



UCSL United Certification Systems Limited
Anastasi Shoukri Street, Pamelva Court, Office
003, 3035 Limassol, Cyprus
Mobile phone: +35797649035
Email: cert@ucsl.eu
Website: <https://ucsl.eu/>

UCSL United Certification Systems Limited

Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA)

EastKamchatka and North Kuril Islands

Walleye pollock

August 2021

1 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

Table X – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) East Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye pollock	
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 FSA East Sakhalin Walleye pollock mid-water trawl fishery is in scope for MSC assessment through meeting the following scope requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The fishery does not target amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals (7.4.2.1, MSC 2020a). <input type="checkbox"/> The fishery does not use poisons or explosives (7.4.2.2, MSC 2020a). <p>The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement (7.4.2.3, MSC 2020a).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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).</p> <p>There is a mechanism for resolving disputes, and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery (7.4.2.11, MSC 2020a).</p>	
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s)	
	UoA 1	Description
	Species	Walleye pollock (<i>Gadus chalcogrammus</i> (formerly Latin name – <i>Theragra chalcogramma</i>))
	Stock	In FAO Code Subzones: Far Eastern fisheries basin (Petropavlovsko-Komandorskaya subzone (61.02.2) of the Eastern Kamchatka zone (61.02) and North Kuril zone (61.03) including Pacific side subzone (61.03.1) and Okhotsk side subzone (61.03.2)).
	Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	Mid-water (pelagic) trawl. Vessel type – large tonnage vessels equipped with special trawl system aboard.
	Client group	The client group is represented by Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) from Russian Federation which includes the following companies: "Russian Fishery Company" LLC, "INTRAROS" JSC, "Vostokrybprom" LLC, "Sovgavanryba" LLC, "DMP-RM" JSC, "RMD-YuVA 1" JSC, "TURNIF" JSC, "Russian Pollock" LCC. Companies and their vessels that are operated by Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) East Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye pollock fishery client group (correct at the time of drafting the ACDR) are detailed in Section 8.11 of this report. A list of companies and their vessels will be kept up-to-date regularly and available on the MSC website.
	Other eligible fishers	None
	Geographical area	Russia, Exclusive Economic Zone of Russian Federation, Far Eastern Federal District, Kamchatka and Sakhalin Regions, Far Eastern fisheries basin [in Russian – Дальневосточный рыбохозяйственный бассейн] (Petropavlovsko-Komandorskaya subzone (61.02.2) [in Russian – Петропавловско-Командорская подзона] of the Eastern Kamchatka zone (61.02) [in Russian –

		Восточно-Камчатская зона] and North Kuril zone (61.03) [in Russian – Северо-Курильская зона] including Pacific side subzone (61.03.1) [in Russian – подзона Тихоокеанской стороны Северо-Курильской зоны] and Okhotsk side subzone (61.03.2) [in Russian – подзона Охотоморской стороны Северо-Курильской зоны]].	
6	Certificate sharing statement		
	Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA) 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 and Principle 3 expert</p> <p>Dr. 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 University of Tromsø, and has studied international fisheries management (with main emphasis on enforcement and compliance issues), international environmental politics and international politics in Polar regions. He was affiliated with the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Oslo for more than 20 years, as PhD student and research fellow (1996-2006), research director (2006-2014) and director (2015-2019). 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, 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. Geir 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> <p>UCSL confirms that Dr. Geir Hønneland meets the competency criteria for team leader as specified in FCP v.2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - He holds a PhD in political science; - He has more than 25 years' experience in international fisheries management; - He has passed MSC Team Leader training, including relevant updates (last update on September 24, 2021); - He has passed the Traceability module (last update on February 23, 2022); - He has passed the ISO 19011-2018 course as Lead Auditor - Management Systems Auditing (February 5, 2019). - He has undertaken more than 20 of MSC fishery assessment or surveillance site visits as a P3 team member and/or TL in the last 5 years. <p>Therefore, UCSL United Certification Systems Limited confirms that Dr. Geir Hønneland meets the competency criteria for team leader as specified in FGCR v.2.4.1 (Table 1) and FCP v.2.2 (Table PC1, MSC 2020a), and contributes towards the Audit Team meeting the Fishery Team competency requirements (Table PC3, MSC 2020a).</p> <p>Dr. Hønneland has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment Dr. Hønneland will participate in the assessment off-site.</p> <p>Full CV available on request</p>		
8	Name(s) of proposed team members		
	<p>Dr. Petr Vasilets, Principle 1 expert</p> <p>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 2021, he successfully completed MSC online training, including MSC Risk Based Framework (RBF), for role "Fishery Team Leader". Petr has participated in 11 assessments conducted</p>		

by CAB Marine Certification LLC (now – UCSL), as a team member (expert on Principle 1 and Principle 2). In 7 of them as a team leader. He has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules. Petr has also taken CQI and IRCA Certified EMS Lead Auditor Training course.

UCSL confirms that Dr. Petr Vasilets meets the competency criteria for team member as specified in FCP v.2.2:

- He holds a PhD in Marine Biology;
- He has more than 25 years' experience in fisheries;
- He has more than 10 years' experience of fishery stock assessment techniques and methods
- He has passed MSC Team Leader training, including relevant updates;
- He has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules;
- He has passed CQI and IRCA approved EMS Lead Auditor Training course.
- He has undertaken 11 MSC fishery assessment or surveillance site visits as a team member in the last 5 years.

UCSL United Certification Systems Limited confirms that Dr. Petr Vasilets meets the competency criteria for Team Member competency requirements (Table PC2, MSC 2020a), and contributes towards the Audit Team meeting the Fishery Team competency requirements (Table PC3, MSC 2020a).

