

# **Global Trust Certification**

## **ISF Iceland greater silver smelt**

### **MSC Fishery Announcement**

### **04 February 2022**

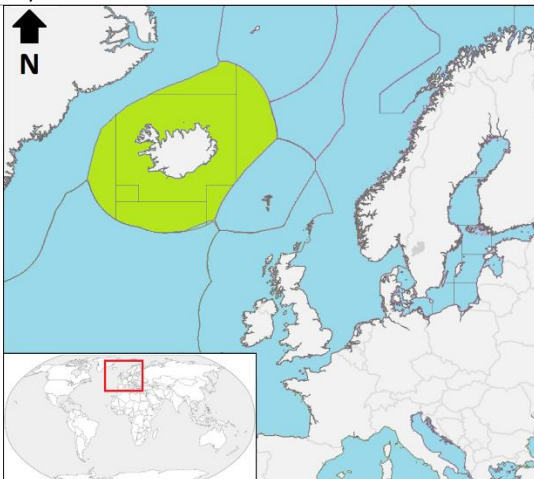
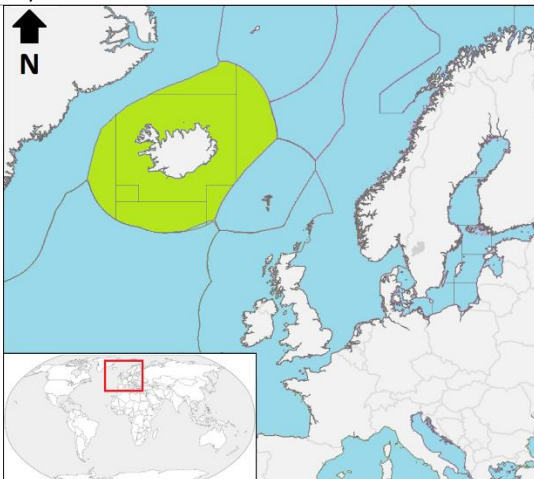
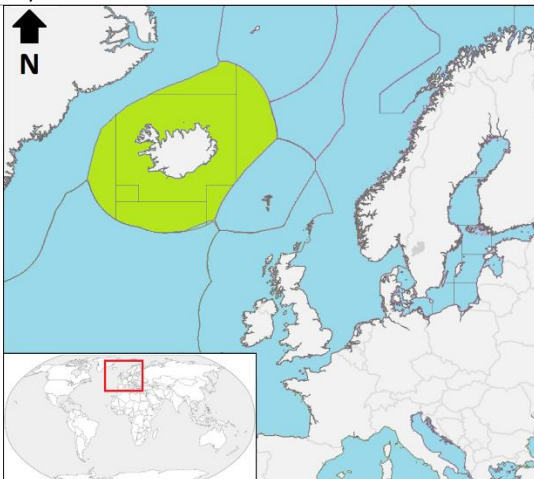
#### **1 Introduction**

This Announcement marks the beginning of an MSC assessment or reassessment of this fishery and details the information Global Trust Certification (hereafter Global Trust) is required to submit when formally announcing the entry of this fishery into assessment.

This announcement also represents the start of a stakeholder period in respect of this fisheries assessment and outlines how interested stakeholders may get involved in the assessment process.

