



## **MSC Assessment New Zealand Hoki Fishery**

We are pleased to announce that the MSC fishery recertification assessment is underway for the NZ Hoki Fishery. This assessment will evaluate this fishery for compliance with the Marine Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing. The certification body contracted to assess this fishery is Intertek Moody Marine.

The fishery under assessment is defined here as the new Zealand Hoki Fishery. The client for the assessment is the Deepwater Group Ltd.

The provisional assessment schedule sets out the key stages and approximate timings involved. Initially, Intertek Moody Marine seeks to open a dialogue with all organisations or individuals with a direct interest in this fishery. Anyone wishing to become a consultee 'stakeholder', to nominate other organisations/individuals as stakeholders or to provide comments or information to the assessment process (in terms of the status of the stock, ecosystem interactions or fishery management practices) is invited to contact Intertek Moody Marine. The assessment schedule identifies future key consultation stages (marked in red). For reference, month 1 is taken to be September 2011. The target date for recertification of the fishery is October 2012.

If you wish to provide comment at any stage of the assessment process the MSC have provided a template for stakeholders to complete and submit their comments. This can be downloaded from the following link:  
<http://www.msc.org/documents/scheme-documents/forms-and-templates/msc-template-for-stakeholder-input-into-fishery-assessments/view>

We are also in the process of assembling an assessment team of individuals with experience of stock assessment, ecosystem interactions and fishery management appropriate to this fishery. Any nominations of suitable individuals are also welcomed.

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### **Assessment Schedule**

MSC assessments proceed through a prescribed series of stages. Assuming no delays, an assessment typically takes 12 months, but may be completed within a minimum of 9 months, or may take considerably longer if delays are encountered.

The main sequence of activities is set out below, with the time required for each stage. A delay at any stage will extend the overall timeframe accordingly.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Stage</b>	<b>Time required</b>
1	Notification of assessment commencement	5 days
2	Assembling of expert team	Variable
3	Stakeholder consultation on expert team	10 days
4	Confirmation of use of standard Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts	30 days
5	Announcement of Site Visit	30 days
6	Assessment Visit	1 week
7	Production of report and scoring of fishery	2 months
8	Consultation on peer reviewers	10 days
9	Client review of Draft Report (version 1)	30 days
10	Peer review of Draft Report (version 2)	30 days
11	Stakeholder review of Draft Report (version 3)	30 days
12	Moody Marine internal certification determination	5 days
13	Stakeholder consultation on Final Report (version 4) and Determination	21 days
14	Issuance of Public Certification Report (version 5)	5 days

A typical sequence of a main assessment is illustrated below.

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	Month												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Announcement													
Advertisements - Local and National													
Stakeholder Consultation (ongoing)													
Team Selection													
Team Confirmation													
Consultation on luse of FAM													
Notification of Assessment Visit													
Assessment Visit, Stakeholder Meetings													
Examination of Evidence, Report Preparation													
Scoring Meeting													
Stakeholder Consultation on Peer Reviewers													
Client review of Draft Report													
Peer Review of Draft Report													
Stakeholder Review of Draft Report													
MM Governing Board Certification Determination													
Stakeholder Review of Final Report													

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