

## Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Announcement

<b>Name of Fishery</b>	Scottish Fisheries Sustainable Accreditation Group (SFSAG) North Sea cod
<b>Assessment number</b>	Initial assessment
<b>Reduced re-assessment (Y/N)</b>	N
<b>Statement that the fishery is within scope</b>	<p>MEC confirms that the fishery is within the scope requirements (FCR 7.4).</p> <p>The fishery does not operate under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement, use destructive fishing practices, target amphibians, birds, reptiles or mammals and is not overwhelmed by dispute.</p> <p>IPI stocks are not caught in this fishery.</p> <p>The certificate is not open to certificate sharing.</p> <p>The unit of assessment and certification are clearly defined.</p> <p>The fishery is not determined as an 'enhanced' fishery under 7.4.3.</p> <p>The fishery overlaps with another MSC certified fishery; DFPO Denmark North Sea &amp; Skagerrak haddock.</p> <p>The fishery is not based on an introduced species.</p> <p>The fishery does not include any entity that has been successfully prosecuted for violation against forced labour laws.</p>
<b>Certificate sharing statement</b>	The fishery is not open to certificate sharing.

<p><b>Estimated Length of Full Assessment &amp; Timeline</b></p>	<p>Predicted date by which the assessment is expected to be completed and certification awarded is April 2017.</p> <p>An indicative timetable for the assessment is provided below along with an indication as to the key stakeholder engagement periods during the assessment.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 450 1423 1317"> <thead> <tr> <th>Assessment stage</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Stakeholder Consultation Period</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fishery announcement</td> <td>19<sup>th</sup> May 2016</td> <td>All stakeholders are invited to submit comments on the fishery throughout the assessment process</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Site visit(s)</td> <td>21-22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016</td> <td>All stakeholders are invited to the teams site visit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peer Reviewer(s) Announcement</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>Stakeholders will have a ten (10) day period to comment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Comment Draft Report (<b>PCDR</b>) published</td> <td>19<sup>th</sup> February 2017</td> <td>Stakeholder will have a thirty (30) day period to comment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Report (<b>FR</b>) &amp; Draft Determination Published</td> <td>19<sup>th</sup> March 2017</td> <td>Stakeholders will have a fifteen (15) working day period to lodge an objection to Final Report and Draft Determination</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public Certification Report (<b>PCR</b>) published</td> <td>19<sup>th</sup> April 2017</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Assessment stage	Date	Stakeholder Consultation Period	Fishery announcement	19 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	All stakeholders are invited to submit comments on the fishery throughout the assessment process	Site visit(s)	21-22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2016	All stakeholders are invited to the teams site visit	Peer Reviewer(s) Announcement	January 2017	Stakeholders will have a ten (10) day period to comment	Public Comment Draft Report ( <b>PCDR</b> ) published	19 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	Stakeholder will have a thirty (30) day period to comment	Final Report ( <b>FR</b> ) & Draft Determination Published	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2017	Stakeholders will have a fifteen (15) working day period to lodge an objection to Final Report and Draft Determination	Public Certification Report ( <b>PCR</b> ) published	19 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	
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<p><b>Name of proposed Team Leader</b></p>	<p><b>Chrissie Sieben</b></p> <p>Chrissie Sieben has a Master's Degree in Marine Environmental Protection which she obtained at the University of Wales, Bangor. She is the MSC fisheries manager at MEC and specialises in marine and fisheries ecology, marine environmental impact assessment and sustainable fisheries. She has particular expertise with the MSC certification requirements and has completed numerous MSC pre-assessments and surveillance audits. She regularly participates in MSC training sessions and workshops including the MSC Benthic Impacts Workshop and Fishery Standard Review workshop. Chrissie has previously provided P2 expertise for most of MEC's ongoing full assessments, including the SZLC, HNSFC &amp; CFA Cook Islands EEZ south Pacific albacore longline fishery and the Walker Seafood's Australian Eastern tuna and billfish tuna fishery.</p> <p>Chrissie will act as the Team Leader for this assessment and will be responsible for bringing together the work of the team's Principle experts. She will also be responsible for ensuring that the Version 2 Certification Requirements are being met at every stage of the assessment process.</p>																					

