

MSC Fishery Announcement

NORWAY GREENLAND HALIBUT

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

02.12.2021

1 Introduction

This template details the information required from Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) when formally announcing the entry of a fishery into assessment or into reassessment and will be published on the MSC website. Additional information that needs to be submitted to the MSC database in line with FCP v2.2 Section 7.12 and 7.13.1:

- Announcement Comment Draft Report
- Completed client document checklist.
- Pre-assessment report (if one exists and was written by CAB doing full assessment, otherwise the CAB should inform the MSC of the report's author).
- Indicative assessment timeline.

Please complete all unshaded fields. All notes and guidance indicated in *italics*, please delete and replace with your specific information. All grey boxes containing instructions may be deleted, e.g. the 'Introduction' section.

Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

Table 1 – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name														
	Norway Greenland halibut fishery														
2	Assessment number														
	Initial assessment														
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)														
	N/A														
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope														
	<p>The fisheries meet the scope requirements of FCP v2.2 section 7.4.2 & 7.12:</p> <p>7.4.2.1: The fisheries do not target, under principle 1, amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals.</p> <p>7.4.2.2: The fisheries do not use poisons or explosives.</p> <p>7.4.2.3: The fisheries are not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement.</p> <p>7.4.2.4: The fisheries client has not been prosecuted for forced or child labour violation in the last 2 years.</p> <p>7.4.2.10: The fisheries client or client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a shark finning violation in the last 2 years.</p> <p>7.4.2.11: The fisheries have mechanisms for resolving disputes</p> <p>7.4.2.12: The fisheries are not enhanced fisheries.</p> <p>7.4.2.13: The fisheries are not an Introduced species- based fisheries.</p> <p>7.12: The fishery is within the scope of the MSC Fisheries Standard</p>														
5	Units of Assessment - UoAs														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>UoA 1</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Species</td> <td>Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stock</td> <td>Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)</td> <td>Demersal trawl</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Client group</td> <td>Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other eligible fishers</td> <td>Yes. Russian and 3rd country operators are eligible fishers.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Geographical area</td> <td> <p>FAO area: 27. ICES I and II.</p> <p>Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea</p> <p>Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission.</p> <p>Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	UoA 1	Description	Species	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)	Stock	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)	Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Demersal trawl	Client group	Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)	Other eligible fishers	Yes. Russian and 3 rd country operators are eligible fishers.	Geographical area	<p>FAO area: 27. ICES I and II.</p> <p>Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea</p> <p>Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission.</p> <p>Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).</p>
UoA 1	Description														
Species	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)														
Stock	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)														
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Demersal trawl														
Client group	Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)														
Other eligible fishers	Yes. Russian and 3 rd country operators are eligible fishers.														
Geographical area	<p>FAO area: 27. ICES I and II.</p> <p>Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea</p> <p>Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission.</p> <p>Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).</p>														

Management	Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Managed nationally by the Norwegian Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation and in accordance with the Directorate of Fisheries, with advice from IMR and ICES.
UoA 2	Description
Species	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
Stock	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Longline
Client group	Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)
Other eligible fishers	Yes. Russian and 3 rd country operators are eligible fishers.
Geographical area	FAO area: 27. ICES I and II. Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).
Management	Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Managed nationally by the Norwegian Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation and in accordance with the Directorate of Fisheries, with advice from IMR and ICES.
UoA 3	Description
Species	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
Stock	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Gillnet
Client group	Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)
Other eligible fishers	Yes. Russian and 3 rd country operators are eligible fishers.
Geographical area	FAO area: 27. ICES I and II. Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).
Management	Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Managed nationally by the Norwegian Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation and in accordance with the Directorate of Fisheries, with advice from IMR and ICES.
UoA 4	Description

	Species	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)
	Stock	Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic)
	Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Danish seine
	Client group	Norges Fiskarlag (NFA)
	Other eligible fishers	Yes. Russian and 3 rd country operators are eligible fishers.
	Geographical area	FAO area: 27. ICES I and II. Common name of the body of water: Barents Sea and Norwegian Sea Local fisheries management area: Norway Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation. Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Stock region: Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic).
	Management	Subject to the joint Norwegian/Russian Fisheries commission. Managed nationally by the Norwegian Ministry of Industries, Fisheries and Innovation and in accordance with the Directorate of Fisheries, with advice from IMR and ICES.
6	Certificate sharing statement	
	N/A	
7	Name of proposed team leader	

