



UCSL United Certification Systems Limited

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UCSL United Certification Systems Limited

Sea of Okhotsk crab trap

MSC Fishery Announcement

31 March 2021

1 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

Table X – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Sea of Okhotsk crab trap	
2	Assessment number	
	Initial assessment	
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)	
	N/A	
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope	
	<p>UCSL United Certification Systems Limited as the Conformity Assessment Body confirms that the Sea of Okhotsk crab trap fishery is in scope for MSC assessment through meeting the following scope requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fishery does not target amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals (7.4.2.1, MSC 2020a). • The fishery does not use poisons or explosives (7.4.2.2, MSC 2020a). • The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement (7.4.2.3, MSC 2020a). • The client or client group does not include an entity that has been successfully prosecuted for a forced or child labour violation in the last 2 years (7.4.2.4, MSC 2020a). • The client or client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a violation in law with respect to shark finning (7.4.2.10, MSC 2020a). • There is a mechanism for resolving disputes, and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery (7.4.2.11, MSC 2020a). 	
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s)	
	UoA 1	Description
	Species	Red king crab (<i>Paralithodes camtschaticus</i>)
	Stock	Sea of Okhotsk Russian Stock
	Geographical area	FAO zone 61.05 – the Sea of Okhotsk, subzones 61.05.2 (Western Kamchatka) and 61.05.4 (Kamchatka-Kuril)
	Fishing gear	Traps
	Client group	Ostrovnoy-Crab LLC
	Other eligible fishers	No other companies are proposed to share the certificate. Other companies that fish for Red king crab in this area include Akva-Invest LLC, Antey LLC, Atlantik Crab LLC, Voskhod LLC, Kamchatka Crab LLC, Mag-Si Interneshnl LLC, Pacifik Crab LLC, Sever LLC, TRK LLC (FFA, 2019)
	UoA 2	Description
	Species	Blue king crab (<i>Paralithodes platypus</i>)
	Stock	Sea of Okhotsk Russian Stock.
	Geographical area	FAO zone 61.05 – the Sea of Okhotsk, subzone 61.05.2 (Western Kamchatka)

	Fishing gear	Traps
	Client group	Ostrovnoy-Crab LLC
	Other eligible fishers	No other companies are proposed to share the certificate. Other companies that fish for Red king crab in this area include Akva-Invest LLC, Antey LLC, Atlantik Crab LLC, Voskhod LLC, Kamchatka Crab LLC, Mag-Si Interneshnl LLC, Pacifik Crab LLC, Sever LLC, TRK LLC, Dal'nevostochnoe poberezh'e LLC (FFA, 2019)
	UoA 3	Description
	Species	Golden king crab (<i>Lithodes aequispinus</i>)
	Stock	Sea of Okhotsk Russian Stock
	Geographical area	FAO zone 61.05 – the Sea of Okhotsk, subzone 61.05.1 (Northern SOO)
	Fishing gear	Traps
	Client group	Ostrovnoy-Crab LLC
	Other eligible fishers	No other companies are proposed to share the certificate. Other companies that fish for Red king crab in this area include Akva-Invest LLC, Antey LLC, Atlantik Crab LLC, Voskhod LLC, Kamchatka Crab LLC, Mag-Si Interneshnl LLC, Pacifik Crab LLC, Sever LLC, TRK LLC (FFA, 2019)
6	Certificate sharing statement	
	Ostrovnoy-Crab LLC allows certificate sharing for the companies participating in the certification process and new companies willing to join the certificate under the conditions specified in the certificate sharing agreement (attached).	
7	Name of proposed team leader	
	<p>Dr. Geir Hønneland, Team Leader, P3 expert</p> <p>He 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. He is qualified as an MSC Team Leader (Fisheries Standard v2.0, Fisheries Certification Process v2.2) and Chain of Custody Auditor (v2.0) and has also passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing.</p>	
8	Name(s) of proposed team members	
	<p>Dr. Jo Gascoigne, P2 expert</p> <p>She is a former research lecturer in marine biology at Bangor University, Wales and a shellfisheries expert, with over 20 years' experience working in the fisheries sector.</p>	

