



## Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Announcement

<b>Name of Fishery</b>	Western Bering Sea Pacific cod and Pacific halibut longline											
<b>Assessment number</b>	Initial assessment v.2.0											
<b>Reduced re-assessment (Y/N)</b>	N/A											
<b>Statement that the fishery is within scope</b>	Marine certification LLC confirms that this fishery is within the scope for MSC certification.											
<b>Certificate sharing statement</b>	Marine certification LLC confirms that the client would like to share its certificate.											
<b>Estimated Length of Full Assessment &amp; Timeline</b>	It is expected that this assessment will take 11 months. The expected timeline is as follows:											
	<b>Fishery Assessment Certification Stages</b>	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	Announcement of Full Assessment											
	Assessment Team Formation											
	Determination and Confirmation of Assessment Tree (DAT/RBF)											
	Site Visit Announcement											
	Site Visit / Stakeholder Meetings											
	Examination of Evidence / Scoring / Report Preparation											
	Client Review of Draft Report											
	Peer Review Nominations (by MSC)											
	Peer Review of Draft Report											
	Release of Public Comment Draft Report / Stakeholder Review											
	Final Report and Certification Determination											
	Objection Period											
	Publication of Public Certification Report											
Certification decision / issue of certificate												

<p><b>Name of proposed Team Leader</b></p>	<p><b>Dr. Dmitry Lajus P3 expert</b>  Dr. Lajus holds a M.S. degree from the St. Petersburg State University and a Ph.D. from the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences. He is an Associate Professor at the Department of Ichthyology and Hydrobiology at St. Petersburg State University since 2003. From 1987 to 2003 Dr. Lajus was a Researcher and Senior Researcher at the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences. In 2006, he received a Fulbright Fellowship at the University of New Hampshire, USA. Dmitry has extensive research experience in areas of population biology of marine fish and invertebrates, population phenogenetics, stress assessment, history of fisheries, historical ecology, and population dynamics. He has participated in a great number of MSC pre- and full assessments of various fisheries and has other extensive experience related to MSC sustainable fisheries programme (peer-reviewing, MSC specialized workshops).</p> <p>Marine certification LLC confirms that Dr. Lajus meets the competency criteria for team leaders as specified in FCR v.2.0 Annex PC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He has an appropriate university degree and more than 5 years' experience in management and research in fisheries;</li> <li>- He has undertaken more than 2 MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last 5 years;</li> <li>- He has passed MSC fishery team leader training and training on updates to the fishery requirements;</li> <li>- He understands MSC Fisheries Standard and MSC FCR;</li> <li>- He has experience in applying auditing techniques in the gathering of information, the scoring of the fishery and the rationales for the scores given, as well as experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and ability to effectively communicate with the client and other stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>In addition,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He has passed MSC traceability and RBF training modules and relevant updates;</li> <li>- He has knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders and more than 2 assignments in the country in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years.</li> </ul> <p>Marine certification LLC confirms that Dr. Lajus has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
<p><b>Name(s) of proposed assessors</b></p>	<p><b>Dr. Alexei Orlov P1 expert</b>  Dr. Orlov holds a Doctor degree of Biological Sciences (Ichthyology) from the Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO). From 1986 till now Dr. Orlov has consequently worked in different units of VNIRO: Laboratory of Expeditionary Research; Laboratory of Fishery Analysis; Section of Continental Slope Fishes of the Russian Far East Seas; Department of International, Legal and Biological Foundations in Fisheries. In 2009-2014 he managed Laboratory of Atlantic and Pacific basin in the Department of International Fisheries Cooperation, in 2014-2016 he was a chief researcher of Laboratory of Marine fishes of the Russian Far East, in 2016-2017 – head of Laboratory of Ecology and Bioresources of Arctic and Antarctic, and in 2017-2019 – head of the Arctic section of Laboratory of Marine and Semi-anadromous fishes of the European part of Russia. Since 2019 he is a principal scientist of the unit of Marine fishes of the Russian Far East VNIRO with the area of responsibility on deepwater fishes – thorny-head, rockfish, grenadiers, eelpout, bakelings and coalfish. Dr. Orlov is also a principal researcher of Laboratory of Ecology of lower vertebrates in the Institute of Ecology and Evolution of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Orlov is a member of a number of Fisheries Societies, editor of a number of the fisheries journals and author of more than 650 scientific and popular science publications.</p>