## 2 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

1	Fishery name																							
	ISF Iceland greater silver smelt																							
2	Assessment number																							
	Initial assessment																							
3	Reduced re-assessment (Yes-No)																							
	Not applicable																							
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope																							
	<p>Global Trust confirms that the fishery under assessment (as defined by the Units of Assessment (UoAs) described below) is within scope of the MSC Fisheries Standard (refer to FCP v2.2; Sections 7.4 and 7.5) as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The target species (greater silver smelt; <i>Argentina silus</i>) is not an amphibian, reptile, bird or mammal.</li><li>▪ The fishery does not use poisons or explosives.</li><li>▪ The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement</li><li>▪ The client or client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a forced or child labour violation in the last 2 years.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The fishery has submitted a completed ‘Certificate Holder Forced and Child Labour Policies, Practices and Measures Template’ to Global Trust.</li></ul></li><li>▪ The client or client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a shark finning violation in the last 2 years.</li><li>▪ The fishery includes a mechanism for resolving disputes and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery.</li></ul> <p>The fishery is neither an Enhanced Fishery nor is it an Introduced Species Based Fishery such that additional scope criteria for these types of fishery do not apply.</p>																							
5	Unit(s) of Assessment – UoA(s)																							
	<p>There are two UoAs:</p> <table><tr><th colspan="3">Units of Assessment (UoAs).</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2">UoA</th><th>Description</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Species</td><td>Latin name:</td><td><i>Argentina silus</i></td></tr><tr><td>Common names:</td><td>Greater silver smelt</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Stock</td><td>Greater silver smelt (<i>Argentina silus</i>) in ICES subarea 5.a and 14.b</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Geographical area</td><td><p>Waters of the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone within FAO Major Fishing Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast).</p><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- primarily within ICES Division 5a (Iceland Grounds) but including parts of ICES areas 2a, 5b, 12a, 14a and 14b.</li></ul></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"></td><td><p>Source: ICES 2021n</p></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>UoA 1</td><td>Bottom trawl</td></tr></table>	Units of Assessment (UoAs).			UoA		Description	Species	Latin name:	<i>Argentina silus</i>	Common names:	Greater silver smelt	Stock		Greater silver smelt ( <i>Argentina silus</i> ) in ICES subarea 5.a and 14.b	Geographical area		<p>Waters of the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone within FAO Major Fishing Area 27 (Atlantic, Northeast).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- primarily within ICES Division 5a (Iceland Grounds) but including parts of ICES areas 2a, 5b, 12a, 14a and 14b.</li></ul>			 <p>Source: ICES 2021n</p>		UoA 1	Bottom trawl
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	UoA 1	Bottom trawl																						

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	UoA 2	Pelagic trawl
	Client group	All registered vessels that carry valid permits for fishing within the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries, and that fish, supply and/or sell Greater silver smelt to Iceland Sustainable Fisheries ehf. and/or its authenticated certificate sharers.	
	Other eligible fishers	Other eligible fishers are any new entry to the group of registered vessels targeting the greater silver smelt stock and/or that are incidentally catching Greater silver smelt in other MSC certified fisheries within Icelandic jurisdiction.	
6	Certificate sharing statement		
	The client has prepared and publish a statement of their understanding and willingness for reasonable certificate sharing arrangements see Appendix 2 for further details.		
7	Name of proposed team leader		
	<p>Conor Donnelly meets the fishery team leader qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li><li>▪ +3 years’ fisheries experience.</li><li>▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually.</li><li>▪ Passed MSC’s fishery team leader training within the last 5 years as well as new versions of online training modules where relevant.</li><li>▪ Passed an appropriate ISO Lead Auditor training course as required by MSC requirements.</li></ul> <p>With respect to his additional duties under Principle 2, Conor has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ +3 years’ experience in research into, policy analysis for, or management of, the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems including the following topics: ii) Endangered, threatened, or protected (ETP) species, iii) Habitats and iv) Ecosystem interactions.</li></ul> <p>With respect to his additional duties as the team member with primary responsibility for Traceability, Conor has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Passed the MSC’s traceability module within the last 5 years as well as new versions of online training modules where relevant.</li><li>▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC’s traceability requirements at least annually where relevant.</li></ul> <p>While it is not the intention of the team to use the MSC’s Risk Based Framework (RBF) in the conduct of this assessment, Conor has also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Passed the MSC’s RBF training course within the last 5 years.</li><li>▪ Passed new versions of the training for any when new RBF requirements.</li><li>▪ Reviewed any updates to the RBF requirements at least annually.</li></ul> <p>Conor also has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders.</li><li>▪ +2 years’ fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years.</li></ul> <p>Conor does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of his CV is provided in Appendix 1. At present the intention is that the site visit will be conducted on-site, but this is subject to change due to the current situation with respect to COVID-19. If there are changes, SHs will be notified.</p>		
8	Name(s) of proposed team members		
	Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella		

