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**UCSL United Certification Systems Limited**

**Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) East**

**Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye**

**pollock**

**August 2021**

# 1 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

**Table X – Fishery announcement**

1	Fishery name												
	Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) East Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye pollock												
2	Assessment number												
	Initial assessment												
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)												
	N/A												
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope												
	<p>UCSL United Certification Systems Limited as the Conformity Assessment Body confirms that the FSA East Sakhalin Walleye pollock mid-water trawl fishery is in scope for MSC assessment through meeting the following scope requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The fishery does not target amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals (7.4.2.1, MSC 2020a).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The fishery does not use poisons or explosives (7.4.2.2, MSC 2020a).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement (7.4.2.3, MSC 2020a).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The client or client group does not include an entity that has been successfully prosecuted for a forced or child labour violation in the last 2 years (7.4.2.4, MSC 2020a).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The client or client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a violation in law with respect to shark finning (7.4.2.10, MSC 2020a).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> There is a mechanism for resolving disputes, and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery (7.4.2.11, MSC 2020a).</li> </ul>												
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s)												
	<table> <tr> <th>UoA 1</th><th>Description</th></tr> <tr> <td>Species</td><td>Walleye pollock (<i>Gadus chalcogrammus</i> (formed – <i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>)) In Russian – минтай.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Stock</td><td>In FAO Code Subzones: Far Eastern fisheries basin (Petropavlovsko-Komandorskaya subzone (61.02.2) of the Eastern Kamchatka zone (61.02) and North Kuril zone (61.03) including Pacific side subzone (61.03.1) and Okhotsk side subzone (61.03.2)).</td></tr> <tr> <td>Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)</td><td>Midwater (pelagic) trawl. Vessel type – large tonnage vessels equipped with special trawl system aboard.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Client group</td><td>The client group is represented by Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) which includes the following companies: LLC "Russian Fishery Company", JSC "INTRAROS", LLC "Vostokrybprom", LLC "Sovgavanryba", JSC "DMP-RM", JSC "RMD-YuVA 1", JSC "TURNIF" and LLC "Russian Pollock". Companies and their vessels that are operated by FSA East Sakhalin Walleye pollock mid-water trawl fishery client group (correct at the time of drafting the ACDR) are detailed in Section 8.11 (Table 31). If required, an up-to-date list will be available from UCSL United Certification Systems Limited upon request.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other eligible fishers</td><td>All other potential Russian fishing enterprises which are not members of the Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA), but have legal quotas for harvesting</td></tr> </table>	UoA 1	Description	Species	Walleye pollock ( <i>Gadus chalcogrammus</i> (formed – <i>Theragra chalcogramma</i> )) In Russian – минтай.	Stock	In FAO Code Subzones: Far Eastern fisheries basin (Petropavlovsko-Komandorskaya subzone (61.02.2) of the Eastern Kamchatka zone (61.02) and North Kuril zone (61.03) including Pacific side subzone (61.03.1) and Okhotsk side subzone (61.03.2)).	Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Midwater (pelagic) trawl. Vessel type – large tonnage vessels equipped with special trawl system aboard.	Client group	The client group is represented by Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) which includes the following companies: LLC "Russian Fishery Company", JSC "INTRAROS", LLC "Vostokrybprom", LLC "Sovgavanryba", JSC "DMP-RM", JSC "RMD-YuVA 1", JSC "TURNIF" and LLC "Russian Pollock". Companies and their vessels that are operated by FSA East Sakhalin Walleye pollock mid-water trawl fishery client group (correct at the time of drafting the ACDR) are detailed in Section 8.11 (Table 31). If required, an up-to-date list will be available from UCSL United Certification Systems Limited upon request.	Other eligible fishers	All other potential Russian fishing enterprises which are not members of the Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA), but have legal quotas for harvesting
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		Walleye pollock in East-Sakhalin subzone (61.05.3) of the Sea of Okhotsk zone (61.05); in EEZ of Russian Federation, and catch its on their own or contracted vessels with using midwater trawl.
	Geographical area	Far Eastern Federal District, Sakhalin Region, Far Eastern fisheries basin (EEZ of Russian Federation in East-Sakhalin subzone (61.05.3) of the Sea of Okhotsk zone (61.05)).
6	Certificate sharing statement	
	Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) allows certificate sharing for the companies participating in the certification process and new companies willing to join the certificate under the conditions specified in the certificate sharing agreement (attached).	
7	Name of proposed team leader	
	<p><b>Dr. Geir Hønneland, Team Leader and Principle 3 expert</b></p> <p>UCSL confirms that Dr. Geir Hønneland meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCP v.2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He holds a PhD in political science;</li> <li>- He has more than 25 years' experience in fisheries management and environmental politics;</li> <li>- He has passed MSC Team Leader training, including relevant updates;</li> <li>- He has passed the Traceability training module;</li> <li>- He has passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing.</li> </ul> <p>It is also confirmed that Dr. Geir Hønneland has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. A full C.V. is available on request.</p>	
8	Name(s) of proposed team members	
	<p><b>Dr. Petr Vasilets, Principle 1 expert</b></p> <p>UCSL confirms that Dr. Petr Vasilets meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCP v.2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He holds a PhD in marine Biology;</li> <li>- He has more than 25 years' experience in fisheries;</li> <li>- He has passed MSC Team Leader training, including relevant updates;</li> <li>- He has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules;</li> <li>- He has passed CQI and IRCA approved EMS Lead Auditor Training course.</li> </ul> <p>It is also confirmed that Dr. Petr Vasilets has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. A full C.V. is available on request.</p> <p><b>Dr. Jo Gascoigne, Principle 2 expert</b></p> <p>UCSL confirms that Dr. Jo Gascoigne meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCP v.2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- She holds PhD in Marine Conservation Biology;</li> <li>- She has more than 20 years of experience working in the fisheries sector;</li> <li>- She is a fully qualified MSC Team Member and has been involved as expert and lead auditor in over 15 MSC pre- and full assessments</li> <li>- She has passed the RBF training module;</li> </ul> <p>It is also confirmed that Dr. Jo Gascoigne has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. A full C.V. is available on request</p>	
9	Stakeholder opportunities	
	<p>The ACDR published on the MSC website for this assessment is subject to stakeholder comments for a period of 60 days. UCSL invites stakeholders to provide any input or comments on the ACDR <b>till 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 17.00 GMT</b>. Notification of this will be additionally sent by email to all stakeholders identified with the client. Written submissions must be made via the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fisheries Assessments v4.0' which can be found on the MSC website by clicking <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>UCSL asks stakeholders to contact us at <a href="mailto:t.pitjeva@ucsl.eu">t.pitjeva@ucsl.eu</a> if you are on the stakeholder list for this fishery</p>	