Marine certification LLC confirms that Dr. Orlov meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCR v.2.0 Annex PC:

- He has an appropriate university degree and more than 5 years' research experience in fisheries; more than 5 years' experience applying relevant stock assessment techniques being used by the fishery under assessment; more than 5 years' experience working with the biology and population dynamics of the deep-water species;
- He has passed MSC fishery team member training;
- He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored;
- He has knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders and more than 2 assignments in the country in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years.

During our review of potential conflicts of interest we note that Dr. Orlov was on the team carrying out the pre-assessment and have determined no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

#### **Daria Safronova P2 expert**

Daria holds MSc in biology with the specialization in hydrobiology, is currently a Ph.D candidate in ecology and since 2011 has worked as an assistant at Saint Petersburg State University, Department of Ichthyology and Hydrobiology and Department of Applied Ecology. She has taken courses on sustainable water management, restoration of aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity conservation in different European universities. Daria has more than 15 years' experience in environmental management and has carried out one MSC pre-assessment. Daria specializes in biological methods for water quality assessment.

Marine certification LLC confirms that Daria Safronova meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCR v.2.0 Annex PC:

- She has an appropriate university degree and more than 5 years' research experience in the environmental sphere;
- She has passed MSC fishery team member training;
- She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored;
- She has knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders and more than 2 assignments in the country in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years.

Marine certification LLC confirms that Daria Safronova has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

#### **Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, P2 and P3 expert**

Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme is a fisheries and environmental specialist with extensive fisheries science, management and policy development experience. He was a fisheries management practitioner with the Eastern Sea Fisheries Joint Committee, and led the marine fisheries and aquaculture work of English Nature and then Natural England, where he provided thought leadership on major projects including the North Sea MPA Project (that became Net Gain), the MPA Campaign, the UK Scallop Strategy and the European Marine Site activity and risk assessment project. He was seconded for two years to UK Government to provide expert support on fisheries elements of the Marine and Coastal Access Bill, and on the RSA Strategy, and was a fisheries representative on the Environment Agency's Anglian Regional Fisheries Ecology and Recreation Advisory Committee. Rob left Natural England in 2008 to establish Ichthys Marine Ecological Consulting Ltd., and has subsequently authored wellreceived reports for Government agencies and commercial clients on subjects ranging from marine fisheries interactions with offshore windfarms to the development of an environmental standard for fisheries. He undertakes assessments of fisheries globally against the Marine Stewardship Council standard, has authored a number of papers in scientific journals, and undertakes peer review of technical reports for Government.

Marine certification LLC confirms that Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme meets the competency criteria for team leaders / team members as specified in FCR v.2.0 Annex PC:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He has an PhD in Marine Fisheries and more than 5 year’s experience in fishery management analysis; more than 5 years’ experience in research into and management of fisheries impacts on aquatic ecosystems; more than 5 years’ experience as a practicing fishery manager and policy advisor;</li> <li>- He has passed MSC Team Leader training, including relevant updates;</li> <li>- He understands MSC Fisheries Standard and MSC FCR, is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored;</li> <li>- He has participated in more than 2 MSC fishery assessments and surveillance site visits as a team leader in the last 5 years, including in Russia;</li> <li>- He has experience in applying auditing techniques in the gathering of information, the scoring of the fishery and the rationales for the scores given, as well as experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and ability to effectively communicate with the client and other stakeholders;</li> <li>- He has passed MSC traceability and RBF training modules.</li> </ul> <p>Marine certification LLC confirms that Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p><b>Full CV available on request</b></p> <p>The whole assessment team collectively meets the requirements as described in FCR Annex PC Table PC3.</p>
<p><b>Assessment tree to be used</b></p>	<p>The default assessment tree contained in MSC FCR v.2.0 will be used for this assessment.</p>
<p><b>Site visit</b></p>	<p><b>The assessment team will be visiting the fishery with the meetings to be held on 18 May 2018 in Moscow and 21-25 May 2018 in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy, Russia.</b></p> <p>The assessment team will consider using the RBF for two PI – 2.4.1 and 2.4.3. A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to 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="http://www.msc.org/about-us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework">http://www.msc.org/about-us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework</a>, Please note we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative 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.</p>

Marine certification LLC is pleased to announce the beginning of a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) assessment of Western Bering Sea Pacific cod and Pacific halibut longline fishery. The assessment team will evaluate the fishery for compliance with the MSC standard for well-managed and sustainable fisheries. MC LLC has determined that the fishery is in scope.