	<p>Lucia Revenga is a marine scientist, specialized in Fisheries Biology who holds degrees in Marine Sciences and in Environmental Sciences from Cadiz University (Spain). For 5 years she worked with TRAGSA for the Spanish General Marine Secretariat, conducting research on the biology and stock status of different species, such as bluefin tunas, skipjack tunas, albacores, mackerels, sardines, eels, prawns, Norway lobsters, halibuts. She has also taken part in oceanographic surveys focused on the search of vulnerable marine ecosystems. From 2011 to 2015 she worked for IFAPA (Institute for Research and Training in Fisheries) as a Fisheries biology teacher for fishermen. She also conducted research in fishery local activities with the aim of increasing community awareness of the conservation of coastal ecosystems and encouraging sustainable fishing practices. From 2015 to 2020 she worked full time as an independent consultant, covering the roles of P2 assessor and team leader for different CABs and assessments. In 2020 she joined DNV as part of DNV MSC Fishery Global Unit. She has participated in several assessments for fisheries in the Barents Sea. Her full CV is available upon request.</p> <p>Her qualifications meet the competence criteria defined in Annex PC for the Team-member with expertise in the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems and RBF, management systems and country knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She has an appropriate university degree • She has passed the MSC team member training • She has passed the RBF training module • She has over 3 years' experience in research in the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems • He has over 3 years' experience as a practising fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst • She has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. <p>Lucia's qualifications also meet the competence criteria defined in Annex PC for the Team-Leader and Chain of custody responsible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She has an appropriate university degree • She has passed the MSC team leader training • She has passed the MSC Traceability training module • She has passed the MSC RBF training module • She meets ISO 19011 training requirements • She has undertaken two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years, and • She has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and various stakeholder groups. • She has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. <p>Full CV is available upon request.</p> <p>Will participate in the initial audit. A VR has been sent to allow for the initial audit to be off-site, but this is still subject to approval.</p>
8	Name(s) of proposed team members
	<p>Principle 1: Giuseppe Scarcella.</p> <p>Giuseppe Scarcella is an experienced fishery scientist and population analyst and modeller, with wide knowledge and experience in the assessment of demersal stocks. He holds a first degree in Marine Biology and Oceanography (110/110) from the Università Politecnica delle Marche, and a Ph.D. in marine Ecology and Biology from the same university, based on a thesis "Age and growth of two rockfish in the Adriatic Sea". After his degree, he was offered a job as project scientist in several research programs about the structure and composition of fish assemblage in artificial reefs, off-shore platform and other artificial habitats in the Italian National Research Council – Institute of Marine Science of Ancona (CNR-ISMAR), now Institute for Biological Resources and Marine Biotechnologies (IRBIM). During the years of employment at CNR-ISMAR first and CNR-IRBIM later he has gained experience in benthic ecology, statistical analyses of fish assemblage evolution in artificial habitats, fisheries ecology and impacts of fishing activities, stock assessment, otolith analysis, population dynamic and fisheries management. Since 2018 Dr. Scarcella is in the permanent staff of CNR-IRBIM as researcher. During the same years, he attended courses of uni-multivariate statistics and stock assessment. He is also actively participating in the scientific advice process of FAO GFCM in the Mediterranean Sea as well as in the European context. He was member of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries for the European Commission (STECF) from 2012 to 2019 and is chair of the STECF-EWG Assessment of balance indicators for key fleet segments and review of national reports on Member States efforts to achieve balance between fleet capacity and fishing opportunities.</p>

He is author of more than 50 scientific paper peer reviewed journals and more than 150 national, and international technical reports, most of them focused on the evolution of fish assemblages in artificial habitats, stock assessment of demersal species and evaluation of fisheries management plans. For some years now, Dr Scarcella has been working in fisheries certification applying the Marine Stewardship Council standard for sustainable fisheries, currently concentrating on Principle 1 of the Standard. Furthermore, Dr Scarcella holds the credential as Fishery team leader (MSC v2.0). Giuseppe Scarcella has passed the most updated MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available upon request.

His qualifications meet the competence criteria defined in Annex PC for the Team-member with expertise in Fish stock assessment and biology:

- he has an appropriate university degree
- he has passed the MSC team member training
- he has passed the RBF training module
- he has over 3 years' experience in stock assessment techniques comparable with techniques used by the fishery under assessment
- he has over 3 years' experience in the biology and population dynamics of the species with similar biology.
- he has over 3 years' experience as a practising fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst

Full CV is available upon request.

Will participate in the initial audit. A VR has been sent to allow for the initial audit to be off-site, but this is still subject to approval.

Principle 2: Lucia Revenga (see above)

Principle 3: Geir Honneland

Geir Honneland holds a PhD in political science from the University of Oslo and an LL.M. in the law of the sea from the Arctic University of Norway. He has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on enforcement and compliance issues), international environmental politics and international relations in Polar regions for more than 25 years. He has been affiliated with the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo as PhD student and research fellow (1996-2006), research director (2006-2014), director (2015-2019) and now adjunct professor. 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, the 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, as well as the EU level.

His qualifications meet the competence criteria defined in Annex PC for the Team-member with expertise in management of the fishery:

- Has a degree in a relevant subject.
- Passed MSC's online training for fisheries team member within the last 5 years.
- Passed new versions of the compulsory online training modules.
- 3 years' or more experience a practising fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst/consultant.
- No conflict of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment.

Full CV is available upon request.

Will participate in the initial audit. A VR has been sent to allow for the initial audit to be off-site, but this is still subject to approval.