	and would like to ensure you are notified of the consultation opportunities and to arrange participation during the site visit. The assessment team is available to meet remotely during the site visit to be held from 5th October to 9th October 2021.
10	Assessment tree to be used
	The default assessment tree (MSC Fisheries Standard v.2.01) will be used in this assessment.
11	Estimated timeline
	The preliminary timeline for this assessment is as follows: ACDR consultations – 4 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 – 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 Site visit – 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 – 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 CPRDR – October 2021 PCDR – November 2021 Final report – December 2021 PCR and certification decision – January 2022
12	Site visit
	<p>In line with the MSC March 2021 Covid-19 derogation, a variation request and risk assessment will be submitted to MSC, requesting approval to hold the site visit remotely given ongoing health and safety concerns regarding Covid-19. All experts are not able to travel to Russia due to the travel restrictions. To mitigate the risk of the remote activities UCSL will include a description of measures.</p> <p>The site visit is scheduled for 5th October to 9th October 2021.</p> <p>A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the MSC's Risk- Based Framework (RBF, see <a href="https://www.msc.org">msc.org</a>), we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative and semi-quantitative 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 either onsite or remotely.</p>
13	Assessment tree modifications
	N/A
14	Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline
	<b>4th October 2021 17.00 GMT</b>

UCSL would like to invite all interested stakeholders to provide information relevant to this fishery. If you would like to meet with the team in person please contact UCSL certification manager Tatiana Pitieva via email ([t.pitieva@ucsl.eu](mailto:t.pitieva@ucsl.eu)) or telephone (+7 981 195 1778).

Remote meetings will be arranged via Skype conferences with the team. You are also encouraged to provide written submissions to the above specified email address. The latter shall be made by using the Template for Stakeholders Input into MSC assessments available for downloading [here](https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input) (<https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input> )

UCSL encourages stakeholders not to withhold any information, including concerns and knowledge about the specified fishery. All comments shall be supported by objective evidence. If there is any information which cannot be shared with any other stakeholders, it will not be referenced in the surveillance report and cannot be used in determining conformity of the fishery with the MSC Standard. Information will 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 made public, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the client's country.

Submitted by: Tatiana Pitieva

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021

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

### Principle 1 Lead: Dr. Petr Vasilets

**Dr. Petr Vasilets** worked for more than 25 years as a fishery scientist in the Kamchatka branch of VNIRO (Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography). He received PhD in biology in 2000 with a thesis on the "The smelts in the coastal waters of Kamchatka". He has over 50 scientific publications on various aspects of fisheries. In 2020-2021, he successfully completed MSC online training, including MSC Risk Based Framework (RBF), for role "Fishery Team Leader". Petr has participated in six assessments conducted by CAB Marine Certification LLC (now — UCSL), as a trainee for team member and team leader and as a team member (expert on Principle 1 and Principle 2).

Petr has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules. Petr has also taken CQI and IRCA Certified EMS Lead Auditor Training course.