The client for the MSC fishery assessment is:

Longline Fishery Association, 7, Uborevicha str., Vladivostok, 690091, Russia.  
 Contact for the fishery client is: President Vyacheslav Bychkov, [fareeastlongline@gmail.com](mailto:fareeastlongline@gmail.com), +7 (423) 222-02-35.

MC LLC wishes to invite all stakeholders to provide any information relevant to the fishery or to nominate other organizations with knowledge about the status of stocks, the impacts of the fishery on habitats, or fishery management practices. To identify yourself as a stakeholder, please contact:

Julia Nebolsina  
 Certification Manager  
 Marine certification LLC  
 Email: [julia.nebolsina@marcert.ru](mailto:julia.nebolsina@marcert.ru)  
 Tel/fax: +7 (495) 640-84-92

You should provide:

- your name and contact details;
- your association with the fishery;
- the issues you would like to discuss;
- when you would like to talk.

You can provide written comments by email, use Skype or request a personal interview with our assessment team. After conducting a site visit to Western Bering Sea Pacific cod and Pacific halibut longline fishery in May, the assessment team will prepare a report deciding to certify the fishery or not. Stakeholders will be also able to comment on the Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR) scheduled for publication in November 2018.

The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input available at:

<https://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders>

and a template for stakeholder response available at:

<https://www.msc.org/documents/scheme-documents/forms-and-templates/template-for-stakeholder-input-into-fishery-assessments-v2.0/view>.

Please review these documents for more information about stakeholder input to the MSC process.

Submitted by: Julia Nebolsina

Date: 18 April 2018



## CERTIFICATE SHARING STATEMENT

Adopted by Longline Fishery Association (LFA) for all its members and covers their fishing and processing operations and other businesses related to harvesting of living marine resources, processing of catches, transportation and trading of fishery products.

The MSC certificates of LFA members can be shared with a third-party company under the following legally binding conditions:

1. The Company shall become LFA member via standard approval procedure.
2. The Company shall implement and strictly comply with LFA's Code of Conduct and Policy of Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility ([the Code of Conduct](#)).
3. The Company shall implement all registration protocols for bycatch of ETP and non-target species as set forth in the Code of Conduct.
4. The Company shall make reasonable financial contributions to the assessment activities and other activities related to the compliance with the MSC certification requirements including but not limited to providing on-board scientific observations, using of streamer lines during fishing operations, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems etc.
5. The Company shall comply all of the terms and conditions stated in the MSC Certification Report, including but not limited to traceability and supply chain accountability and audits.
6. The Company shall provide all information related to its fishing activities (total catch including bycatch, areas of operation, number of fishery inspections in all areas of operation including supporting documents) and corporate social responsibilities (labor and employment conditions, ethical issues etc.) as well as evidence of implementation of the Code of Conduct as requested by LFA within reasonable time.

7. The Company shall organize annual LFA audits on its vessel(s) to verify the compliance with the conditions of the LFA's Certificate Sharing Statement.

8. In case the Company does not comply with any of the above conditions, LFA can require that the Company shall implement additional measures and/or the Company's vessel(s) can be removed from LFA's list of vessels approved to deliver MSC fish and fishery products.

9. The LFA will accept new participants on the MSC client group based on an equitable sharing of costs incurred to obtain, maintain and administer the certificate including but not limited to surveillance audits and eventual recertification costs. All of the companies wishing to share in the MSC certificate must sign a cost-sharing agreement with LFA compliant with current MSC guidelines.

**Appendix 2: CVs of team leader and members**

*Full CVs available upon request as separate PDF documents*