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MRAG Americas, Inc.

New Zealand Orange Roughy

MSC Fishery Announcement

30 September 2021

Table 1 – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name
	New Zealand orange roughy
2	Assessment number
	First reassessment
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)
	Yes
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope
	MRAG Americas confirms that this fishery is within scope for MSC assessment per FCP v2.2 7.4.
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s)
UoA 1 - 3	Description
Species	Orange roughy (<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>)
Stock	1) ORH7A including Westpac Bank 2) ORH3B East & South Chatham Rise 3) ORH3B Northwest Chatham Rise
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant,	Demersal Trawl

vessel type(s)	
Client group	Deep Water Group Ltd.
Other eligible fishers	The three units of assessment represents three of the nine management units of orange roughy in New Zealand and include all eligible fishermen of New Zealand with authorization from the New Zealand government to fish for orange roughy and are participants with the DWG.
Geographical area	Southwest Pacific Ocean, FAO area 81 1) ORH7A including Westpac Bank which is outside the NZ EEZ 2) ORH3B East and South Chatham Rise (ESCR), east of 179°30' W 3) ORH3B Northwest Chatham Rise (NWCR)
6	Certificate sharing statement
	No certificate sharing at this time.
7	Name of proposed team leader
	<p>Ms. Amanda Stern-Pirlot will serve as team leader for the assessment. Amanda is an M.Sc graduate of the University of Bremen, Center for Marine Tropical Ecology (ZMT) in marine ecology and fisheries biology. Ms. Stern-Pirlot joined MRAG Americas in mid-June 2014 as MSC Certification Manager (now Director of the Fishery Certification Division) and is currently serving on several different assessment teams as team leader and team member. She has worked together with other scientists, conservationists, fisheries managers and producer groups on international fisheries sustainability issues for over 15 years. With the Institute for Marine Research (IFM-GEOMAR) in Kiel, Germany, she led a work package on simple indicators for sustainable within the EU-funded international cooperation project INCOFISH, followed by five years within the Standards Department at the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in London, developing standards, policies and assessment methods informed by best practices in fisheries management around the globe. Most recently she has worked with the Alaska pollock industry as a resources analyst, within the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council process, focusing on bycatch and ecosystem-based management issues, and managing the day-to-day operations of the offshore pollock cooperative. She has co-authored a dozen publications on fisheries sustainability in the developing world and the functioning of the MSC as an instrument for transforming fisheries to a sustainable basis.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Stern-Pirlot meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leader 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 team leader training; • She has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2; • She has passed the MSC Traceability training module; • She is qualified to carry out assessments using the MSC's Risk Based Framework for data-deficient fisheries; • She meets ISO 19011 training requirements; • She has undertaken two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years, and • She has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders. <p>In addition, she has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 2 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Stern-Pirlot has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
8	Name(s) of proposed team members

Dr. Robert Trumble has wide-ranging experience in marine fish science and management, fishery habitat protection, and oceanography. He retired from MRAG Americas at the end of 2017 and works independently for various clients. Dr. Trumble joined MRAG Americas in 2000 as a senior research scientist and became Vice President in 2005. Previously, he served 14 years as Senior Biologist of the International Pacific Halibut Commission in Seattle, Washington, 10 years in various research and management positions at the Washington Department of Fisheries, and six years with the US Naval Oceanographic Office. At MRAG, Dr. Trumble performed project planning, assembled research teams, and conducted research, with a focus on improving management of aquatic ecosystems and the resources and fisheries they support. His projects have included managing the Pacific herring fishery for Washington state, preparation and review of fishery management and habitat management plans, review of technology to support or replace on-board observers, provision of observer services, development of bycatch management and control, preparation of environmental assessments and environmental impact statements, conducting workshops on fishery issues, and manager of certifications for Marine Stewardship Council and other sustainability and traceability assessments. Dr. Trumble has extensive experience working with government agencies, commercial and recreational fisheries groups, Indian tribes, and national and international advisory groups. He received appointments to the Scientific and Statistical Committees of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the Pacific Fishery Management Council, the Groundfish Management Team of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the affiliate faculty of Fisheries at the University of Washington, and the Advisory Committee of the Washington Sea Grant Program. Dr. Trumble has published in peer-reviewed journals and symposium proceedings, presented invited papers at national and international meetings, and written reports for government agencies. Dr. Trumble received a B.S. degree in Oceanography from the Department of Oceanography, University of Washington, an M.S. degree in Fisheries from the College of Fisheries, University of Washington, and a Ph.D. in Fisheries from the College of Fisheries, University of Washington.

MRAG Americas confirms that Dr. Trumble meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:

- 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; and
- He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored.