### Principle 2 Lead: Dr. Jo Gascoigne

**Dr. Jo Gascoigne** is a former research lecturer in marine biology at Bangor University, Wales and a shellfisheries expert, with over 20 years' experience working in the fisheries sector. Dr Gascoigne has a PhD from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in the USA, which was completed on the Allee effects of the queen conch, *Strombus gigas*. She is a fully qualified MSC Team Member and has been involved as expert and lead auditor in over 15 MSC pre- and full assessments. She was involved in a number of ongoing full assessments including the FROM Nord North Sea and Eastern Channel pelagic trawl herring fishery and the Granville Bay Basse Normandie whelk fishery. She therefore has an in-depth understanding of the MSC fisheries standard and MSC fisheries certification requirements. During her experience as an MSC auditor, Jo has gained a great deal of experience in interviewing and facilitation techniques. Jo has passed all relevant MSC and ISO training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV is available on request.

### Team Leader and Principle 3 Lead: Dr. Geir Hønneland

**Dr Geir Hønneland** holds a PhD in political science from the University of Oslo and an LL.M. in the law of the sea from the Arctic University of Norway. He has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on enforcement and compliance issues), international environmental politics and international relations in Polar regions for more than 25 years. He has been affiliated with the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo as PhD student and research fellow (1996-2006), research director (2006-2014), director (2015-2019) and now adjunct professor. Among his fisheries-related books is *Making Fishery Agreements Work* (Edward Elgar, 2012; China Ocean Press, 2016). Before embarking on an academic career, he worked five years for the Norwegian Coast Guard, where he was trained and certified as a fisheries inspector. Geir has been involved in MSC assessments since 2009 and has acted as P3 expert in more than 50 full assessments and re-assessments, as well as a number of pre-assessments and surveillance audits. His experience from full assessments includes a large number of demersal, pelagic and reduction fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic, the North Pacific and Southern Ocean, including crustaceans, as well as inland, bivalve and enhanced salmon fisheries. In the Northeast Atlantic, he has covered the international management regimes in the Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea, North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat and the Baltic Sea, and the national management regimes in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Finland, Russia, Poland, the UK, the Netherlands and Germany, as well as the EU level. He is qualified as an MSC Team Leader (Fisheries Standard v2.0, Fisheries Certification Process v2.2) and Chain of Custody Auditor (v2.0) and has also passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing. Full CV is available on request.

## Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement



**Ассоциация  
судовладельцев  
рыбопромыслового  
флота  
Fishery Shipowners  
Association**

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Эл. адрес: info@fsarf.ru

30.07.2021      № 02/2021-07

### ПОДТВЕРЖДЕНИЕ СОВМЕСТНОГО ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЯ СЕРТИФИКАТА РАЗНОГЛУБИННОГО ТРАЛОВОГО ПРОМЫСЛА МИНТАЯ ВОСТОЧНОКАМЧАТСКОГО И СЕВЕРНЫХ КУРИЛЬСКИХ ОСТРОВОВ

1. Разноглубинный траловый промысел минтая восточнокамчатского и северных Курильских островов проходит оценку в соответствии со Стандартом оценки промыслов (MSC FS) Морского попечительского совета (MSC).
2. Держателем MSC сертификата является Ассоциация Судовладельцев рыбопромыслового флота (АСРФ)
3. В соответствии с требованиями настоящего Стандарта оценки промыслов АСРФ соглашается рассматривать возможность присоединения к действию сертификата все рыбопромышленные компании с морскими судами, имеющие в соответствии с законодательством РФ право добычи (вылова) водных биологических ресурсов в сертифицированных районах промысла.
4. Для вступления под действие сертификата промысла новые участники должны возместить держателю сертификата часть суммы, затраченной на получение MSC сертификата.
5. Все участники действия MSC сертификата несут равное распределение затрат, связанные с поддержанием сертификата и возможной ресертификацией этого промысла.
6. Новые компании обязаны соблюдать условия Стандарта оценки промыслов (MSC FS), а также условия пользования сертификатом, оговорённые с держателем сертификата.

Президент Ассоциации

А.И. Осинцев

**(Translated in English)**

## **CONFIRMATION OF JOINT USE OF THE MSC CERTIFICATE ON THE EAST KAMCHATKA AND NORTH KURIL ISLANDS WALLEYE POLLOCK MIDWATER TRAWL FISHERY**

1. The East Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye Pollock mid-water trawl fishery assesses in accordance with the MSC FS Standard for Fishery Assessment.
2. The certificate holder is Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA)
3. In accordance with the requirements of the present Fishery Assessment Standard, FSA agrees to consider the possibility of joining to the validity of the certificate all fishing companies with vessels, which in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation have the right to catch Water bio-resources in the certified fishing areas.
4. In order for the certificate of fishing to come into effect, the new participants shall reimburse the certificate holder a part of the amount spent on obtaining the MSC Certificate.
5. All participants of the certificate validity shall bear equal distribution of costs related to the maintenance of the certificate and possible recertification of this fishery.
6. New companies shall fulfill the terms and conditions of MSC FS, as well as the terms and conditions of use of the certificate agreed with the MSC certificate holder.

President FSA

A. Osintsev

Stamp