

## Estonia North East Arctic cold water prawn fishery Marine Stewardship Council Certification **Certification Body: DNV Business Assurance**

## Intent to Undertake an Expedited Assessment

DNV GL would like to announce the intent to conduct an expedited audit for an extension of scope to the Estonia North East Arctic cold water prawn fishery (F-DNV-144850- Valid from 7 November 2013 to 7 November 2018).

The intent of the expedited audit is to include a Lithuanian vessel owned by UAB Marlinas to the certificate and the UoC/UoA as per the table below.

| Table 1 Unit of Ce | ertification/Unit of Assessment  |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| Fishery Name       | Estonia North East Arctic Cold Water Prawn   |  |  |
| Species            | Northern shrimp, or cold water prawn (Pandalus borealis)   |  |  |
| Geographical area  | Barents Sea and Svalbard in FAO statistical area 27, ICES Ia,b and IIb   |  |  |
| Method of capture  | Bottom trawl with sorting grid   |  |  |
| Stock              | Barents Sea shrimp (ICES Division I and II)/FAO 27   |  |  |
| Management         | <ul> <li>Estonia and Denmark Fisheries Management</li> <li>Lithuanian Fisheries Management</li> <li>NEAFC</li> <li>Norwegian Fisheries Management (Svalbard FPZ)</li> </ul>  |  |  |
| Client group       | The stock is managed according to ICES advice  Reyktal Ltd. and Reval Seafood Ltd represented by the following vessels:  Steffano, Ontika, Reval Viking and Eldborg (currently not fishing)  P/R Ocean Tiger represented by the following vessel:  Ocean Tiger R38.  Extension:  The Lithuanian company UAB Marlinas represented by the vessel Taurus  |  |  |
| Eligible fishers   | Estonian fishery: There are no other identified eligible fishers, as there are no other vessels fishing for cold water prawns ( <i>Pandalus borealis</i> ) licensed under Estonian fisheries management in the Unit of Certification. If at a later date more vessels are added to the Estonian shrimp fishery in the Barents Sea, their eligibility to share the certificate will be considered upon the application. New vessels owned by the client group will automatically be eligible to share the MSC certificate (subject to full compliance with MSC requirements).  Lithuanian fishery: There are currently no vessels other than Taurus included in the certification. If at a later date more vessels owned by UAB Marlinas are added to the fleet that fish in the Barents Sea for cold water shrimp under Lithuanian license, they will automatically be eligible to share the MSC certificate (subject to full compliance with MSC requirements). |  |  |



In line with the extension of scope requirements, DNV GL can confirm that:

- 1. There is broad overlap with the species, gears, or areas in the original UoA.
- 2. The target stock of the new proposed UoA is identical with the target stock previously assessed under P1 of the certified fishery;
- 3. The extended fishery operations are in the same geographical region;
- 4. The extended fishery operations use identical fishing gears.

A gap analysis was carried out, assessing the degree of overlap between the proposed new Unit of Assessment (UoA) and the already certified UoA fishery.

The gap analysis revealed that the assessment and scoring for four of the nine assessment components listed in Appendix 1 will be identical between the original and the new assessment.

The expedited assessment would involve an assessment against the harvest strategy component under Principle 1, the retained species, bycatch species and habitat components under Principle 2 and the governance and policy and fishery specific management components under Principle 3 (see Appendix 1).



## **Appendix 1: Full Gap Analysis**

Gap Analysis for the New Proposed Unit of Assessment of Estonia North East Arctic cold water prawn fishery with added Lithuanian vessel.

To support DNV GL's proposal for an expedited audit of the Estonia NEA cold water prawn fishery, the gap analysis below has been completed.

| Component                | UoA 1 (current certified)  | UoA 2 (extended certification)  | Gap analysis                                 |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| P1 – Outcome             | Status of North East<br>Arctic cold water<br>prawn stock<br>( <i>Pandalus borealis</i> )   | The proposed extended fishing operations incorporating the Lithuanian vessel will target the same stock in the same geographical area as the current certified fishery.   | No assessment<br>needed, score<br>identical. |
| P1 – Harvest strategy    | The harvest strategy for the target stock is managed under  • Estonia Fisheries Management  • NEAFC  • Norwegian Fisheries Management (Svalbard FPZ) | The fishing operations of the fleet extension are managed under the same management system that manages the cold water prawn fishery in the Barents Sea. The Lithuanian vessel will be covered by the fishery management systems of the EU and Lithuania, and will be covered by NEAFC regulations and Norwegian regulations when fishing in the international zone and Svalbard FPZ respectively. The new vessel will therefore be fishing primarily under the same regulations as the current vessels, but Lithuanian regulations that form part of the harvest strategy have to be assessed. | Assessment needed.                           |
| P2 – Retained<br>species | The only retained species for the client fleet is cod.   | The Lithuanian vessel also retains cod on board, and therefore the impact of these catches on the cod stock has to be assessed.   | Assessment needed.                           |
| P2 – Bycatch<br>species  | Unintended<br>bycatch of client<br>gear type in client   | The Lithuanian vessel operates with identical fishing gear and mesh   | No assessment needed, score identical.       |



|                                  | · · · ·   | T,  | <del>                                     </del> |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| P2 – ETP<br>species              | geographical area  ETP bycatch of client gear type in client geographical area  | size to the previously certified vessels. The bycatch of the Lithuanian vessel will be similar or identical to the bycatch of the Estonian vessels and will have identical impacts on the stocks of bycatch species.  The Lithuanian vessel operates with identical fishing gear and mesh size. The interactions of   | No assessment<br>needed, score<br>identical.     |
|                                  |   | the Lithuanian vessel with ETP species will be similar or identical to the interactions of Estonian vessels with ETP species.   |  |
| P2 - Habitats                    | Habitat impact of client gear type in client geographical area                  | The Lithuanian vessel operates with identical fishing gear in the same geographical region as the client fleet. The habitat impact of the Lithuanian vessel will be similar, but the fishing locations of the Lithuanian vessel might be different from the location of the client fleet. The strategy in place that is designed to ensure that the Lithuanian vessel does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types has to be assessed. | Assessment needed.                               |
| P2 -<br>Ecosystem                | Broad ecological<br>community and<br>ecosystem in which<br>the fishery operates | The Lithuanian vessel operates with identical fishing gear in the same geographical region and targets the same stock as the client fleet. The ecosystem impact of the Lithuanian vessel will be similar or identical with the client fleet.  | No assessment<br>needed, score<br>identical.     |
| P3 –<br>Governance<br>and policy | Overarching<br>management<br>framework  | The fishing operations of the fleet extension are managed under the same management system that manages the cold water prawn fishery in the Barents   | Assessment needed.                               |



|  |                                    | Sea (Norwegian and NEAFC management). However the Lithuanian part of the extended fleet falls under Lithuanian jurisdiction. This means that the Lithuanian regulations that form part of the overarching management system have to be assessed.  |                    |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| P3 – Fishery<br>specific<br>management<br>system | Fishery specific management system | The fishing operations of the fleet extension are managed under the same management system that manages the cold water prawn fishery in the Barents Sea (Norwegian and NEAFC management). However the Lithuanian part of the extended fleet falls under Lithuanian jurisdiction. This means that the Lithuanian regulations that form part of the fishery specific management system have to be assessed. | Assessment needed. |