In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

Dr. Andre Punt is a Professor at the University of Washington and Director of the School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences. He is a quantitative scientist with a specialty of providing quantitative scientific advice for fisheries management, focusing on new methods for assessing fish and marine mammal populations; Bayesian assessment and risk analysis methods; and valuating the performance of existing methods for assessing and managing renewable resource populations. He uses methods for assessing fish and marine mammal populations that are tailored specifically to the situation in question. Current areas of interest are spatial models, individual-based models, and stage-structured models. He has worked as a resource population models for the Benguela Current in South Africa, a resource modeler at CSIRO in Australia, and at the University of Washington. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

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- He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years; and
- 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 1 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>The whole assessment team collectively meets the requirements as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>A discussion between team members regarding conflict of interest and biases was held and none were identified.</p>																																																																																																																								
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	<p>Provide input or comments on the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR). We ask stakeholders to provide input or comments on the ACDR by 5pm UTC on 30 October 2021.</p> <p>Provide input or comments on the Use of the Risk-Based Framework (RBF) proposal. We ask stakeholders to provide input or comments on the RBF proposal by 5 pm UTC on 30 October 2021.</p> <p>Stakeholders must use the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments v4.0 (Ctrl+click to follow link). Interested parties are invited to comment on the factual content of the reports; comments should be clearly related to specific scoring indicators or report sections and supported with evidence for the assessment team to evaluate.</p> <p>Participate in the site visit: all team members are available to meet remotely (FCP v2.2 7.12.2.e.i).</p>																																																																																																																								
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	Certification decision (if no objection)										
12	Site visit										
	<p>A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the MSC’s RBF see http://www.msc.org/about-us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework, Please note we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative analysis during the site visit. To achieve a robust outcome from this consultative approach, we rely heavily on participation of a broad range of stakeholders with a balance of knowledge of the fishery. We encourage any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fishery to participate in these meetings. (FCP v2.2 7.12.3 and Annex PF2.3.2)</p> <p>We invite interested stakeholders to participate in the remote site visit 02-05 November 2021. This site visit will be held in conjunction with the 4th surveillance audit.</p> <p>The MSC’s “Derogation 3: Covid-19 Fishery and Chain of Custody Remote Auditing” enables CABs to conduct remote audits when international, national, or local travel restrictions that impact the assessment team or auditor or certificate holder are in place. Entry to New Zealand from all countries remains strictly controlled. https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/border-closures-and-exceptions/entry-to-new-zealand</p>										
13	Assessment tree modifications										
	N/A										
14	Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline										
	We ask stakeholders to provide input or comments on the ACDR by 5pm UTC on 30 October 2021 .										

MRAG Americas, Inc. is pleased to announce that a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) assessment of New Zealand orange roughy 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 stakeholder meetings and assessment of relevant documentation will be undertaken with a remote site visit for the fishery in November. **The assessment team will meet remotely the first week of November.** 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 input on the Announcement Comment Draft Report or any other information considered relevant, including knowledge and concerns about the fishery and to the assessments of the fishery. Stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or claimed errors of fact. Unless covered by FCP 4.3.3 any information that cannot be shared with other stakeholders even under a confidentiality agreement shall not be: referenced in the assessment, used to determine the assessment outcome or used as the basis for an objection to a certification. 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. Stakeholders are encouraged not to withhold information, including their concerns and knowledge about the fishery. We ask stakeholders who wish to meet with the team to make the request for a meeting by 5pm UTC on 26 October 2021.

Stakeholders wishing to comment on the Announcement Comment Draft Report must do so by 5pm UTC 30 October 2021.

The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment> and a template (MSC template for stakeholder input into fishery assessments v4.0) for stakeholder response can be found at <https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents>. You must use the template to provide your response.

More information on the fishery is available at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/new-zealand-orange-roughy/>.

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

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certification@mragamericas.com

Submitted by: Michealene Corlett

Date: 28 September 2021

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

Ms. Amanda Stern-Piriot will serve as team leader for the assessment. Amanda is an M.Sc graduate of the University of Bremen, Center for Marine Tropical Ecology (ZMT) in marine ecology and fisheries biology. Ms. Stern-Piriot joined MRAG Americas in mid-June 2014 as MSC Certification Manager (now Director of the Fishery Certification Division) and is currently serving on several different assessment teams as team leader and team member. She has worked together with other scientists, conservationists, fisheries managers and producer groups on international fisheries sustainability issues for over 15 years. With the Institute for Marine Research (IFM-GEOMAR) in Kiel, Germany, she led a work package on simple indicators for sustainable within the EU-funded international cooperation project INCOFISH, followed by five years within the Standards Department at the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in London, developing standards, policies and assessment methods informed by best practices in fisheries management around the globe. Most recently she has worked with the Alaska pollock industry as a resources analyst, within the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council process, focusing on bycatch and ecosystem-based management issues, and managing the day-to-day operations of the offshore pollock cooperative. She has co-authored a dozen publications on fisheries sustainability in the developing world and the functioning of the MSC as an instrument for transforming fisheries to a sustainable basis.

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Appendix 2: Reduced reassessment

Table X – Reduced reassessment evaluation		
Criteria 1	Yes / No	Justification
Fishery was covered under previous certificate or scope extension	Yes	The fishery has been certified since 2016
Criteria 2	Yes / No	Justification
No conditions remain after 3 rd surveillance audit	Yes	All remaining open conditions were closed at the 3 rd surveillance audit.
Criteria 3	Yes / No	Justification
Standard related stakeholder comments have been addressed by 3 rd surveillance	Yes	All stakeholder comments have been addressed. There was no stakeholder input received during the 3 rd surveillance audit.