



6th September 2016

Peer Reviewer Shortlist Consultation for the NFA Norwegian ling, tusk and lumpfish Fishery

The MSC's Peer Review College has compiled a shortlist of potential peer reviewers to undertake the peer review for the NFA Norwegian ling, tusk and lumpfish fishery which is currently undergoing the full MSC certification assessment process with the Conformity Assessment Accura Marine Ltd. Two peer reviewers are required and will be selected from the following list:

- Robert O'Boyle
- Robert Edward Blyth-Skyrme
- Max Stocker
- Jo Gascoigne

A summary of their experience and qualifications is included on the following pages. Full CVs are available on request by email to the [Peer Review College](#).

Interested stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments on potential conflicts of interest of the shortlisted reviewers with the fishery to the Peer Review College by email, telephone or post at the number and address below.

Please note that this peer review is being undertaken as part of a pilot project to test the effectiveness and efficiency of the system, before it is launched for all MSC fisheries in early 2017. For further details on the pilot and background to the Peer Review College, please visit the MSC's [Program Improvements website](#).

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The deadline for responses to the consultation is **17:00 GMT, 10 days from the publication date of this announcement on the MSC's website**.

Robert O'Boyle

Robert O'Boyle received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. from McGill and Guelph Universities in 1972 and 1975 respectively. He was with Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia during 1977 - 2007. During this time, he conducted assessments of the Maritime and Gulf region's fish resources (e.g. herring, capelin, cod, haddock, pollock, flatfishes, sharks). He headed the Marine Fish Division, with responsibility for the finfish research programs and assessment-related activities of over 80 scientific and support staff. He also coordinated the peer review of scientific advice on fisheries resources and ocean uses and was Associate Director of Science, as such being extensively involved in science program management at the regional and national level. He has been involved in a number of national and international reviews, ranging from science program design to resource assessment. He is currently president of Beta Scientific Consulting Inc. (betasci.ca) which provides a variety of services on ocean resource management including technical review and coordination, analyses and assessment. As such, he is proficient in the latest tools of fishery stock assessment and analysis (e.g. R, TMB, ADMB and Winbugs). Projects have included analyses and assessments of forage species (Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Coast Menhaden), deepwater species (Scotian Shelf Cusk) and endangered species (Atlantic Leatherback Turtles). He has been and is currently the principle one or two expert of a number of MSC certifications (e.g. BC Dogfish, Chilean Hake, Nova Scotia, US and Australian Swordfish, Barents Sea Cod, Haddock, and Saithe, North Sea Haddock, Danish Plaice, Deepwater Black Scabbardfish, Blue Ling, and Roundnose Grenadier, Russian Pollack and US West Coast groundfish) and has been peer reviewer on a number of MSC assessments. He has been the chair and / or reviewer of DFO, NMFS and ASMFC stock assessments (e.g. GARM III, SEDAR 18, SARC 50, SARC 54, SARC 55, River Herring/Eel), and has prepared special reports on ocean management issues for government, industry and NGO groups. He has been a member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee of the New England Fisheries Management Council since 2008. He pursues research projects related to resource and ocean management and assessment. Recent projects include the impact of climate change on New England groundfish assessments, the trophic dynamics of the Eastern Scotian Shelf ecosystem, the impact of fish migrations of assessed fishery selectivity patterns, risk analysis in data poor assessments and the interaction of cod and grey seals in the Northwest Atlantic.

Robert Blyth-Skyrme

Robert has worked in aquaculture and then in marine fisheries science, management and policy since 1996. Following his PhD which focussed on fisheries management and the environmental effects of fishing, he worked at the Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee, the largest inshore fisheries management organization in England, where he became the Deputy Chief Fishery Officer. He then became a senior advisor to the UK Government on marine fisheries and environmental issues, leading a team dealing with fisheries policy, science and nationally significant fisheries and environmental casework. Rob now runs Ichthys Marine Ecological Consulting Ltd., a marine fisheries and environmental consultancy. As well as working for Government and industry on fisheries science and management issues, he has undertaken all facets of MSC work as a Lead Assessor, expert team member and peer reviewer across a wide range of fisheries.

Andrew Hough

Andrew has a PhD in marine ecology from the University of Wales, Bangor (1987-90). He has been involved in marine, coastal and freshwater environmental management since 1991, including management of fishery impacts on ecosystems and marine conservation biology, principally in European inshore waters. He was manager of Moody Marine operations within Moody International Certification from 1999 to 2011 with particular responsibility for the implementation of MSC Certification procedures and development of MSC methodologies. He has acted as lead assessor on a large proportion of MSC pre assessments and main assessments during this time, and subsequently as team member and/or lead auditor for various assessments. This has involved stock assessment analysis, evaluation of ecosystem effects and management effectiveness of groundfish, pelagic and shellfish fisheries in various administrations around the world. He now works as a freelance environmental/fishery management consultant and auditor, consultancy projects include certification-related policy advice to the Association of Sustainable Fisheries.

Max Stocker

Dr. Stocker is a scientist with over 30 years of extensive experience in fisheries science. He is currently proprietor of Stocker & Associates Consultants conducting Marine Stewardship Council certification projects.

Dr. Stocker acted as marine fisheries consultant under contract with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to provide scientific advice on highly migratory species in the Pacific Ocean. He was the lead Canadian scientist for highly migratory species for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). He served as co-chair of the Stock Assessment Working Group of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC and chaired the ISC Albacore Working Group.

From 1978-2006 Dr. Stocker held the position of research scientist with DFO at the Pacific biological Station conducting population dynamic studies, conducting peer reviewed stock assessments of many marine species, and communicating results to fisheries managers and stakeholders. He authored and co-authored over 90 scientific papers and reports, and made over 50 presentations in national and international scientific meetings.

Dr. Stocker chaired the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee (PSARC) for many years and edited and published over 30 advisory documents on the stock status of marine species and the implications of harvest management on these stocks. Additionally, Dr. Stocker served as in-house stock assessment consultant to the New Zealand Fishing Industry Board in the early 1990s conducting peer reviewed stock assessments, participating in the peer review process, and advising the Board on inshore and deepwater fisheries.

Jo Gascoigne

Jo Gascoigne has been working in fisheries (research and consultancy) since 1995 and hence has 20 years of experience in the field. She has completed a PhD in fisheries research (the population dynamics and management of exploited or rare species). She has spent the last 8 years of her career as a consultant on a mixture of MSC assessments and associated projects, and longer-term projects focusing mainly on fisheries management and policy analysis.