	<p>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>. She is a fully qualified MSC Team Member and has been involved as expert and lead auditor in over 15 MSC pre- and full assessments. She was involved in a number of ongoing full assessments including the FROM Nord North Sea and Eastern Channel pelagic trawl herring fishery and the Granville Bay Basse Normandie whelk fishery. She therefore has an in-depth understanding of the MSC fisheries standard and MSC fisheries certification requirements. During her experience as an MSC auditor, Jo has gained a great deal of experience in interviewing and facilitation techniques.</p> <p>Dr. Petr Vasilets, P1 expert</p> <p>He worked for more than 25 years as a fishery scientist in the Kamchatka branch of VNIRO (Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography). He received PhD in biology in 2000 with a thesis on the "The smelts in the coastal waters of Kamchatka". He has over 50 scientific publications on various aspects of fisheries. In 2020-2021, he successfully completed MSC online training, including MSC Risk Based Framework (RBF), for role "Fishery Team Leader". Petr has participated in six assessments conducted by CAB Marine Certification LLC (now — UC SL), as a trainee for team member and team leader and as a team member (expert on Principle 1 and Principle 2). He has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules. Petr has also taken CQI and IRCA Certified EMS Lead Auditor Training course.</p> <p>UCSL United Certification Systems Limited confirms that Dr. Petr Vasilets meets the Team Leader and Team Member competency requirements (Table PC1 and PC2, MSC 2020a), and contributes towards the Audit Team meeting the Fishery Team competency requirements (Table PC3, MSC 2020a). It is also confirmed that Dr. Petr Vasilets has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. A full C.V. of Dr. Petr Vasilets is available on request.</p>
9	Stakeholder opportunities
	<p>The ACDR published on the MSC website for this assessment is subject to stakeholder comments for a period of 60 days. UC SL invites stakeholders to provide any input or comments on the ACDR till 6th June 2021 17.00 GMT. Notification of this will be additionally 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 by clicking here.</p> <p>UCSL asks stakeholders to contact us at t.pitjeva@ucsl.eu if you are on the stakeholder list for this fishery and would like to ensure you are notified of the consultation opportunities and to arrange participation during the site visit.</p> <p>The assessment team is available to meet remotely during the site visit to be held from 7th to 11th June 2021.</p>
10	Assessment tree to be used
	The default assessment tree (MSC Fisheries Standard v.2.01) will be used in this assessment.
11	Estimated timeline
	<p>The preliminary timeline for this assessment is as follows:</p> <p>ACDR consultations – 6th April 2021 – 6th June 2021 Site visit – 7th – 11th June 2021 CPRDR – July 2021 PCDR – August 2021 Final report – September 2021 PCR and certification decision – October 2021</p>

12	Site visit
	<p>In line with the MSC March 2021 Covid-19 derogation, a variation request and risk assessment will be submitted to MSC, requesting approval to hold the site visit remotely given ongoing health and safety concerns regarding Covid-19. Team leader and P3 expert, and P2 expert are not able to travel to Russia due to the travel restrictions, while P1 expert will participate onsite. To mitigate the risk of the remote activities UCSL will include a description of measures.</p> <p>The site visit is scheduled for 7th – 11th June 2021.</p> <p>A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the MSC’s Risk- Based Framework (RBF, see msc.org), we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative and semi-quantitative 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 either onsite or remotely.</p>
13	Assessment tree modifications
	N/A
14	Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline
	6th June 2021 17:00 GMT

UCSL would like to invite all interested stakeholders to provide information relevant to this fishery.

If you would like to meet with the team in person please contact UCSL certification manager Tatiana Pitieva via email (t.pitieva@ucsl.eu) or telephone (+7 981 195 1778).

Remote meetings will be arranged via Skype conferences with the team. You are also encouraged to provide written submissions to the above specified email address. The latter shall be made by using the Template for Stakeholders Input into MSC assessments available for downloading [here](#).

UCSL encourages stakeholders not to withhold any information, including concerns and knowledge about the specified fishery. All comments shall be supported by objective evidence. If there is any information which cannot be shared with any other stakeholders, it will not be referenced in the surveillance report and cannot be used in determining conformity of the fishery with the MSC Standard. Information will 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 made public, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the client’s country.

