

Marine Stewardship Council Surveillance Announcement

Name of Fishery	Northern Ireland Bottom Grown Mussel Fishery	
Surveillance level and type	Fourth Annual Surveillance On-site visit, normal surveillance. Level of surveillance: 6	
Surveillance number (tick one)	1 st Surveillance	
	2 nd Surveillance	
	3 rd Surveillance	
	4 th Surveillance	✓
	Other (expedited etc.)	
Proposed Team Leader	The proposed team leader is Sam Dignan, SAI Global staff. He will be in charge of coordinating the other members participating in the assessment and be responsible for the completion of the assessment in accordance with certification procedures following the MSC CR V1.3. CVs to be provided in Appendix 1.	
Proposed team members	Sam Dignan: Team leader - expert on P1 and RBF Fergal Guilfoyle: Team member - expert on P3 Deirdre Hoare: Team member – expert on P2 See appendix 1 for more details.	
Audit/review time and location	Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) Offices, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin Week commencing 27 th November 2017 in BIM Dun Laoghaire with the possibility that other venues may be added.	
Assessment/ review activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To review any changes in the management of the fishery, including regulations, key management or scientific staff or stock evaluation To evaluate the progress of the fishery against any Conditions of Certification raised during the Main Assessment 	

Stakeholder Input into Fishery Surveillance Assessment

MSC certification requires annual surveillance assessments of all certified fisheries. This fishery is now entering the 'annual surveillance' stage of the assessment against the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing. 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.

SAI Global wishes to invite organisations or individuals with a direct interest in this fishery to make written comment or provide information relevant to the surveillance assessment process. To assist in contributing relevant information and to ensure that any contributions have maximum impact stakeholders should use the [Stakeholder Input into MSC Fishery assessments](#) template alongside the [Stakeholder's Guide to the Marine Stewardship Council](#) when providing input.

We expect to carry out most meetings over the period specified in the "Audit/review time and location" Section of the above Table during which the Assessment Team will be available for direct stakeholder meetings.

If you would like to talk to the assessors, please advise us of your interest by 17th November 2017 giving the following details:

- 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 not wish to be interviewed you may still submit written information to the Assessment Team by completing the aforementioned [Stakeholder Input into MSC Fishery assessments template](#).

Should you wish to obtain further information on the Marine Stewardship Council, this is available on their web site at <http://www.msc.org>.

Comments/responses should be sent to:

Ruth O'Connell

Programme Administrator

Email: ruth.o'connell@saiglobal.com

Tel: +353(0)42 9320912

Fax: +353 (0)42 9386864

Submitted by: Ruth O'Connell

Date: 8th September 2017

Appendix 1: Surveillance Assessment Team

Sam Dignan: Surveillance Assessment Team Leader, P1 and RBF

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 B.Sc. in Biological and Chemical Sciences with Zoology from University College Cork and a M.Sc. 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 2016 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 organisations 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.

Fergal Guilfoyle: Surveillance Assessment Team Member, P3

Fergal has a degree in Marine Biology from Trinity College Dublin, a Masters in Fisheries and Marine Science from Aberdeen University and a postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management from the University of Ulster. Fergal is currently managing director of Treanbeg Shellfish Ltd, a small oyster farming business based in Mayo. Treanbeg Shellfish also trades as Treanbeg Marine Consulting which is a business focusing on Environmental Impact Assessment for finfish farms. Fergal is a member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, and he is an invited member of the National Inland Fisheries Forum (NIFF) which advises IFI and the minister in matters relating to inland fisheries resources in Ireland. Fergal has worked as a research scientist in Ireland for BIM and the Marine Institute. As an Aquaculture Development / Quality Officer in Co Mayo Fergal has gained a thorough understanding of all aspects of the aquaculture industry in Ireland. Since 2009 Fergal has been working extensively with the Aquaculture Industry as a shellfish producer and as a consultant working on EIA projects in the finfish sector.

Deirdre Hoare: Surveillance Assessment Team Member, P2

Deirdre Hoare is an independent fisheries consultant with more than 10 years of experience working in a wide range of projects associated with marine biodiversity and the sustainable use of living aquatic resources. Her principal area of expertise is in relation to stock assessment and ecosystem impacts of both artisanal and commercial fisheries. Her work currently involves evaluation and verification of fisheries management and sustainability against international standards. She also performs fish stock assessments, evaluates data and outlines the limitations.

She previously worked as a Fisheries Assessment Analyst and as a Scientific and Technical Officer for the Marine Institute in Ireland. This work involved fisheries research and stock assessment for ICES working groups. The work also involved coordination and management of a Fisher Self sampling program in the Irish Sea, with particular emphasis on spatial and temporal discard measurement tools.

As well as having worked as a researcher, she completed many trips on commercial fishing vessels in the capacity of scientific observer in the NAFO area, North West Atlantic and Irish Coast. She has also experience on finfish and shellfish aquaculture that she gained working in Scotland. She also works as an assessor for SAI Global in FAO Responsible Fisheries Management and Marine Stewardship Council assessments in both Iceland, Alaska and Ireland.

Appendix 2: Surveillance frequency

Table 2.1: Surveillance level rationale

Year	Surveillance activity	Number of auditors	Rationale
4	On-site audit	3 auditors on-site	<p>8 conditions (PIs 1.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 3.2.2 and 3.2.4) were raised during the initial full assessment.</p> <p>Progress towards the Conditions during the 3rd surveillance resulted in 4 (PIs 1.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.4.2 and 2.4.3) of these being closed with the remaining 4 (PIs 2.5.2, 2.5.3, 3.2.2 and 3.2.4) being judged to be on-target.</p> <p>Considering that there are 4 open conditions which are due to be closed out this year, the CAB proposes to have an on-site audit with an Assessment Team of 3 auditors on-site to ensure that all information will be collected.</p>

Table 2.2: Timing of surveillance audit

Year	Anniversary date of certificate	Proposed date of surveillance audit	Rationale
4	July 2017	Week commencing 27 th November	<p>These dates will be after the 2017 mussel fishery has finished and all information relating to the 2017 fishery should be available for scrutiny by these dates.</p> <p>In addition, key stakeholders are available during these dates.</p>

Table 2.3: Fishery Surveillance Program

Surveillance Level	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Level 6	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & re-certification site visit