<p><b>Name(s) of proposed assessors</b></p>	<p><b>Dr Robin Cook</b></p> <p>Robin Cook studied zoology at Durham University followed by a PhD in population dynamics from Oxford University. He worked for many years at the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen and was Director there from 2002-2011. He worked mainly in the field of demersal fish stock assessments and assessment methodology. During the 1990s he was chair of the ICES North Sea demersal assessment working group and served on the ICES Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ACFM) and the EU Scientific, Economic and Technical Committee on Fisheries (STECF). Currently he is a Senior Research Fellow at Strathclyde University, Glasgow, focusing on bio-economic modelling of grey seal predation on demersal fish and the assessment of data-poor stocks. He has published over 80 scientific papers including a number dealing with the status of North Sea cod.</p> <p>It is proposed that Dr Cook would have primary responsibility for the assessment of Principle 1.</p> <p><b>Dr. Jo Gascoigne</b></p> <p>Dr. Gascoigne is a former research lecturer in marine biology at Bangor University, Wales. She is an expert on fisheries science and management, with nearly 15 years' experience as a consultant, working mainly on MSC pre-assessments and full assessments, as well as FIP scoping, planning and implementation. Jo has been involved as expert and lead auditor in the majority of MEP's and MEC's full MSC assessments and numerous pre-assessments. She regularly participates in the MSC training sessions and workshops, the most recent of which was the MSC scoring calibration workshop for the new fisheries standard. Jo is currently undergoing one of the first new assessments against the MSC Version 2 requirements. She is also currently a team member for the SFSAG Haddock fishery and so has gained an excellent understanding of the fishery in question through her P2 work for this fishery.</p> <p>It is proposed that Dr Gascoigne would have primary responsibility for the assessment of Principle 2.</p> <p><b>Geir Hønneland</b></p> <p>Geir Hønneland is Research Director of the Fridtjof Nansen Institute and adjunct professor at the University of Tromsø, Norway. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Oslo and mainly studies fisheries management and international relations in the European North. Among his books are Making Fishery Agreements Work: Post-Agreement Bargaining in the Barents Sea (Edward Elgar, 2012) and Coercive and Discursive Compliance Mechanisms in the Management of Natural Resources: A Case Study from the Barents Sea (Springer, 2000). He has also published extensively in peer reviewed journals. Before embarking on his academic career, Geir worked for several years as a fishery inspector for the Norwegian Coast Guard.</p> <p>Geir has gained a broad experience from evaluations and consultancies in the fisheries sector, e.g. for the FAO relating to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. He was a member of the team that performed the first</p>
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	<p>MSC assessment of a Russian Barents Sea fishery in 2010, and has subsequently participated in further assessments of cod and haddock fisheries, and herring assessments in the Norwegian and North Seas. His experience includes MSC pre-assessments, surveillance audits and as a MSC peer reviewer.</p> <p>For this full assessment, it is proposed that Geir would be responsible primarily for Principle 3.</p> <p>All team members are fluent in English.</p> <p>Full CVs for all team members have been submitted to the MSC separately.</p> <p>MEC can confirm that all members of the proposed team have no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
<p><b>Assessment tree to be used</b></p>	<p>It is proposed the default assessment tree (Version 2.0) will be used for the evaluation of this fishery.</p>
<p><b>Site visit</b></p>	<p>The site visit is scheduled to take place in Peterhead, Scotland on the 21 &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016. MEC welcomes anyone who would like to participate. It is proposed that all team members will attend this site visit.</p>

MEC would like to welcome anyone who would like to participate in the site visit. All interested stakeholders are encouraged to contact Gavin Fitzgerald ([gavin.fitzgerald@me-cert.com](mailto:gavin.fitzgerald@me-cert.com)) or Chrissie Sieben ([chrissie.sieben@me-cert.com](mailto:chrissie.sieben@me-cert.com)) at MEC by email, telephone or post at the below number and address:

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Should any stakeholder wish to meet the team in person, this can be arranged. Remote meetings can also be arranged via telephone conferencing or Skype, or written submissions made to the above mentioned email addresses.

Please note that comments should be factual and should be supported by data or other evidence. Comments may remain unattributed. Furthermore, information that cannot be shared with any other stakeholder will not be referenced in the assessment and cannot be used in determining the outcome of the fishery's assessment nor used as a basis for an objection. Information can be kept confidential if it is restricted to financial transactions about certification, the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being known, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the assessed fishery's country.

Submitted by: Gavin Fitzgerald, MSC Fisheries Officer  
Date: 19/05/2016