

SAI Global

ISF Iceland lumpfish

MSC Fishery Announcement

1. Introduction

This Announcement marks the beginning of an assessment of this fishery and the start of a stakeholder period. SAI Global is required to submit this announcement along with the Announcement Comment Draft Report for posting on the MSC website for stakeholder consultation for at least 39 days; please note that this non-standard 39-day consultation period is the result of a variation request which was granted by MSC and can be viewed on the MSC webpage for this fishery.

The information SAI Global is required to provide when formally announcing a fishery assessment, including how stakeholders may get involved in the process, is outlined on the following pages.

2. Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

Table 1. Fishery announcement.

1	Fisheryname																																	
	ISF Iceland lumpfish																																	
2	Assessment number																																	
	Initial assessment																																	
3	Reduced re-assessment (Yes-No)																																	
	No. Not applicable as this is not a re-assessment.																																	
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope																																	
	SAI Global confirms that the fishery entering assessment meets the scope requirements in FCP v2.1 7.4 for MSC fishery assessments (FCP v2.1 7.12.2.a) as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The target species assessed under Principle 1 is not an amphibian, a reptile, a bird or a mammal.- The fishery does not use poisons or explosives.- The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement.- The fishery does not include an entity that has been successfully prosecuted for a forced or child labour violation in the last 2 years.- The fishery has submitted a completed 'Certificate Holder Forced and Child Labour Policies, Practices and Measures Template' to SAI Global.- The fishery includes a mechanism for resolving disputes and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery.- The fishery is neither an Enhanced Fishery nor is it an Introduced Species Based Fishery.																																	
5	Unit(s) of Assessment – UoA(s)																																	
	<p>The UoAs for this assessment is described in Table 2 below; there is 1 target stock and 1 fishing gear but the fishery operates in 7 distinct geographical areas resulting in 7 UoAs. Note that as species, stock, harvest method/gear, client group and other eligible fishers are common to all 7 UoAs, to avoid repetition they have been presented together in Table 2 below.</p> <table><tr><td colspan="4">Table 2. Units of Assessment 1 – 7 (of 7); note species, stock, harvest method/gear, client group and other eligible fishers are common to all 7 UoAs.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">UoAs 1 – 7 (of 7)</td><td colspan="2">Description</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="3">Species</td><td colspan="2">Latin name</td><td><i>Cyclopterus lumpus</i></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Common names</td><td>ENG</td><td>Lumpfish, lumpsucker</td></tr><tr><td>ISL</td><td>Hrognkelsi</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Stock</td><td colspan="2">Lumpfish within ICES Division 5.a.