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	<p>Giuseppe meets the fishery team member qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li> <li>▪ Passed MSC's fishery team member training within the last 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually.</li> <li>▪ Passed new versions of the compulsory online training modules where relevant.</li> </ul> <p>With respect to his additional duties under Principle 1, Giuseppe has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ +3 years' experience applying relevant stock assessment techniques being used by the fishery under assessment.</li> <li>▪ +3 years' experience working with the biology and population dynamics of the target or species with similar biology.</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders.</li> <li>▪ +2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years.</li> </ul> <p><b>Prof. Geir Hønneland – Assessor with responsibility for Principle 3</b></p> <p>Geir meets the fishery team member qualification and competency criteria outlined in FCP Annex PC; he has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li> <li>▪ Passed MSC's fishery team member training within the last 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Reviewed any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually.</li> <li>▪ Passed new versions of the compulsory online training modules where relevant.</li> </ul> <p>With respect to his additional duties under Principle 3, Geir has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ +3 years' experience as a practicing fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst.</li> <li>▪ Knowledge of a common language spoken by clients and stakeholders.</li> <li>▪ +2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years.</li> </ul> <p>Giuseppe and Geir do not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment; a summary of their CVs is provided in Appendix 1. At present the intention is that the site visit will be conducted on-site, but this is subject to change due to the current situation with respect to COVID-19. If there are changes, SHs will be notified.</p>
9	<p><b>Stakeholder opportunities</b></p> <p>The following stakeholder consultation opportunities are available as part of this assessment (for further information see <u>3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments</u>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b><u>1. Stakeholder comment at Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR):</u></b> Stakeholders may submit written input using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which is available here: <a href="https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment">https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment</a>.</li> <li><b><u>2. Site visit:</u></b> During the site visit portion of this assessment specified in <u>12. Site visit</u> below, all members of the assessment team will be available to meet either in person or remotely with interested stakeholders.</li> <li><b><u>3. Stakeholder comment at Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR):</u></b> Stakeholders, who have provided written input on the ACDR or attended the site visit in person or remotely may submit written input using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input'.</li> </ol> <p><b>IMPORTANT NOTE:</b> The opportunity for stakeholders to comment at the PCDR stage is limited to those stakeholders that provided written input at the ACDR stage or attended the site visit in person or remotely; therefore, stakeholders wishing to comment at the PCDR stage should ensure they engage in one or more of those earlier stakeholder consultation opportunities.</p>

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

10	Assessment tree to be used
	Assessment tree to be applied is the default tree.
11	Estimated timeline
	<p>If the assessment result is positive, the assessment is expected to be completed and extended certification awarded by October 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Public Comment Draft Report should be available in July 2022.</li> <li>– The Final Draft should be available in September 2022.</li> <li>– The Public Certification Report should be available in October 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Please note that, in accordance with MSC FCP v2.2 §7.13.1, a separate indicative assessment timeline, has been submitted to the MSC database. Stakeholders should use this indicative assessment timeline as the basis for tracking the assessment process. Should Global Trust determine that the publication date of the next public report will be ≥30 days before or after the date stated in the indicative timeline, a revised timeline will be published to the MSC webpage for this fishery.</p>
12	Site visit
	<p>Commencing after the stakeholder input on the Announcement Draft Report, the site visit will take on the proposed date(s) and at the following location(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Site visit dates</u>: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022.</li> <li>– <u>Site visit location(s)</u>: At present the intention is that the site visit will be conducted on-site in Iceland (locations around Reykjavik), but this is subject to change due to the current situation with respect to COVID-19. If there are changes, SHs will be notified.</li> </ul> <p>Stakeholders wishing to consult directly with the audit team during this period should contacted Global Trust as outlined in 3.2. Consulting directly with the audit team below.</p>
14	Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline
	<p>The deadline for stakeholder input on the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 17:00 UTC on <b>10 April 2022</b>.</li> </ul> <p>For further information see <a href="#">3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments</a>.</p>

### 3 Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments

During fishery assessments, CABs are required to seek the views of relevant parties. Therefore, Global Trust wishes to invite organisations or individuals with an interest in this fishery to provide written information relevant to the surveillance audit process and/or consult directly with the audit team.

