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President: Andrew A. Rosenberg, Ph.D.

Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Announcement

Name of Fishery	<i>DFPO Limfjord Mussel and Cockle Fishery</i>									
Assessment number	<i>Initial Assessment</i>									
Reduced re-assessment (Y/N)	<i>No</i>									
Statement that the fishery is within scope	<i>MRAG Americas confirms that this fishery is within scope for MSC assessment</i>									
Certificate sharing statement	<i>N/A</i> <i>Where certificate sharing is to be made available, the client needs to prepare and publish a statement of their understanding and willingness for reasonable certificate sharing arrangements [FCR 7.8.3.3, FCR 7.4.12.2]. The arrangement should be confirmed here and a separate letter attached in Appendix 1 detailing this arrangement, as appropriate. If certificate sharing is not applicable, indicate that this is the case here.</i>									
Estimated Length of Full Assessment & Timeline	<i>It is expected that this assessment will take 9 months, and if successful, the fishery will be certified in October, 2015. The expected timeline is as follows:</i>									
	Month of 2015									
Activity	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	
Sign contract/MSC Announcement including team composition and notification of assessment visit										
Stakeholder consultation (ongoing)										
Assessment visit, stakeholder meetings										
Examination of evidence, scoring, report preparation										
Report review and finalization										
Consultation and confirmation of Peer Reviewers										

	Client review of draft report						■				
	Peer review of draft report						■				
	Stakeholder review of draft report						■				
	Final report/certification determination/objections period								■		
	Certification decision									■	
Name of proposed Team Leader	<p>Dr. Robert Wakeford, team leader and primary responsibility for Principle 2. Robert Wakeford is Director of Fisheries at MRAG Ltd. and has over nineteen years' experience with a broad range of multi-disciplinary skills in fisheries resource management and policy, including fish stock assessment, eco-labelling, survey design and analysis, statistical and empirical modelling, international observer programmes, database design and project management. He has gained considerable experience with the Marine Stewardship Council and associated Certification Requirements, and has conducted numerous MSC pre-assessments for a number of private clients. In addition to pre-assessments, he was Lead Assessor and P2 expert for the successful Mexican Caribbean spiny lobster fishery (Banco Chinchorro and Sian Ka'an fishery), and was responsible for testing the MSC's original Risk Based Framework (RBF) in 2006/07, prior to becoming P2 expert for the certification of the Cornwall sardine fishery. Since 2007, he has worked closely with WWF to develop a framework for implementing Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs) based on the Marine Stewardship Council Standard. Robert has previously conducted assessments on freshwater fish populations, and was Team Leader to conduct a fish biodiversity and fisheries survey in Sierra Leone as part of an EIA during 2006. More recently, he is working in Liberia and Sierra Leone as part of the World Bank Funded Regional Fisheries Programme (WARFP) on scientific research, stock assessment and curriculum development and is currently Project Director and Principal Investigator on numerous EU-funded projects to conduct retrospective and prospective evaluations of the Common Fisheries Policy.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Dr. Wakeford meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leaders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries; • He has passed the MSC team leader training; • He has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2; • He has undertaken two fishery assessment as a team member in the last five years; and • He has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with 										

	<p>clients and other stakeholders.</p> <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 2 assessor as described in FCR Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Dr. Wakeford has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
<p>Name(s) of proposed assessors</p>	<p><i>Dr. Julian Addison</i> (team member, onsite), primarily responsible for Principle 1.</p> <p>Julian Addison is an independent fisheries consultant specializing in shellfish and inshore fisheries. Until 2010 he served for 28 years at the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), which is the UK Government’s marine science agency for environment, fisheries and aquatic science, most recently as Senior Shellfish Advisor. Relevant skills and experience include 30 years’ experience of stock assessment and provision of management advice on shellfish and inshore fisheries, extensive shellfish research primarily in the field of crustacean population dynamics and assessment, extensive knowledge of the UK shellfish and inshore fisheries industry and liaison with fishers and other stakeholder groups, knowledge of shellfisheries management regimes worldwide, effective oral and written communication skills and winning of contracts under competitive tender.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Dr Addison meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years’ experience in management and research in fisheries, • He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years • He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored. <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCR Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p><i>Ms. Christine Grieve</i> (team member, onsite), primarily responsible for Principle 3.</p> <p>Chris Grieve has 25+ years’ experience in fisheries management and policy-making from local to global levels. First as research assistant to Australian stock assessment scientists, then the manager of some complex Australian demersal fisheries. She moved to the UK in 2000 to lead the Sustainable Fisheries Policy Research Programme for a London-based think tank where</p>