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Harvest method/gear</td><td colspan="2">Lumpfish gillnet</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Client group</td><td colspan="2">The client group is Iceland Sustainable Fisheries ehf. (ISF) which consists of members or shareholders, including fisheries, primary processors, food producers and export companies. Operators eligible to supply the client group members with certified product include all vessels carrying valid permits issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries to fish for lumpfish in Icelandic waters.</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Other eligible fishers or entities that may share the certificate as new client group members</td><td colspan="2">Other eligible fishers include new vessels carrying valid permits issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries to fish for lumpfish in Icelandic waters. Other entities that may share the certificate as new client group members include other potential members/shareholders of ISF including fisheries, primary processors, food producers and export companies that not currently part of ISF ehf.</td></tr></table>	Table 2. Units of Assessment 1 – 7 (of 7); note species, stock, harvest method/gear, client group and other eligible fishers are common to all 7 UoAs.				UoAs 1 – 7 (of 7)		Description		Species	Latin name		<i>Cyclopterus lumpus</i>	Common names	ENG	Lumpfish, lumpsucker	ISL	Hrognkelsi	Stock		Lumpfish within ICES Division 5.a.		Harvest method/gear		Lumpfish gillnet		Client group		The client group is Iceland Sustainable Fisheries ehf. (ISF) which consists of members or shareholders, including fisheries, primary processors, food producers and export companies. Operators eligible to supply the client group members with certified product include all vessels carrying valid permits issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries to fish for lumpfish in Icelandic waters.		Other eligible fishers or entities that may share the certificate as new client group members		Other eligible fishers include new vessels carrying valid permits issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries to fish for lumpfish in Icelandic waters. Other entities that may share the certificate as new client group members include other potential members/shareholders of ISF including fisheries, primary processors, food producers and export companies that not currently part of ISF ehf.	
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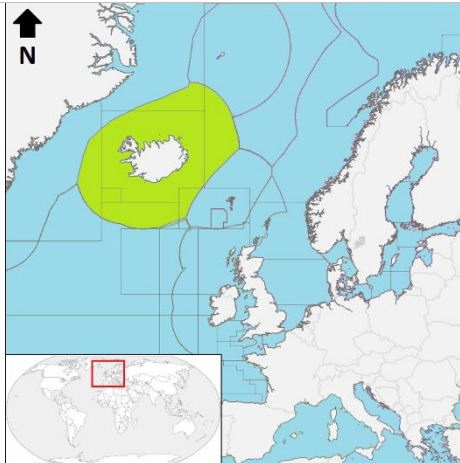
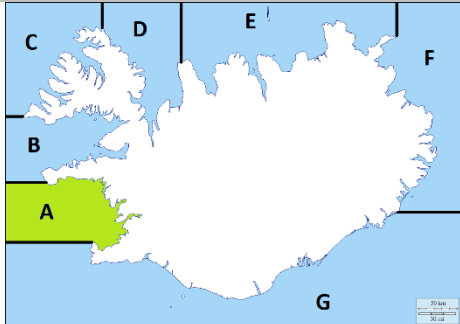
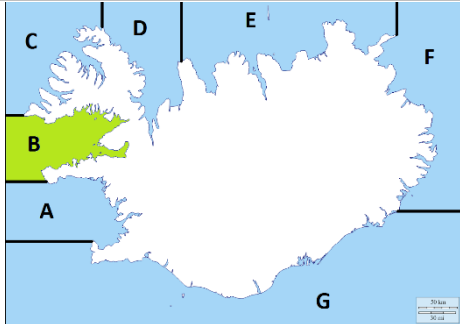
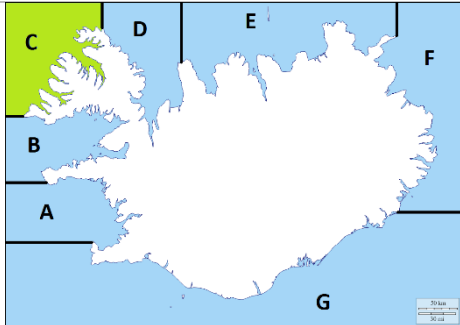
Geographical areas		<p>All UoAs lie within waters of the Icelandic EEZ within FAO Major Fishing Area 27 Atlantic, Northeast; primarily within ICES Division 5.a (Iceland Grounds) but including parts of ICES areas 2a, 5b, 12a, 14a and 14b.</p>	
UoA 1	Icelandic lumpfish management area A:		
UoA 2	Icelandic lumpfish management area B:		
UoA 3	Icelandic lumpfish management area C:		