Prior to participating, stakeholders should familiarise themselves with the MSC process using the resources provided on the MSC's website: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

Global Trust encourages stakeholders not to withhold information, including their concerns and knowledge about the fishery in question; however, information that they cannot be shared with all stakeholders cannot be referenced in an assessment or used in determining assessment outcomes unless it relates to; a) financial transactions about certification, b) the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being made public, or c) information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the client's country.

#### 3.1 Submitting written information

Please note, Global Trust can only accept written stakeholder input as public record if it is submitted using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which can be found on the MSC website here: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

When submitting information, stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or any claimed errors of fact.

For your written submissions to be considered as part of this audit, you must:

1. Use the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments.
2. Submit it by **17:00 UTC on Sunday 10 April 2022**.
3. Send it to Global Trust Client Services: [ClientServicesie@nsf.org](mailto:ClientServicesie@nsf.org).

#### 3.2 Consulting directly with the audit team

During the site visit portion of this assessment (specified in [12. Site visit](#) of Table 1 above), all members of the assessment team will be available to meet, either in person or remotely, with interested stakeholders.

If you would like to meet with the assessment team during this period, you must:

1. Contact Global Trust Client Services: [ClientServicesie@nsf.org](mailto:ClientServicesie@nsf.org).
2. The deadline for doing so is **17:00 UTC on Sunday 10 April 2022**.
3. Provide at least the following details when doing so:
  - Your name and contact details.
  - Your association with the fishery.
  - The issues you would like to discuss.

#### 3.3 Importance of engaging early in a fisheries assessment

Please note that the MSC's defined processes now mean CABs cannot accept comments at the Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR) stage from stakeholders who have not either provided written input at the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) stage or met with the assessment team during the site visit. In addition, only previously involved stakeholders may object to a Certification Determination.

It is therefore critically important that stakeholders wishing to participate in the latter stages of an assessment, engage with that assessment at either the ACDR or site visit stages.

## 4 Appendices

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

The assessment team for this assessment consists of:

- Conor Donnelly (Lead Assessor and Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 2, Traceability and RBF).
- Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 1).
- Prof. Geir Hønneland (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 3).

A brief bio for each assessment team member is presented below.

#### **Surveillance Audit Team Leader: Conor Donnelly, Primary Responsibility for Principle 2, Traceability and RBF.**

Conor is an experienced marine ecologist and environmental manager with a background of over 17 years at the UK statutory nature conservation body, Natural England, where he was Senior Marine Adviser responsible for marine delivery across the East Midlands, Norfolk and Suffolk. He has a BSc. in Environmental Science from King's College, University of London and an MRes. in Marine and Coastal Ecology and Environmental Management from the University of York.

Conor has extensive experience of working with fisheries managers, the fishing sector, local communities and eNGOs, particularly from assessing the environmental impacts of mussel, cockle and shrimp fisheries in The Wash, UK and providing advice on their management. He was Natural England's representative on the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and its predecessor. He also advised and supported the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) on fisheries casework in the southern North Sea under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) including meetings with other member states. Other experience includes Marine Protected Area designation, conservation advice and condition assessment; conservation legislation and policy; and working with partners and stakeholders to deliver positive environmental outcomes. Conor is certified as a Fisheries Team Leader under MSC FCR versions 1.3, 2.0 and 2.1 and an ISO lead auditor.

