

## Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Certification

### Canada 3LN Redfish Fishery

*Client Group:*

**Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Council (GEAC)**

#### Notification of Draft Assessment Tree and Scoring Guideposts

#### Intent to use the Default Assessment Tree with Modifications for Principle 1

Having analysed the characteristics of the fishery, SAI Global Assurance Services is proposing to use the MSC Default Assessment Tree with modifications for Principle 1, including changes or additions to interpretation and guidance to Certification Requirements to account for the fishery being based on a stock complex of two redfish species. MSC Certification Requirements V1.3 will be used in the assessment of the Canada 3LN redfish fishery.

SAI Global will be taking comments on the proposed Assessment Tree, it is requested that anyone wishing to contribute should contact SAI Global no later than **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June**. Proposed changes and additions are presented in the table below for performance indicators (PI) tables, interpretation (text following tables) and guidance to Certification Requirements. All comments should be sent to Jean Ragg at SAI Global using the contact details shown below. Comments should be made as specific as possible to individual Performance Indicators, and their suitability or not within this fishery. More information regarding the default assessment tree can be found at <http://www.msc.org>.

Comments should be sent to:

Jean Ragg

**Programme Administrator**

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The assessment team is proposing that the following be inserted in the corresponding sections of the PI tables, interpretation of the PI table (CBxxx) and guidance to Certification Requirements (GCxxxx).

Applicable to Principle 1 overall. Change from “No requirements” to:

**CB2.1 (p.144) General Requirements for Principle 1**

Addition: Where species are fished as a stock complex, every Scoring Issue (SI) and Scoring Guidepost (SG) needs a description about how it is being assessed and in case that catch policies are defined on the whole complex, how evidence is supporting the overall goal that “none of the component stocks are reduced below their limit reference point”.

Performance Indicator	Interpretation of PI requirements	Guidance to Certification Requirements
1.1.1 Stock Status (p. C145)  Change: The stock complex and its components are at level which maintains high productivity and has low probability of recruitment overfishing.	-	-
1.1.2 Reference Points (p. C147)  Change: Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock complex.	Change CB2.3.8. (p. C149): Where species are fished as stock complexes, application of generic reference points need to be justified or specific reference points are to be set. A clear and detailed description is needed if one or more references points are used to evaluate the whole stock complex and/or in cases where the components cannot be separated in the	Addition GCB2.3.8.1 (p. GC61): Where species are fished as stock complexes, generic reference points may be set to work relevant to a collective set of components within a larger stock complex. For example, a target reference point can be set to keep fishing mortality around $2/3F_{MSY}$ for the whole stock complex; the rationale needs to explain how it

	<p>catch/landings; rationale shall be given demonstrating how inferences are made such that applying this TRP to the whole complex will achieve to keep each species component above biologically based limits.</p>	<p>is expected that applying this TRP to the whole stock complex will achieve to keep each species component above biologically based limits.</p>
<p><b>1.1.3 Stock Rebuilding (p. C154)</b></p> <p>Change: Where the stock complex or any of the components of the stock complex is depleted, there is evidence of rebuilding of the stock complex or any components of the stock complex within specific timeframe.</p>		
<p><b>1.2.1 Harvest Strategy (p. C156)</b></p> <p>Change: There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place that is applied to individual components of the stock or the entire stock complex.</p>	<p>Addition CB2.5.8 (p. C159): Where species are fished as a stock complex, the team shall provide evidence that the harvest strategy is consistent with the objectives stated for the stock complex and its components.</p>	
<p><b>1.2.2 Harvest Control Rules and Tools (p. C160)</b></p> <p>Change: There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place that are designed and applied to individual components of the stock or the entire stock complex.</p>	<p>Addition CB2.6.2 (p. C160): Where species are fished as a stock complex, HCRs are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and keep the stock complex above limit reference points and maintain a high productivity of each component of the stock complex.</p>	

28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

<b>1.2.3 Information and Monitoring (p. C161)</b>  Change: Relevant information on the stock complex and its component is collected to support the harvest strategy.	Addition CB2.7.1.2 (p. C162): Where species are fished as a stock complex, the team shall provide available information on each component of the stock complex. Information must come from sampling program.	
<b>1.2.4 Assessment of the Stock Status (p. C163)</b>  Change: There is an adequate assessment of the stock complex status, and status of components is considered.		