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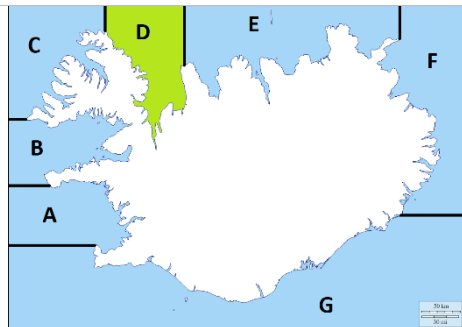
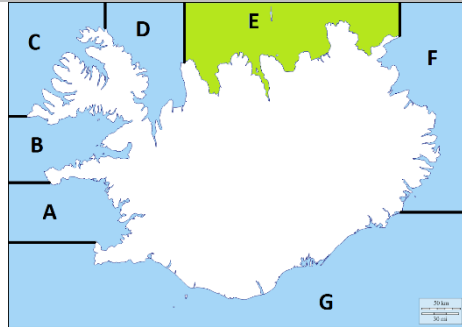
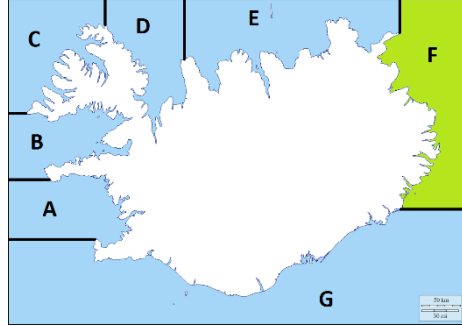
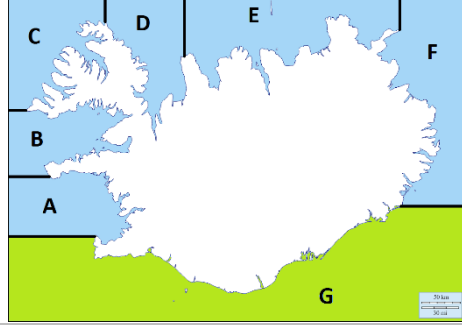
		UoA 4	Icelandic lumpfish management area D:	
		UoA 5	Icelandic lumpfish management area E:	
		UoA 6	Icelandic lumpfish management area F:	
		UoA 7	Icelandic lumpfish management area G:	
6	Certificate sharing statement			
	As other eligible fishers have been identified, the client has prepared a statement of their understanding and willingness for reasonable certificate sharing arrangements (MSC FCP v2.1 §7.12.2.b and §7.5.7.2); that statement is attached herein in Appendix 2 .			
7	Name of proposed team leader			
	<p>Sam Dignan – Lead assessor with additionally responsible for Principle 2 and Traceability</p> <p>Sam meets the fishery team leader qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:</p> <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 on line training modules where relevant. 			