#### **Surveillance Audit Team Member: Dr. Giuseppe Scarcella, Primary Responsibility for Principle 1.**

With a PhD in Marine Biology and Ecology at the Università Politecnica delle Marche (2009), Giuseppe has worked for the last 10+ years as a project scientist in several research programs about artificial reef and the impact of offshore platform. During this time, he has gained experience in benthic ecology, fish assemblages of artificial structures, fisheries ecology and impacts of fishing activities, stock assessment, otolith analysis, population dynamic. As a scientist at CNR-ISMAR, he is responsible for the sampling design and statistical analyses of numerous research activities. In particular, he has worked as a project scientist on several research programs about fishery activities in the Mediterranean and Black sea. In the framework of such activities he has gained experience in stock assessment, management plans, benthic ecology, fish assemblages of artificial structures, analysis of stomach contents, fisheries ecology and the impacts of fishing activities. Moreover, during his employment at ISMAR-CNR he worked as part of a team of scientists operating within different fields of marine biology, including population dynamics, taxonomy and fisheries as well as with physical oceanographers and fisheries technologists. The application of EAF principles to fisheries management have been at the core of these collaborations. For some years now, Giuseppe has been working in fisheries certification applying the Marine Stewardship Council standard for sustainable fisheries, currently concentrating on Principle 1 of the Standard. Giuseppe has previously worked on other MSC-certified Icelandic fisheries including lemon sole and Greenland halibut and as such is familiar with the Icelandic fisheries management system.

#### **Surveillance Audit Team Member: Prof. Geir Hønneland, Primary Responsibility for Principle 3.**

Geir Hønneland holds a PhD in political science from the University of Oslo (2000) and has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on enforcement and compliance issues), international environmental politics and international politics in Polar regions. He was affiliated with the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo for more than 20 years, as PhD student and research fellow (1996-2006), research director (2006-2014) and director (2015-2019). 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, 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. He is qualified as an MSC Team Leader (Fisheries Standard v2.0, Fisheries Certification Process v2.1) and Chain of Custody Auditor (v2.0) and has also passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing.

## 4.2 Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement

**ISF** Iceland  
Sustainable  
Fisheries

Reykjavík, 01.02.2022

**Regarding: Certificate Sharing Arrangements for the ISF Iceland Greater silver smelt**

Iceland Sustainable Fisheries (ISF) ehf. confirms its willingness to share certificates for the expected MSC certification of the ISF Iceland Greater silver smelt fisheries.

Greater silver smelt from the expected MSC certified units of certification will be eligible for marketing with reference to the certificates, provided the fish is caught, supplied and/or sold to Iceland Sustainable Fisheries ehf, and/or its authenticated certificate sharers.

Any Icelandic and foreign holders of permits, issued by the Icelandic Directorate of Fisheries and/or under the terms of Iceland's fishing agreements with other nations, for the fishing of Greater silver smelt within the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone, FAO Fishing Area 27 Divisions Va and East Greenland FAO Fishing Area 27 Division XIV and/or Icelandic processors and/or Icelandic traders of Greater silver smelt, are invited to apply to ISF ehf. for the sharing of the certificate.

Applicants will be eligible to enter into certificate sharing agreement with the ISF ehf. on the basis of:

- a) Equitable sharing of internal and external costs incurred due to the assessment processes and
- b) Full compliance with the MSC Fisheries Standards and Certification Requirements, including any conditions and recommendations set for the certification and subsequent programs of corrective action to address such conditions and recommendations.

On behalf of Iceland Sustainable Fisheries ehf,

Kristinn Hjálmarsson

01.02.2022

Date

## 5 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.1'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with Global Trust's corporate identity, Global Trust has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

The Marine Stewardship Council's 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.1' and its content is copyright of "Marine Stewardship Council" - © "Marine Stewardship Council" 2020. All rights reserved.

**Table 2.** Template version control.

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	8 October 2014	Date of issue
2.0	17 December 2018	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.1
2.01	28 March 2019	Minor document change for usability
2.1	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website ([www.msc.org](http://www.msc.org)).

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