

Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Announcement

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| Name of Fishery | Expedited Assessment of the US Northeast Northern Shortfin Squid Bottom Trawl Fishery |
| Assessment number | Expedited Assessment |
| Reduced re-assessment (Y/N) | NA |

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| <p>Statement that the fishery is within scope</p> | <p>The fishery has been found to meet scope requirements (FCR v2.0 7.4) for MSC fishery assessments as it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does not operate under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement, use destructive fishing practices, target amphibians, birds, reptiles or mammals and is not overwhelmed by dispute; (FCR 7.4.1.1, 7.4.1.2, 7.4.1.3, 7.4.2) ▪ The fishery does not engage in shark finning, has mechanisms for resolving disputes (FCR 7.4.2.1), and has not previously failed assessment or had a certificate withdrawn. ▪ Is not an enhanced, and is not based on an introduced species (FCR 7.4.3, 7.4.4, 7.4.13-15) ▪ Overlap with another MSC certified or applicant fishery has been considered and harmonization and/or cumulative may be relevant to Principles 2 and 3 based on use of bottom trawl gear and/or under MAFMC Federal fisheries management: US Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fishery; US Atlantic Scallop Fishery; US Acadian redfish, haddock and pollock otter trawl fishery; and US Atlantic Spiny Dogfish Fishery (7.4.16), ▪ And does not include an entity successfully prosecuted for violating forced labor laws (7.4.1.4) ▪ The units of assessment, certification, and eligible fishers have been defined, traceability risks characterized, and certificate sharing mechanisms decided (7.4.6-7.4.12) ▪ Is not known to overlap in distribution with any inseparable or practically inseparable (IPI) species (7.4.13-15) |
| <p>Certificate sharing statement</p> | <p>The members of the identified client group are not agreeing at this time to accept new participants to be covered by the MSC certificate. Any such decision shall be subject to the unanimous consent of the members of the identified client group. A statement to this effect has been shared on the MSC website.</p> |
| <p>Estimated Length of Full Assessment & Timeline</p> | <p>The assessment is expected to take approximately nine months. An assessment timeline is included in the announcement materials which includes projected approximate dates for key versions of the report.</p> |

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| <p>Name of proposed Team Leader</p> | <p>Dr. Gonzalo Macho- Lead, Principle 1</p> <p>Gonzalo Macho, his background comes as a marine biology and fisheries management researcher (1998 - ongoing), as a manager in fisheries resources for the fishers' guild of Bueu in Galicia, Spain (2007-2008), and as an independent consultant in fisheries & marine ecology (2011 - ongoing). While in the Cofradía de Bueu he launched the MSC pre-assessment and final assessment of the razor clam fishery of the Ría de Pontevedra (Galicia, Spain) which was finally the first Spanish fishery being certified by MSC. He has published more than 15 publications (SCI peer-reviewed journals) and participated in more than 20 national and international scientific projects on population dynamics of marine fishing resources (razor clams, cockles, gooseneck barnacle, clams & sea urchins), fisheries management and governance (octopus, razor clams, gooseneck barnacle, scallops, abalones, deep-sea fishes in Argentina, Chile, Spain and EU), reform of the EU common fisheries policy, marine socio-ecological systems, fisheries socio-economics and climate change impacts on marine invertebrates.</p> |
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| <p>Name(s) of proposed assessors</p> | <p>Dr. Gonzalo Macho (Principle 1)</p> <p>Mrs. Jennifer Humberstone- SCS Global Services, Principle 2 & 3 (as needed)</p> <p>Jennifer Humberstone holds a Master of Environmental Science and Management degree from the Bren School at the University of California Santa Barbara, where she specialized in fisheries management and natural resource economics. Jennifer has designed spatial bio-economic models to facilitate management decisions and performed research for the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis. Mrs. Humberstone has cross-sectoral and international project management experiences working with diverse stakeholders including fishers, government, private industry, and NGOs. Jennifer is proficient in Spanish and has marine resource management field experience in both the Philippines and the Dominican Republic: where she spent over two years building initiatives in protected areas, ecotourism, and fisheries management. As a scientific diver, she has participated in a range of field studies evaluating and tracking ecosystem health.</p> <p>Jennifer is an ISO 9001 lead auditor and has completed the MSC V2.0 Team Leader training modules, including the RBF and Traceability modules. In her role at SCS, she is currently leading coordination and participating as a team member on MSC preassessment, surveillance audits, and full assessment of over 10 fisheries, including multiple US fisheries.</p> <p>Together, the assessment team complies with all relevant criteria of Table PC3. Team members affirm they have no conflict of interest in conducting this assessment. CVs are provided in attachment to this notice.</p> |
| <p>Assessment tree to be used</p> | <p>The team expects to assess the fishery under the FCR V2.0 default assessment tree, utilizing process requirements found in FCR V2.0 and GCR V2.1.</p> |

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| Site visit | <p>The on-site visit is tentatively scheduled for July 9-10, 2018. Expected site visit locations include Woods Hole, MA, Cape May and Dover, DE, TBC.</p> <p>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 http://www.msc.org/about-us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework, 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> <p>Please see instructions below on registering interest.</p> |
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SCS encourages stakeholders not to withhold information, and SCS will not permit use of confidential information for reference within an assessment, as basis for determination of an assessment outcome, or as basis for an objection to certification. Confidential information is restricted to defined exceptions listed in FCRv2.0 (4.3.3).

Any parties (individuals or organizations) interested in providing input at the on-site meetings or via email, and/or in being directly informed of future stakeholder announcements, please contact SCS at jhumberstone@scsglobalservices.com with:

- a) your name and contact details;*
- b) your association with the fishery; and*
- c) the issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation).*

As a reminder, information is most useful to the assessment team when it is specific and includes constructive suggestions for improving existing situations. Also, supporting documentary evidence for any issues of concern will be greatly appreciated by the assessment team.

Submitted by: Jennifer Humberstone

Date: May 21, 2018

Appendix 1: Client certificate sharing statement

As provided for the full assessment.

Appendix 2: CVs of team leader and team

Provided separately for posting to the MSC website