At least one team member must fulfil the following:

- local knowledge of the country, language and local fishery context: **Geir Honneland**
 - i. 2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. 2 assignments in the country or region in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years. iii. Primary authorship of at least 1 published paper in a journal or grey literature in the last 5 years on a fishery issue in the country or region in which the fishery under assessment is based. • Understand the CoC standard and CoC certification requirements- pass MC's Traceability training module every 5 years.: Lucia Revenga • RBF (when applicable)- Pass MSC's RBF training course every 5 years and updated with new requirements. Lucia Revenga. 												
9	Stakeholder opportunities												
	<p>The ACDR, published on the MSC website with this announcement, is subject to stakeholder comments for a period of 60 days. Notification of this will be sent by email to all stakeholders identified with the client. Written submissions must be made via the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fisheries Assessments v4.0' which can be found on the MSC website: https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input</p> <p>The assessment team is available to meet remotely during the initial remote audit which is scheduled for the week commencing 7th February 2022.</p> <p>DNV will only accept stakeholder input as public record if submitted using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fisheries Assessments', or if raised at the site visit in person or remotely.</p>												
10	Assessment tree to be used												
	Default tree as per MSC FS v2.01. Annex SA.												
11	Estimated timeline												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A predicted date by which the assessment is expected to be completed and certification awarded if the assessment result is positive. Include projected dates for key reports. Please note a separate assessment timeline is still required (FCP v2.2 7.13.1). 												
	<p>The following is an estimated timeline for the assessment</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACTIVITY</th> <th>DEADLINE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACDR & Announcement</td> <td>26.11.2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Site visit</td> <td>7-11 February 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCDR</td> <td>1 July 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Report</td> <td>1 September 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PCR</td> <td>1 October 2022</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Please note that a separate assessment timeline is available on the MSC website which is subject to updates as required by FCP v 2.2§ 7.13.1.</p>	ACTIVITY	DEADLINE	ACDR & Announcement	26.11.2021	Site visit	7-11 February 2022	PCDR	1 July 2022	Final Report	1 September 2022	PCR	1 October 2022
ACTIVITY	DEADLINE												
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PCR	1 October 2022												
12	Site visit												
	<p>The assessment team will be available to meet remotely during the scheduled initial audit in week commencing 7th February 2022. Site visit will be conducted remotely as an off-site audit. A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fisheries. DNV assessment team encourages any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fisheries to participate in these meetings.</p>												
13	Assessment tree modifications												
	N/A												
14	Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline												

The ACDR, published on the MSC website with this announcement, is subject to stakeholder comments for a period of 60 days. Notification of this will be sent by email to all stakeholders identified with the client. The ACDR gives a draft scoring range for each of the performance indicators and with draft rationale. Written submissions must be made via the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fisheries Assessments v4.0' which can be found on the MSC website: <https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input>
Comments on the ACDR shall be submitted by 5 PM UTC on 31st January 2022.

Site visit is a key step to evaluate the Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts in the MSC Methodology and to collect information regarding the fisheries, and in particular to speak to representatives of the fisheries, fisheries management and environmental management bodies.

DNV invites organisations or individuals with an interest in these fisheries to meet with the assessment Team and provide information relevant to the re-assessment process.

DNV would like to inform that the assessment team is unable to reference or use information that cannot be shared with all stakeholders.

Confidential information should only relate to either

- financial transactions about certification
- financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being made public,
- information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the Client's country.

The assessment team will meet during week commencing 7th February 2022 remotely using Microsoft Teams or other similar means.

FCP v2.2 Section 7.16.1 state: "The team shall carry out the site visit as planned". However, the following justifications are in place for conducting a remote site visit as part of the initial assessment:

- Travel restrictions: The fishery is carried out by Norwegian vessels in the Norwegian and Barents Sea. A site visit would require a trip to Norway (Oslo and Bergen). Travel restrictions to Norway depend on the country from which assessors travel and on that country's situation over time in relation to the pandemic. Several European countries are at present entering lockdown and it is uncertain what the situation will be at the planned visit date (February 2022).
- The assessment team has previous experience with the fisheries client, including experience with remote fishery assessments within the derogation period during which the active participation of the stakeholders was provided.

If you would like to talk to the assessors, please advise us of your interest by **5 PM UTC on 31st January 2022**, giving the following details:

1. Name and company, together with contact information
2. Your association with the fisheries
3. The issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation)
4. Suitable venue/method and time for a meeting

Please submit this information to Lucia Revenga (lucia.revenga@dnv.com) and you will be contacted as soon as possible.

Further information regarding the Marine Stewardship Council Methodology is available at the MSC website <http://www.msc.org>.

DNV seeks to open a dialogue with all organizations or individuals with a direct interest in these fisheries. Anyone wishing to provide comments or information to the reassessment process (in terms of the status of the stocks, ecosystem interactions or fisheries management practices, other) is invited to contact DNV. You may contact us for a meeting during the site visit, remote interviews or written submissions. Please use the "MSC template for stakeholder input v 4.0 for submission of your comments. The template can be downloaded from the MSC website: <https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder>

Information on this fishery can be found at: <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/@@search?q=certified&search=>
Should you have any information on this fishery that you feel should be considered in the assessment, please advise us. Recommendations of new stakeholders are also welcome.

Submitted by:

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Date: 02.12.2021

2 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.1'.

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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 (msc.org).

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