

MSC FISHERY ASSESSMENT REPORT



3.2.2 Client information

Maresco A/S is a sales company located in Hirtshals (Denmark) and specializing in shellfish. The company's main product is shell-on cold water shrimp from the North Atlantic. Faroese shrimp trawlers, landing their catch in Tromsø and delivering their catches to Maresco, pack shrimp in Maresco branded boxes at sea. In 2012, 3 trawlers from Faroe Islands joined their forces and applied for MSC Fisheries certification under coordination of Maresco AS.

The client group is represented (per 21.03.2013) by shipowners/ vessels specified below:

<p>Ship owner: P/F Thor Vessel: Sermilik II Vessel reg.N: VN 668 (OW2202) Gross tonnage:776 ton Length: 53,78 m</p> <p>General info: P/F Thor was founded in 1994. The company currently owns and operates 25 vessels, of which around 10 are fishing vessels. The fishing vessels operate in different areas and catch more than 10 species, one being shrimp (<i>Pandalus borealis</i>). The company has a strong focus on sustainability in all areas of their operations.</p>	
<p>Ship owner: P/F Havborg Vessel: Havborg Vessel reg.N: FD 1160 (OW2163) Gross tonnage:1531 ton Length: 60,10 m</p> <p>General info: P/F Havborg purchased F/V Havborg in 2003 and the vessel has been fishing for shrimp ever since. F/V Havborg was constructed at Flekkefjord shipyard in 1989. Fishing areas have been in the NAFO areas 3M and 3L outside the Canadian territorial zone, in East Greenland, Jan Mayen, Svalbard, Barents Sea. F/V Havborg experienced team of crew members can process raw as well as cooked shrimp of the best quality. Sustainability is a main focus of the company's fishing strategy.</p>	

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Ship owner: P/F Líðin.
 Vessel: Arctic Viking
 Vessel reg.N: VN 123 (OW2399)
 Gross tonnage:1720 ton
 Length: 58,00 m

General info:

P/F Lidin was established in 1985 and in 1986 the company received a purpose built shrimp trawler F/V Arctic Viking. F/V Arctic Viking's crew have remained almost unchanged since 1986. 40 years of fishing experience and processing of cold water shrimps ensures the best quality of shrimp products originating from P/F Lidin company. Company has also a strong focus on sustainability of their fishing operations.



3.2.3 Overview of the fishery

3.2.3.1 History and fishing areas

The fishery for *Pandalus borealis* in the Barents Sea originally was started by Norwegian vessels around 1970. Vessels from several nations including Faroe Islands entered the fishery thereafter and the catch in 1984 reached approximately 128.000 t. In the entire history of the fishery, annual catches have ranged from 5.000 to 128.000 t. The highest catch in recent years was of 83.000 t and occurred in the year 2000. Catches then declined to about 27.300 t in 2009 (Table 2) due to low market prices and increased vessel operating costs (NAFO/ICES, 2010).

Year	Total catches (MT)	Faroe Islands catches (MT)
2009	27 272	2586
2010	25 198	2110
2011	29 790	4432
2012	20 000* * Catches projected to the end of the year	4247

Table 2: Recent total and Faroe Islands catches in ICES SA I and II.

Between 2009 and 2011 Faroese vessels accounted for between 8% and 15% of total catches of shrimp in the Barents Sea. (For more details see section 3.3.3). The ICES advice for 2012 was 60.000 t but the total catch is predicted to reach less than 20.000 t (Hvingel, 2012). The fishery is run by large factory trawlers which process and pack catch on board. Over the last five years there were 2-3 shrimp trawlers registered in the Fishing Vessel Register and participating in a long-distance shrimp fishery. The average length of the vessels is 57,5 m; the combined capacity of the vessels' main engines is 9000 kW; and the combined gross tonnage is 6000 t.

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