Table 1. Fishery announcement.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passed an appropriate ISO Lead Auditor training course as required by MSC requirements. <p>With respect to his additional duties under Principle 2, Sam has:</p> <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: i) Bycatch and ii) Habitats. <p>With respect to his additional duties as the team member with primary responsibility for Traceability, Sam has:</p> <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, Sam 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>Sam does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of his CV is provided in Appendix 1. While the intention at this point is that Sam will be on-site during the 'site visit' portion of this assessment, the current situation with respect to COVID-19 is such that it may be that this site visit will be conducted entirely remotely.</p>
8	<p>Name(s) of proposed team members</p> <p>Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella – Assessor with responsibility for Principle 1</p> <p>Giuseppe 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 of 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 similar species. <p>Giuseppe does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of her CV is provided in Appendix 1. Following the accepted of a Variation Request to this effect which may be viewed on the MSC webpage for this fishery, Giuseppe will be off-site during the site visit portion of this assessment.</p> <p>Dr. Geir Hønneland – Assessor with responsibility for Principle 3</p> <p>Geir 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 3, Geir has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> +3 years' experience as a practicing fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst. 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>Geir does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of his CV is provided in Appendix 1. While the intention at this point is that Geir will be on-site during the 'site visit' portion</p>

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	of this assessment, the current situation with respect to COVID-19 is such that it may be that this site visit will be conducted entirely remotely.																
9	Stakeholder opportunities																
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Announcement Comment Draft Report – 39-day* stakeholder comment period. ▪ Site visit in late-April 2020 with dates to be confirmed—all team members will be available to meet with stakeholders either in person or remotely (FCP v2.17.12.2.e.i). ▪ Public Comment Draft Report – 51-day* stakeholder comment period (expected July 2020). <p>For further information on how stakeholders may engage with this fishery assessment see Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments below).</p> <p>* These non-standard consultation periods are the result of a variation request which was granted by MSC allowing SAI Global to shorten the former from the required 60 days (i.e. - 21 days) provided the time is added to the latter (i.e. + 21 days); this variation request can be viewed on the MSC webpage for this fishery.</p>																
10	Assessment tree to be used																
	The assessment tree to be applied will be the default tree without modifications.																
11	Estimated timeline																
	<p>Projected dates for key reports and a predicted date by which the assessment is expected to be completed and certification awarded if the assessment result is positive are outlined in Table 3 below; a separate indicative assessment timeline has also been uploaded to the MSC webpage for this fishery.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Table 3. Projected dates for key steps in the assessment process.</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Assessment stage</th><th>Actual/projected date</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR)</td><td>19 March 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Eligibility date*</td><td>10 March 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Site visit</td><td>28 April 2020 – 30 April 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Client and Peer Review</td><td>June 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR)</td><td>July/August 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Final Draft Report</td><td>August/September 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Public Certification Report and Certification awarded**</td><td>October 2020</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* The Eligibility Date is set before the date of publication of the first PCDR following the allowance to do so being granted by MSC through an accepted Variation Request which can be viewed on the MSC webpage for this fishery.</p> <p>** Providing outcome of assessment is positive.</p>	Assessment stage	Actual/projected date	Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR)	19 March 2020	Eligibility date*	10 March 2020	Site visit	28 April 2020 – 30 April 2020	Client and Peer Review	June 2020	Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR)	July/August 2020	Final Draft Report	August/September 2020	Public Certification Report and Certification awarded**	October 2020
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12	Site visit																
	<p>The 'site visit' portion of this assessment will hopefully take place on-site in Iceland from 28 to 30 April 2020 with exact dates and locations still to be determined; however, depending on how the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak develops in the coming month, it may however be that SAI Global will have to apply the MSC derogation allowing assessment activities to be conducted remotely.</p> <p>A statement inviting stakeholders to participate in the site visit portion of this assessment is included in Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments below; the statement also provides instructions to stakeholders on how they may provide input on the Announcement Draft Report.</p>																

3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments

The fishery will now enter a phase of stakeholder input on the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) and information gathering which culminates in the assessment site visit. A key purpose of this stage is to collect information on the fishery and in particular to speak to representatives of the fishery, fishery management and environmental management bodies. While direct consultation with the assessment team would normally happen during the site visit, alternative arrangements to meet the team may be made by contacting SAI Global as set out below. Please note that during the site visit team members will be available to meet with stakeholders either in person or remotely.

Therefore, SAI Global wishes to invite organisations or individuals with an interest in this fishery to meet with the Assessment Team and/or provide information relevant to the assessment process. Please note that the Assessment Team will be available for direct consultations with stakeholders during the period specified in the “Stakeholder consultation” Section of the Table 1 above.

SAI Global would like to encourage stakeholders not to withhold information, including their concerns and knowledge about the fishery in question. At the same time we must inform you that we are unable to reference or use information that cannot be shared with all stakeholders. An exception may be possible where the information relates to either; 1) financial transactions about certification; 2) the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being made public, or; 3) information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the Client’s country.

Prior to becoming involved, and to ensure your effective participation, SAI Global would encourage stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the process using the resources provided on the MSC’s website (<https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>).

Comments on the ACDR may be submitted until: 17:00 UTC on 18 May 2020.

Ideally, if you would like to speak with the Assessment Team, we would request that you do so within the site visit period (i.e. 28 April 2020 – 30 April 2020); if you wish to speak with the team during this period please advise us of your interest by **17:00 UTC on 24 April 2020** so that this can be arranged.

With that being said, as part of the relevant variation request, the team will be available to speak with stakeholders until 65 days after this announcement; therefore, if you wish to speak with the team during this period you may do so provided you advise us sufficiently far in advance that this may be arranged.

In either case please provide the following details when requesting to meet with the assessment team:

- 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).

If you do not wish to be interviewed, or if you are unavailable during the timeframe outlined in Table 1 above, you may instead make a written submission to the Assessment Team, providing objective evidence and references in support of any claims or claimed error of fact, and 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>.

IMPORTANT NOTE

According to MSC FCP v.2.1 §7.15.3, SAI Global is only permitted to accept stakeholder input as public record if it is submitted using the aforementioned “MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments”, or if raised at the same visit in person or remotely; therefore, SAI Global is unable to consider written submissions not made in the correct format and these will be returned until the issue is rectified.