	<p>the vision was to influence change in the European Union’s Common Fisheries Policy. In 2002, Chris became the International Policy Director for the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), responsible for leading the MSC’s work on standards, certification and accreditation, governing bodies and developing world fisheries. Chris’s role evolved to become Associate Director between 2005 and 2010 after she established Meridian Prime as a consulting company with a diverse portfolio of work. Chris has led and participated in work on the development, evolution and implementation of the MSC standard and certification requirements. She has also led and participated in sustainable fisheries-related projects for client organisations in Europe and the USA. On a consultancy basis, Chris is the Executive Director of the EDGE Certified Foundation: a Swiss-based, global certification scheme dedicated to pursuing gender equality in Fortune 500 companies. Chris is an associate of the GrowHouse Initiative: a company that helps businesses explore beyond the boundaries of their current practice to create compelling, unique and sustainable futures. Chris is a member of the Board of Directors for WOCAN (a non-profit focusing on gender equality in natural resource management in the global south) and on the Advisory Board of Ocean Outcomes (a US-based non-profit focusing on sustainable fisheries). Chris was a founding Trustee and Vice Chair of the ISEAL Alliance, the global sustainability standards organization; and a statutory-appointed member of two Australian fisheries management public boards.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms Grieve meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She has an appropriate university degree and more than five years’ experience in management and research in fisheries, • She has passed the MSC online training required for fishery team members; • She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored. <p>In addition, she has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCR Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms she has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
Assessment tree to be used	<i>The default assessment tree contained in MSC CR version 1.3 will be used for this assessment.</i>
Site visit	The assessment team will meet in Copenhagen, and in and around Nykøbing, Denmark on March 11th and 12th, 2015.

MRAG Americas, Inc. is pleased to announce that a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) assessment of the **DFPO Limfjord mussel and cockle fishery** has begun. The assessment will evaluate the fishery for compliance with the MSC's Standard for well-managed and sustainable fisheries. MRAG Americas has determined that the fishery is in scope.

As part of the assessment, MRAG Americas announces that the MSC assessment of the DFPO Limfjord mussel and cockle fishery will undertake stakeholder meetings and assess relevant documentation with a visit to the fisheries in March, 2015. **The assessment team will meet in Copenhagen, and in and around Nykøbing, Denmark on March 11th and 12th.** The purpose of these meetings is for a fishery assessment and stakeholder consultation to receive information from fishery representatives, government management agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders

MRAG invites stakeholders to provide any information considered relevant to the surveillance and expedited assessments of the fisheries. MRAG will schedule meetings with stakeholders if requested. To schedule a meeting please provide:

- your name and contact details
- your association with the fishery
- the issues you would like to discuss
- where and when you would like to meet

Stakeholders may provide input at any time. We ask stakeholders who wish to meet with the team to make the request for a meeting by 5pm GMT on 27 February 2015.

The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <http://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders> and a template for stakeholder response available at http://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders/template_for_stakeholder_input. You may use the template or provide your response in any other format.

Please send any documentation, requests for meetings, or inquiries to:

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Submitted by: Amanda Stern-Pirlot

Date: 5 February, 2015

Appendix 2: CVs of team leader and team

CVs are available as separate PDFs for download on the MSC website.