

Control Union (UK) Limited

Usufuku Honten Northeast Atlantic longline bluefin tuna fishery

MSC Surveillance Announcement

Control Union (UK) Limited

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Role	Signature	Date
Originator:	H.J.	13/01/2023
Approver:	J.N.	06/02/2023

Marine Stewardship Council surveillance announcement

Table 1 – Surveillance announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Usufuku Honten Northeast Atlantic longline bluefin tuna fishery	
2	Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)	
	Species	Atlantic Bluefin tuna - <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>
	Geographical range	North Atlantic northwards of 42° N to 60°N, and west of 10° W to 45° W
	Method of capture	Pelagic Longline
	Stock	Atlantic bluefin tuna – Eastern stock (BFT-e)
	Management Systems	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), European Union, Japanese fisheries Agency (JFA)
	Client group	Usufuku Honten Co. Ltd
	Other eligible fishers	None
3	Date certified	Date of expiry
	10 th August 2020	09 th February 2026
4	Surveillance level and type	
	<p>Surveillance level 3 (on-site) with remote attendance by some assessors.</p> <p>Control Union (UK) Ltd. (CU UK) would like to inform stakeholders that CU UK has been in discussion with the client and have agreed to apply the 6-month extension available within the MSC process of the anniversary date for the above surveillance audit. 09th February is the anniversary date of the fishery, and the audit will now take place after this date as a result of the client/assessor availability, harmonisation needs and ongoing difficulties in organising the audit.</p>	
5	Surveillance number	
	2nd Surveillance	X
6	Proposed team leader	
	Name	Hugh Jones
	Areas of responsibility	Team Leader and Principle 2 Expert
	Competency criteria (Annex PC)	Dr Hugh Jones has a PhD in Ecotoxicology and strong background in marine research including publications and reports on ecotoxicology, environmental risk assessments and

		<p>fisheries research. Prior to joining CU UK, he was employed as a fisheries scientist in the development of an empirical harvest strategy for commercial abalone fisheries and fisheries assessments of estuarine bivalves. This included work on population metrics (recruitment, growth), harvest dynamics (catch rates, market selectivity), and the use of fine scale geospatial techniques as performance measures to assess stock sustainability. Hugh has published peer review works on the trophic pathways of estuarine food webs and prey abundance in relation to environmental conditions. His work includes analysis of benthic abiotic and biotic attributes which determine the functional ecology of fish species. He has secured research funding for ecological studies of fish populations in relation to climate change, which consider the coupling between demersal and pelagic pathways. He has published research reports into the spatial variability of recruitment of commercially fished benthic species and its impact on community dynamics.</p> <p>Hugh has more than 8 years experience of fishing impact on ecosystem dynamics, including ecosystem surveys and bycatch sampling in bivalves / gastropod fisheries. In addition he has more than 3 years experience as a Principle 2 assessor with MSC projects . His work includes analysis of water column abiotic and biotic attributes which determine the functional ecology of fish species. He has secured research funding for ecological studies of fish populations in relation to climate change, which consider the coupling between demersal and pelagic pathways.</p> <p>Dr Jones has completed the Fishery Team Leader MSC training modules for the Fisheries Certification Process v.2.2 and ISO 9001 lead auditor training. Therefore, Hugh meets the Table PC1 (for team leaders) and PC3 competency criteria 3 (for Principle 2).</p>
	Conflict of interest in relation to this fishery	No conflict of interest has been identified for this fishery
	On-site or off-site	Off-site
	CV	CV available on request
7	Proposed team members	
	Name	Dr Jo Gascoigne
	Areas of responsibility	Principle 1 Expert
	Competency criteria (Annex PC)	<p>Dr Jo Gascoigne is a former research lecturer in marine biology at Bangor University, Wales with over 25 years' experience working in the fisheries sector. Dr Gascoigne has a PhD from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in the USA, which was completed on the Allee effects of the queen conch, <i>Strombus gigas</i>. Jo is an expert on fisheries science and management, with nearly 15 years' experience as a consultant, working mainly on MSC pre-assessments and full assessments, as well as FIP scoping, planning and implementation. Jo has more than 5 years MSC experience with tuna fisheries which includes the SZLC, HNSFC & CFA Cook Islands EEZ south Pacific albacore longline fishery, the Walker Seafood's Australian Eastern tuna and billfish tuna fishery, and the French Polynesia albacore and yellowfin longline fishery. She was also invited to participate in the MSC Hong Kong harmonisation meeting in 2016. Jo has a current Variation Request with MSC to operate as a Principle 1 expert on tuna stocks.</p> <p>Jo has completed the Fishery Team Member MSC training modules for the Fisheries Certification Process v.2.2. Based on the above experience CU UK is confident that Dr Gascoigne meets the competency requirement for P1 - Table PC 3 competency criteria 1 and 2.</p>
	Conflict of interest in relation to this fishery	No conflict of interest has been identified for this fishery