Comments/responses should be sent to:

SAI Global Ireland Client Services

E: ClientServicesie@saiglobal.com

Appendix 1: Summary of CVs of team leader and team members

The Assessment Team for this assessment is comprised of members with experience and expertise in the areas of stock assessment, ecosystem interactions and fishery management and consists of:

- Sam Dignan (Lead Assessor and Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 2, Traceability and RBF).
- Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 1).
- Dr. Geir Hønneland (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 3).

A brief bios for each team member is presented below.

Assessment Team Leader: Sam Dignan, Primary Responsibility for P1/P2/P3 and Traceability

Sam Dignan is a fisheries scientist who has previously worked with the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA), Isle of Man and Bangor University Fisheries and Conservation Science Group (Wales). He has a BSc in Biological and Chemical Sciences with Zoology from University College Cork and an MSc in Marine Environmental Protection from Bangor University. He has experience conducting stock assessments, from the survey design and implementation phases through to final analysis and report presentation; from 2013 to 2015 he was a member of the ICES working group on scallop stock assessment. He has been involved in providing scientific data to ensure fishery compliance with the Marine Stewardship Council's (MSC) certification framework and has participated in MSC surveillance audits from a client's perspective. Sam has extensive experience of interacting directly with fishers and their representative organizations as well as members of scientific and government institutions. He was previously an advisor to the Isle of Man Queen Scallop Management Board that manages the MSC certified Isle of Man queen scallop fishery. He has also worked on the spatial analysis of fishing activity, using Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and logbook data, to spatially quantify fishing activity and fisheries-ecosystem interactions. Sam is an ISO approved lead auditor and is SAI Global's Scheme Manager for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Seaweed.

Assessment Team Member: Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella, Primary Responsibility for P1.

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, otolith 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.

Assessment Team Member: Dr. Geir Hønneland, Primary Responsibility for P3.

Dr. Geir Hønneland is Director at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo, Norway, and adjunct professor at the University of Tromsø, Norway. He holds a PhD in political science from the University of Oslo and has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on compliance issues), international environmental politics and international Arctic politics.

Among his recent books are Arctic Politics, the Law of the Sea and Russian Identity (Palgrave, 2014), Making Fishery Agreements Work (Edward Elgar, 2012), International Environmental Agreements (Routledge, 2011), Arctic Politics and International Cooperation (Routledge, 2007) and Law and Politics in Ocean Governance: the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and Regional Fisheries Management Regimes (Martinus Nijhoff, 2006). He worked in the Norwegian Coast Guard from 1988 to 1994, where he was certified as a fisheries inspector.

Geir also has a wide range of evaluation and consultancy experience, e.g. for the FAO and OECD, relating to responsible fisheries management. He has been involved in MSC assessments since 2009 (covering cod, blue whiting, haddock, herring, mackerel and shrimp fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic and krill in the Southern Ocean) and was certified as MSC Team Leader in 2014. As with Giuseppe, Geir has also been recently involved in MSC assessments in Iceland.

Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement

The Client for this fishery, Iceland Sustainable Fisheries Ltd., is the certificate holder for a number of MSC-certified fisheries in Iceland. ISF is owned by companies (shareholders) that produce and export fish from Iceland and the company's objective is to increase the number of MSC certified species.

ISF shareholders have access to ISF's fisheries certificates which allows them to export their products as MSC certified. ISF makes it clear on their website (<https://www.icelandsustainable.is/>) that membership to ISF is open to Icelandic companies that want to be able to export MSC certified marine products.

ISF also clearly outlines on the Icelandic version of their website (<https://www.isf.is/>) how a qualifying entity may become an ISF member including that ISF membership is open to all who apply based on a paying a joining fee (currently ISK 1,765,000) and entering a shareholder agreement with the ISF; thereafter, members are subject to an annual membership fee (currently ISK 1,200,000).

Those wishing to join ISF should contact ISF directly: <https://www.isf.is/til-aeth-hafa-samband.html>.

4. Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.0'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with SAI Global's corporate identity, SAI Global has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

The Marine Stewardship Council's 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.01' and its content is copyright of "Marine Stewardship Council" - © "Marine Stewardship Council" 2019. All rights reserved.

Table 3. Template version control.

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	8 October 2014	Date of issue
2.0	17 December 2018	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.1
2.01	28 March 2019	Minor document change for usability

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

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