to both Russian and Norwegian management authorities in relation to proposals for area closures and regulations to protect habitat types;

The CAB is aware of the difficulty for the client to give input to management authorities on the management of benthic habitats in the Barents Sea. However, this activity requires the client to approach management authorities in relation to proposals for area closures and regulations to protect habitat types.

The client has shown the assessment team a letter sent to BBTU (Barents – Belomorsk Territorial Administration, branch of a Federal Agency for Fishery in the Russian Government). This letter was sent and received by BBTU on August 22<sup>nd,</sup> 2019, and highlights the need to regulate benthic habitats in some areas of special concern in the Barents Sea.

This activity is on target.

Figure 2:



НЕКОММЕРЧЕСКАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ «союз выбольомышленныков севеьу» Ул. Шмидта, дом 43, г. <u>Мурманск, РОССИЯ, 183038</u> ОКПО 48195036, OГРН 1025100832305, ИНН/КПП 5191120714/519001001 102/1-59 or 22.08 20191 Руководителю Баренцево-Беломорского территориального управления Рожнову В.Н. Уважаемый Виктор Николаевич! Figure 5 Front page of the letter to BBTU. Source: Client.

• Implementation of NEAFC Recommendation 19/2014;

According to interviews at the site visit, NEAFC Recommendation 19/2014 has been implemented by FIUN vessels in the Barents Sea since it was launched in 2014. This activity is on target.

• Implementation of a scientific observer program.

FIUN collaborates in the collection of scientific information by taking some scientific observers on board FIUN vessels when targeting cod and haddock in the Barents Sea. The assessment team appreciates the detailed information provided by the client as regards the trips made by the observers but notes that only 5 vessels in the UoA have hosted scientific observers. Since there are no annual milestones for the activity the activity is considered on target, but the client is encouraged to increase the scientific observer coverage.

Figure 3:

Судно	Период	Наблюдатель
«Звезда Мурмана»	07.04.2018 г. – 22.05.2018 г.	Гольцев О.В.
	02.04.2019 г. – 22.05.2019 г.	Меренков А.С.
«Мелькарт-2»	21.12.2018 г. – 07.02.2019 г.	Александров Д.И.
«Мелькарт-3»	18.04.2018 г. – 17.11.2018 г.	Рощин Е.А.
	01.07.2018 г. – 17.11.2018 г.	Рощин Е.А.
	18.11.2018 г. – 26.04.2019 г.	Ильина Т.Н.
	25.04.2019 г. – по н.в.	Рощин Е.А.
«Мелькарт-5»	20.01.2019 г. – 06.03.2019 г.	Машков В.Н.
«Звейниекс»	06.04.2018 г. – 03.05.2018 г.	Осипов М.В.
	22.05.2018 г. – 15.06.2018 г.	OCHIOB WI.B.
	04.07.2018 г. – 27.07.2018 г.	
	03.08.2018 г. – 01.09.2018 г.	Антипин Р.А.
	10.09.2018 г. – 13.10.2018 г.	

#### **Figure 6 List**

#### of PINRO observers and trips for the 2018-2019 fishing season, as listed by PINRO on August 2019.

As described above, FIUN is working in the development of the different activities set at the milestones. While there are activities behind target, most of them are on target. As there is no specific timeframe for the fulfilling of the milestones of the condition, the team considers that there has been a general good progress and that the condition is on target.



Status	On target.
Additional information	

# 3.3 Client Action Plan

The client contact responsible for the MSC certificate has changed. Although the Client Action Plan has not been amended, the new management of FIUN focuses more on the conditions and their milestones than what is referred to as the 'FIUN Barents Sea plan', which seems to be the old management's designation of an extended version of the Client Action Plan.

## 3.4 Re-scoring Performance Indicators

No Performance Indicators were re-scored.



# 4 Appendices

# 4.1 Evaluation processes and techniques

#### 4.1.1 Site visits

A site visit was conducted in Kirkenes at the Norwegian-Russian border on 27 August 2019.

#### 4.1.2 Stakeholder Participation

At the site visit, Team Leader Geir Hønneland met with General Director Konstantin Drevetnyak and responsible for MSC certification Ivan Tretyakov from FIUN. Progress against the conditions and recommendations, as well as changes in the fishery and its management, were discussed.

#### 4.2 Stakeholder input

No stakeholder input was received.



## 4.3 Harmonised fishery assessments

All relevant Performance Indicators were harmonised at re-assessment, and any new overlapping fisheries have harmonised scores.



## 4.4 References

ICES. 2016. Norway/Russia request for evaluation of harvest control rules for Northeast Arctic cod and haddock and for Barents Sea capelin. In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2016. ICES Advice 2016, Book 3, Section 3.4.1. 12 pp.

JRNFC. 2016. Protocol of the 46th Session of the Joint Russian–Norwegian Fisheries Commission, 17–20 October 2016 (In Russian). 117 pp. Available at: http://www.jointfish.com/rus/content/download/502/6357/file/46-russisk.pdf.

ICES 2019a. ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, and Norwegian Sea ecoregions Published 13 June 2019. Cod (Gadus morhua) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)

ICES 2019b. ICES Advice on fishing opportunities, catch, and effort Arctic Ocean, Barents Sea, and Norwegian Sea ecoregions Published 13 June 2019. Haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)