Dr. Petr Vasilets has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment
Dr. Petr Vasilets will participate in the assessment off-site.

Full CV available on request

Dr. Jo Gascoigne, Principle 2 expert

Dr. 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. She has also passed the MSC RBF training module.

UCSL confirms that Dr. Jo Gascoigne meets the competency criteria for team members as specified in FCP v.2.2:

- She holds a PhD in Marine Conservation Biology;
- She has more than 15 years' experience in fisheries;
- She has more than 15 years' experience in research into, policy analysis for, or management of, the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems including bycatch and ETP species, habitats and various ecosystem interactions.
- She has more than 2 years' fishery work experience in the country or in a relevant fishery in the last 15 years.
- She has passed MSC Team member training, including relevant updates (June 25, 2020);
- She has passed the RBF training modules with the last updates (February 13, 2022);
- She has undertaken more than 10 MSC fishery assessment or surveillance site visits as a team member in the last 5 years.

Thus, UCSL United Certification Systems Limited confirms that Dr. Jo Gascoigne meets the Team Member competency requirements (Table PC2, MSC 2020a), and contributes towards the Audit Team meeting the Fishery Team competency requirements (Table PC3, MSC 2020a).

Dr. Jo Gascoigne has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment
Dr. Jo Gascoigne will participate in the assessment off-site.

Full CV available on request

	<p>The ACDR published on the MSC website for this assessment is subject to stakeholder comments for a period of 60 days. UCSL invites stakeholders to provide any input or comments on the ACDR till 4th October 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.pitieva@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 5th October to 9th October 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 - 4th August 2021 - 4th October 2021</p> <p>Site visit - 5th October 2021 - 9th October 2021</p> <p>CPRDR - October 2021</p> <p>PCDR - November 2021</p> <p>Final report - December 2021</p> <p>PCR and certification decision - January 2022</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. All experts are not able to travel to Russia due to the travel restrictions. To mitigate the risk of the remote activities UCSL will include a description of measures.</p> <p>The site visit is scheduled for 5th October to 9th October 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
	4th October 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](https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input) (<https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents/Index?search=stakeholder+input>)

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: 3rd August 2021

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

Principle 1 Lead: Dr. Petr Vasilets

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 — UCSSL), as a trainee for team member and team leader and as a team member (expert on Principle 1 and Principle 2).

Petr has passed the Traceability and RBF training modules. Petr has also taken CQI and IRCA Certified EMS Lead Auditor Training course.

Principle 2 Lead: Dr. Jo Gascoigne

Dr. 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 is available on request.

Team Leader and Principle 3 Lead: Dr. Geir Hønneland

Dr 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. Full CV is available on request.

Appendix 2: Client certificate sharing statement



**Ассоциация
судовладельцев
рыбопромыслового
флота
Fishery Shipowners
Association**

ул. Трубная 12
г. Москва, Россия, 107045
Тел. 495 787 16 27
Эл. адрес: info@fsarf.ru

30.07.2021

№ 02/2021-07

ПОДТВЕРЖДЕНИЕ СОВМЕСТНОГО ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЯ СЕРТИФИКАТА РАЗНОГЛУБИННОГО ТРАЛОВОГО ПРОМЫСЛА МИНТАЯ ВОСТОЧНОКАМЧАТСКОГО И СЕВЕРНЫХ КУРИЛЬСКИХ ОСТРОВОВ

1. Разноглубинный траловый промысел минтая восточнокамчатского и северных Курильских островов проходит оценку в соответствии со Стандартом оценки промыслов (MSC FS) Морского попечительского совета (MSC).
2. Держателем MSC сертификата является Ассоциация Судовладельцев рыбопромыслового флота (АСРФ)
3. В соответствии с требованиями настоящего Стандарта оценки промыслов АСРФ соглашается рассматривать возможность присоединения к действию сертификата все рыбопромышленные компании с морскими судами, имеющие в соответствии с законодательством РФ право добычи (вылова) водных биологических ресурсов в сертифицированных районах промысла.
4. Для вступления под действие сертификата промысла новые участники должны возместить держателю сертификата часть суммы, затраченной на получение MSC сертификата.
5. Все участники действия MSC сертификата несут равное распределение затрат, связанные с поддержанием сертификата и возможной ресертификацией этого промысла.
6. Новые компании обязаны соблюдать условия Стандарта оценки промыслов (MSC FS), а также условия пользования сертификатом, оговорённые с держателем сертификата.

Президент Ассоциации

А.И. Осинцев

(Translated in English)

CONFIRMATION OF JOINT USE OF THE MSC CERTIFICATE ON THE EAST KAMCHATKA AND NORTH KURIL ISLANDS WALLEYE POLLOCK MIDWATER TRAWL FISHERY

1. The East Kamchatka and North Kuril Islands Walleye Pollock mid-water trawl fishery assesses in accordance with the MSC FS Standard for Fishery Assessment.
2. The certificate holder is Fishery Shipowners Association (FSA)
3. In accordance with the requirements of the present Fishery Assessment Standard, FSA agrees to consider the possibility of joining to the validity of the certificate all fishing companies with vessels, which in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation have the right to catch Water bio-resources in the certified fishing areas.
4. In order for the certificate of fishing to come into effect, the new participants shall reimburse the certificate holder a part of the amount spent on obtaining the MSC Certificate.
5. All participants of the certificate validity shall bear equal distribution of costs related to the maintenance of the certificate and possible recertification of this fishery.
6. New companies shall fulfill the terms and conditions of MSC FS, as well as the terms and conditions of use of the certificate agreed with the MSC certificate holder.

President FSA

A. Osintsev

Stamp