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Eastern Canada Offshore Scallop

MSC Inseparable or Practicably Inseparable (IPI) Announcement

1 Introduction

2 Marine Stewardship Council IPI announcement

Table 1 – Inseparable or practicably inseparable (IPI) catches

1	<p>Description of the stocks identified as Inseparable or Practicably Inseparable (IPI) and confirmation they are within scope of IPI</p>
	<p>The below text gives a description of the stocks identified as Inseparable or Practicably Inseparable (IPI) and confirmation they are within scope of IPI. The format is laid out as to address how the catches under consideration fulfil the requirements of FCP v2.1 7.5.8.1 and to indicate fish and fish products from IPI stocks may enter further chains of custody with an exemption to additional assessment requirements (FCP v2.1 7.5.11.b). Exemption to additional assessment requirements is appropriate as detailed in MSC requirements FCP v2.1 7.5.11. b. A full rationale is given showing that the catch proportion of IPI stocks is less than or equal to 2% and the total catch of IPI stock(s) by the fishery under assessment does not create a significant impact on the IPI stock(s) as a whole.</p> <p>FCP v2.1 7.5.8.1</p> <p>a. The non-target catch is practicably indistinguishable during normal fishing operations (i.e. the catch is from a stock of the same species or a closely related species)</p> <p>Iceland scallop (<i>Chlamys islandica</i>) is closely related to the sea scallop (<i>Placopecten magellanicus</i>) that is targeted by the ECOSF. While sea scallops are found from Cape Hatteras (North Carolina, USA) to the northern tip of Newfoundland (Canada), Iceland scallops are circumpolar, and the bulk of the stock and the directed Canadian fishery for this species occur along the northern shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Strait of Belle Isle, the Labrador Coast and St. Pierre Bank (Black <i>et al.</i> 1993).</p>

	<p>The great majority of the ECOSF occurs on the Georges, German and Browns Banks located off the southwestern tip of Nova Scotia. Estimates are that Iceland scallops make up less than 1 in 50,000 of the harvestable scallops in parts of these Banks, but they are otherwise absent in this area. However, on St. Pierre Bank and Banquereau, the two northernmost Banks fished by the ECOSF, Iceland scallops can make up a larger proportion of the harvestable biomass. St. Pierre and Banquereau Bank are considered to be marginal fisheries subject to sporadic pulse recruitment. As a result, they are only exploited periodically and are surveyed less frequently than the other grounds.</p> <p>Iceland scallop is distinguishable from sea scallop in the shell, but it is very difficult to sort small quantities of Iceland scallops from catches made up predominantly of sea scallops. At the level of the fishery, the meats of the two species are indistinguishable once shucking has occurred.</p> <p>By regulation, Iceland scallops are not required to be sorted from sea scallop catches of vessels operating in the ECOSF, except when fishing in a part of the St. Pierre Bank that is designated as the 'Core Area'. This 'Core Area' is related to an inshore Iceland scallop fishery that is predominantly targeted by vessels operating from the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.</p> <p>c. The total combined proportion of catches from the IPI stock(s) do not exceed 15% by weight of the total combined catches of target and IPI stock(s) for the UoA.</p> <p>During the first re-assessment of the fishery, Iceland scallop was identified as an IPI stock owing to its presence in catches, particularly on the St. Pierre and Banquereau Banks. At the re-assessment 2% of the ECOSF catch was Iceland scallop, an exemption to the IPI requirements was accepted by MSC allowing Iceland Scallops to be eligible to enter into MSC chains of custody. Information will be gathered at the site visit to review the IPI status of Iceland scallop in ECOSF and therefore confirm how to proceed in assessing IPI stocks in this assessment.</p> <p>d. The IPI stocks are not endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species.</p> <p>e. The IPI stocks are not certified separately</p> <p>Further information will be gathered on the site visit to review the IPI status of Iceland scallop.</p>
2a	Rationale to indicate fish and fish products from IPI stocks may enter further chains of custody
	N.A.
2b	Rationale to indicate fish and fish products from IPI stocks may enter further chains of custody with an exemption to additional assessment requirements
	<p>Considering the above text, it is considered that the IPI catches in the ECOSF meet the requirements in FCP v2.1 7.5.8.1 a-e.</p> <p>IPI stocks in the ECOSF may enter CoC with an exemption to additional assessment requirements for IPI stocks given in Annex PA1.4.2 because:</p> <p>A. The catch proportion of IPI stocks calculated in 7.5.8.1.c is less than or equal to 2% and the total catch of IPI stock(s) by the UoA does not create a significant impact on the IPI stock(s) as a whole.</p> <p>Information will be gathered at the site visit to review the IPI status of Iceland scallop in ECOSF. At the re-assessment 2% of the ECOSF catch was Iceland scallop. Following the site visit review of information the IPI classification may need to change. Furthermore, the impact ECOSF is having on the IPI stock as a whole will be explored in more detail at the site visit.</p> <p>B. The CAB shall note that significant impact will be assessed on basis of the status of the IPI stock, and the risk that the IPI catch poses to the health of the IPI stock.</p> <p>The IPI stocks under consideration will be scored under PI 2.1.1 as retained catch.</p> <p>Further information will be gathered on the site visit to review the IPI status of Iceland scallop.</p>

3 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC IPI Announcement Template v1.01'.

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

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