On-site or off-site	Off-site
CV	CV available on request
Name	Dr Yasuhiro Sanada
Areas of responsibility	Principle 3 Expert
Competency criteria (Annex PC)	<p>Yasuhiro Sanada is a visiting researcher (associate professor) at the Waseda Institute for Global Governance, Organization for Regional and Inter-regional Studies, Waseda University. His research interests include global environmental and fisheries resource politics, resource management policy, and Japanese environmental politics. His publications include "A Repeated Story of the Tragedy of the Commons: A Short Survey on the Pacific Bluefin Tuna Fisheries and Farming in Japan" (Tokyo: Waseda University, 2015), and "Japan and the Governance of Global Fisheries," (co-authored with Hiroshi Ohta) in Japan's Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century: Continuity and Change (Maryland: Lexington Books, 2020). He participated in many meetings of international organization/RFMOS as an observer, such as the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the International Whaling Commission (IWC).</p> <p>Dr Sanada conducted a number of researches, including research on Japan's policy and management on pacific bluefin tuna fishery (2014-2018), research on IUU and fisheries management in Japan (2016) by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (2011-2015: international fisheries governance and Japan's fishery policy and diplomacy) (2017 - present: research on international trade regulation on endangered species through CITES and Japan) (2018 – present: research on international fisheries management and fishery management and diplomacy in Japan).</p> <p>Dr Sanada has completed the required Fishery Team Member MSC training modules for the Fisheries Certification Process v.2.2. Based on the above experience CU UK is confident that Dr Sanada meets the competency requirement for P3 - Table PC 3 competency criteria 4 and also covers criteria 5 (current knowledge of the country, language and local fishery).</p>
Conflict of interest in relation to this fishery	No conflict of interest has been identified for this fishery
On-site or off-site	On-site
CV	CV available on request
Name	Dr Sophie Des Clers
Areas of responsibility	Principle 3 Expert
Competency criteria (Annex PC)	<p>Sophie Des Clers is an independent scientific expert in fisheries management systems. She has a PhD in Biometrics from the University of Lyon in France. She is a qualified MSC auditor and a member of the MSC Peer Review College. She has over 30 years' experience in the formulation, monitoring, and evaluation of fisheries and aquaculture projects to build management capacity in the public and the private sector. Sophie is trained in databases, applied statistics, population dynamics, economics, law and public policy. Her past research and consultancy projects have taken her to fishing ports around the UK, EU, Norway, Africa, the North Sea, Mediterranean, Atlantic, Pacific, Indian oceans and the Caribbean. She has been involved in a number of previous MSC pre-assessments and full assessments including</p>

		lobster, cod, haddock, saithe, sole, herring, blue whiting, sardine, whelks (within the EU) and tuna and billfish fisheries. Sophie meets the following P3 expert competency criteria in Table PC3: Fishery management and operations. She has also completed the Fishery Team Leader MSC training modules for the Fisheries Certification Process v.2.2.
	Conflict of interest in relation to this fishery	No conflict of interest has been identified for this fishery
	On-site or off-site	Off-site
	CV	CV available on request
8	Audit/review time and location	
	<p>The site visit will commence with an opening meeting with the client group on the week commencing 13th March 2023 in Usufuku Honten HQ, Miyagi, Japan, and with the closing meeting planned for the end of that week subject to stakeholder availability. The team members are available to meet in person or remotely. Interviews are available with stakeholders following the opening meeting and the closing meeting will be confirmed once all interviews have been completed.</p> <p>Stakeholders are encouraged to provide information either through the MSC stakeholder input form or by arranging for a meeting with the assessment team in the week of the audit.</p>	
9	Assessment and review activities	
	<p>During the audit, Control Union (UK) Limited (CU UK) will communicate with the client and any relevant stakeholders and use any available up to date information to assess and review;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any changes to the fishery and its management including those to management systems, regulation and relevant personnel assessments; Any changes to the scientific base of information such as stock; Will review progress against the 7 conditions associated with this fishery; Harmonization against the other fisheries certified on the MSC program; Any developments or changes within the fishery impact may impact on traceability and the ability to segregate MSC from non-MSC products; Any other significant changes in the fishery. 	
10	Stakeholder opportunities	
	<p>CU UK would like to welcome anyone who would like to participate in the site visit. All interested stakeholders are encouraged to contact CU UK by email (stakeholderfishuk@controlunion.com), telephone or post at the below number and address: Control Union (UK) Limited, 56 High Street, Lymington, SO41 9AH, United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)1590 613007 Fax: +44 (0)1590 671573</p> <p>Comments must be made using the Template for Stakeholder Input into MSC Assessments. Should any stakeholder wish to meet the team a meeting can be arranged in person or via telephone conferencing or Skype, or written submissions made to the above-mentioned email addresses using the above template. (FCP v2.2 7.28.15.b).</p>	

Submitted by: Julia Nebolsina

Date: 06/02/2023

Deadline for stakeholder comment: 17:00 UTC 08/03/2023

CU UK would like to welcome anyone who would like to participate in the site visit. All interested stakeholders are encouraged to contact CU UK by email (stakeholderfishuk@controlunion.com), telephone or post at the below number and address:

Control Union (UK) Limited, 56 High Street, Lymington, SO41 9AH, United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)1590 613007 Fax: +44 (0)1590 671573

Comments must be made using the [Template for Stakeholder Input](#) into MSC Assessments.

Should any stakeholder wish to meet the team in person, this can be arranged. Remote meetings can also be arranged via telephone conferencing or Skype, or written submissions made to the above-mentioned email addresses.

Please note that stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or any claimed errors of fact.

Comments may remain unattributed. Furthermore, information that cannot be shared with any other stakeholder will not be referenced in the assessment and cannot be used in determining the outcome of the fishery's assessment nor used as a basis for an objection.

Stakeholders may raise issues with the team in confidence for the team to consider at the site visit, but any confidential information cannot be used in scoring unless in compliance with confidentiality requirements.

Information can be kept confidential if it is restricted to financial transactions about certification, the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being known, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the assessed fishery's country.

Appendix 1: Surveillance frequency

Table 1– Timing of surveillance audit

Year	Anniversary date of certificate	Proposed date of surveillance audit	Rationale
2	09 th February 2023	13 th March 2023	Control Union (UK) Ltd. (CU UK) would like to inform stakeholders that CU UK has been in discussion with the client and have agreed to apply the 6-month extension available within the MSC process of the anniversary date for the above surveillance audit. 09 th February is the anniversary date of the fishery, and the audit will now take place after this date as a result of the client/assessor availability, harmonisation needs and ongoing difficulties in organising the audit.