

MSC Re-Assessment

Pelagic Freezer-Trawler Association North Sea Herring Fishery

Revision of Unit of Certification: Exclusion of ICES Area IIIa (Skagerrak)

In March we announced that the MSC fishery certification re-assessment is underway for the **Pelagic Freezer Trawler Association North Sea Herring Fishery**. The initial assessment of this fishery in 2006 was for herring (*Clupea harengus*) using pelagic trawls in ICES areas IV and VIIId (the North Sea and Eastern English Channel).

During March we announced that it was proposed to include ICES Area IIIa (Skagerrak) in a revised unit of certification.

Following discussions with the client and other stakeholders, and review of the stock status of the Western Baltic Spring Spawning Herring, it is now proposed to withdraw the revision to the unit of certification and revert to the original and current unit of certification for this fishery: **ICES Areas IV and VIIId (the North Sea and Eastern English Channel)**.

We would welcome stakeholder views on this change.

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