

Control Union (UK) Limited

**Germany Lower Saxony Mussel Dredge and Mussel Culture
Fishery**

MSC Surveillance Announcement

Control Union (UK) Limited

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Role	Signature	Date
Originator:	Emily Vella	8 th February 2021
Approver:	C Todd	24 th February 2021

Marine Stewardship Council surveillance announcement

Table 1– Surveillance announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Germany Lower Saxony Mussel Dredge and Mussel Culture Fishery	
2	Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)	
	UoA 1:	
	Species	<i>Blue shell mussel (Mytilus edulis)</i>
	Geographical range	FAO area 27, ICES Area IVb – in the German part of the Wadden Sea around Niedersachsen / Lower Saxony
	Fishing gear	Dredging and trawl nets for wild seed, which is then relayed on culture plots and harvested by dredge when grown (bottom culture)
	Stock	Wadden Sea blue mussel stock
	Management System/s	Blue Mussel Fishery Management Plan for the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony
	Client group	Niedersächsische Muschelfischer GbR
	Other Eligible Fishers	None
	UoA 2:	
	Species	<i>Blue shell mussel (Mytilus edulis)</i>
	Geographical range	FAO area 27, ICES Area IVb – in the German part of the Wadden Sea around Niedersachsen / Lower Saxony
	Fishing gear	Spat / seed collectors are deployed as settlement substrata for larval mussels, which are then transferred to culture plots and harvested by dredge when grown (bottom culture).
	Stock	Wadden Sea blue mussel stock
	Management System/s	Blue Mussel Fishery Management Plan for the Wadden Sea National Park of Lower Saxony
	Client group	Niedersächsische Muschelfischer GbR
	Other Eligible Fishers	None
3	Date certified	Date of expiry
	29 October 2013	02 June 2024
4	Surveillance level and type	

	- Surveillance level 1, off-site surveillance audit	
5	Surveillance number	
	1st Surveillance	
	2nd Surveillance	X
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	
	Other (expedited etc)	
6	Proposed team leader	
	Name	Cora Seip-Markensteijn
	Areas of responsibility	Team Leader and principle expert
	Competency criteria (Annex PC)	<p>Cora meets the Fishery Team Leader criteria in Table PC1. She has a Master's degree in Biology from Leiden University. Previously, she worked for the Dutch Fish Product Board from 2007-2013 as Policy Officer, 'Nature and Spatial Planning'. Her work focused mainly on Natura 2000 procedures and shrimp and flatfish fisheries and included the Marine Framework Directive. She was also shellfish Policy Officer and worked closely with the Dutch shellfish industry (mainly mussels, but also oysters, Ensis, and cockles). From 2013-2017 Cora has worked as an expert independent consultant to a broad cross-section of fishing organisations. Notable achievements include working on assessment of Dutch fisheries (both generic and specific) and their impacts, as well as working as an advisor with regards to spatial planning, and nature conservation laws.</p> <p>From 2017-2019 she worked for CU UK (ME Certification/CU Pesca at the time) and from 2020, she became an Associate of CU UK, which allows her to combine her MSC work with a wider range of consultancy projects.</p> <p>Cora meets point 5 of table PC3. Further, Cora's past work as an independent consultant means that she has the experience required to meet points 3 and 4 of table PC3. She has completed the required Fishery Team Leader MSC training modules for the new V2.01 Fisheries Certification Requirements (Table PC1), along with the RBF (Table PC3.7) and Traceability training (Table PC3.6) and is ISO 9001 qualified.</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
8	Audit/review time and location	
	The off-site surveillance audit is scheduled for Monday the 12 th April 2021. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide information either through the MSC stakeholder input form or by arranging for a remote meeting with the assessment team in the week of the audits.	

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;Harmonization against the other fisheries certified on the MSC programAny 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. <p>The fishery has no conditions and one non-binding recommendation in place, made at the re-assessment in 2018:</p> <table><tr><th>Number</th><th>UoA</th><th>PI and SI</th><th>Recommendation</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Both</td><td>2.2.3d</td><td>Although there is bycatch monitoring in place, it is not presently conducted in sufficient detail to assess on-going mortalities for all bycatch species. It is recommended that quantitative information is collected on bycatch species including those not categorised in this assessment as ‘main’. In addition, such information is available for other MSC-certified CAG mussel fisheries, so it would help to align this fishery with others in the programme.</td></tr></table>	Number	UoA	PI and SI	Recommendation	1	Both	2.2.3d	Although there is bycatch monitoring in place, it is not presently conducted in sufficient detail to assess on-going mortalities for all bycatch species. It is recommended that quantitative information is collected on bycatch species including those not categorised in this assessment as ‘main’. In addition, such information is available for other MSC-certified CAG mussel fisheries, so it would help to align this fishery with others in the programme.
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10	Stakeholder opportunities								
	<p>Comments must be made using the “MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Surveillance Audits V1.0” available for download here: https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents. Remote meetings can be arranged via telephone conferencing or Skype, or written submissions made to the above-mentioned email addresses.</p> <p>Please note that comments should be factual and should be supported by data or other evidence. Comments may remain unattributed. Furthermore, information that cannot be shared with any other stakeholder will not be referenced in the surveillance report and cannot be used in determining conformity of the fishery with the MSC Standard. 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.</p>								

Submitted by: Emily Vella

Date: 25th February 2021

Deadline for stakeholder comment: at 27/03/2021 17:00 UTC

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.