Submitted by: Tatiana Pitieva

Date: 31th March 2021

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

Dr. Geir Hønneland, Team Leader, P3 expert:

Geir Hønneland 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. He is qualified as an MSC Team Leader (Fisheries Standard v2.0, Fisheries Certification Process v2.2) and Chain of Custody Auditor (v2.0) and has also passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor – Management Systems Auditing.

Geir has passed the MSC traceability training. Geir has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available on request.

Dr. Jo Gascoigne, P2 expert:

Jo Gascoigne is a former research lecturer in marine biology at Bangor University, Wales and a shellfisheries expert, with over 20 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, *Strombus gigas*. She is a fully qualified MSC Team Member and has been involved as expert and lead auditor in over 15 MSC pre- and full assessments. She was involved in a number of ongoing full assessments including the FROM Nord North Sea and Eastern Channel pelagic trawl herring fishery and the Granville Bay Basse Normandie whelk fishery. She therefore has an in-depth understanding of the MSC fisheries standard and MSC fisheries certification requirements. During her experience as an MSC auditor, Jo has gained a great deal of experience in interviewing and facilitation techniques.

Jo has passed all relevant MSC and ISO training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available on request.

Dr. Petr Vasilets, P1 expert:

Dr. Petr Vasilets worked for more than 25 years as a fishery scientist in the Kamchatka branch of VNIRO (Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography). He received PhD in biology in 2000 with a thesis on the "The smelts in the coastal waters of Kamchatka". He has over 50 scientific publications on various aspects of fisheries. In 2020-2021, he successfully completed MSC online training, including MSC Risk Based Framework (RBF), for role "Fishery Team Leader". Petr has participated in six assessments conducted by CAB Marine Certification LLC (now — UCSL), as a trainee for team member and team leader and as a team member (expert on Principle 1 and Principle 2). He has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules. Petr has also taken CQI and IRCA Certified EMS Lead Auditor Training course.

Petr has completed all relevant MSC trainings and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV is available upon request.

Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement



ООО «ОСТРОВНОЙ-КРАБ»
694520, Сахалинская область, Южно-Курильский район,
с.Малокурильское, ул.Советская, д.8, каб.3
ОГРН 1196501003665 ИНН 6518009557
КПП 651801001

CERTIFICATE SHARING STATEMENT

Adopted by ООО "**Ostrovnoy-Crab**" (OC) for all its vessels and covers their fishing and processing operations and other businesses related to harvesting of living marine resources, processing of catches, transportation and trading of fishery products.

The MSC certificates of OC can be shared with a third-party company under the following legally binding conditions:

1. The Company shall implement and strictly comply with OC's Code of Conduct and Policy of Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility (the Code of Conduct).
2. The Company shall implement all registration protocols for bycatch of ETP and non-target species as set forth in the Code of Conduct.
3. The Company shall make reasonable financial contributions to the assessment activities and other activities related to the compliance with the MSC certification requirements including but not limited to providing on-board scientific observations, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems etc.
4. The Company shall comply all of the terms and conditions stated in the MSC Certification Report, including but not limited to traceability and supply chain accountability and audits.
5. The Company shall provide all information related to its fishing activities (total catch including bycatch, areas of operation, number of fishery inspections in all areas of operation including supporting documents) and corporate social responsibilities (labor and employment conditions, ethical issues etc.) as well as evidence of implementation of the Code of Conduct as requested by OC within reasonable time.
6. The Company shall organize annual OC audits on its vessel(s) to verify the compliance with the conditions of the OC's Certificate Sharing Statement.
7. In case the Company does not comply with any of the above conditions, OC can require that the Company shall implement additional measures and/or the Company's vessel(s) can be removed from OC's list of vessels approved to deliver MSC fish and fishery products.
8. The OC will accept new participants on the MSC client group based on an equitable sharing of costs incurred to obtain, maintain and administer the certificate including but not limited to surveillance audits and eventual recertification costs. All of the companies wishing to share in the MSC certificate must sign a cost-sharing agreement with OC compliant with current MSC guidelines.