

# **Global Trust Certification**

## **Canada 3LN redfish**

### **MSC Fishery Announcement**

#### **22 February 2022**

#### **1 Introduction**

This Announcement marks the beginning of an MSC assessment or reassessment of this fishery and details the information Global Trust Certification (hereafter Global Trust) is required to submit when formally announcing the entry of this fishery into assessment.

This announcement also represents the start of a stakeholder period in respect of this fisheries assessment and outlines how interested stakeholders may get involved in the assessment process.

## 2 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

1	Fishery name	Canada 3LN redfish																																					
2	Assessment number	This is the first re-assessment of the fishery.																																					
3	Reduced re-assessment (Yes-No)	No, the fishery does not qualify for a reduced re-assessment.																																					
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope	<p>Global Trust confirms that the fishery under assessment (as defined by the Units of Assessment (UoAs) described below) is within scope of the MSC Fisheries Standard (refer to FCP v2.2; Sections 7.4 and 7.5) as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The target species assessed under Principle 1 are neither amphibians, reptiles, birds, nor marine mammals.</li> <li>▪ The fishery does not use destructive fishing practices such as poisons or explosives.</li> <li>▪ The fishery is not conducted under a controversial unilateral exemption to an international agreement.</li> <li>▪ The client group does not include an entity that has been successfully prosecuted for a forced labour or child labour violation in the last 2 years.</li> <li>▪ The client group has provided a completed Certificate Holder Forced and Child Labour Policies, Practices and Measures Template.</li> <li>▪ The client group does not include an entity that has been convicted for a shark finning violation in the last 2 years.</li> <li>▪ The fishery includes a mechanism for resolving disputes and disputes do not overwhelm the fishery.</li> <li>▪ This fishery is not an enhanced fishery, nor an introduced species-based fishery.</li> </ul> <p>The fishery is neither an Enhanced Fishery nor is it an Introduced Species Based Fishery such that additional scope criteria for these types of fishery do not apply.</p>																																					
5	Unit(s) of Assessment – UoA(s)	<p>The applicant provisional Units of Assessment (UoAs) (i.e., what is to be assessed) are described by the following:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Table 2. Unit of Assessment 1.</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Species:</td> <td>Latin name:</td> <td><i>Sebastes fasciatus</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common name(s):</td> <td>Acadian redfish</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Species:</td> <td>Latin name:</td> <td><i>Sebastes mentella</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Common name(s):</td> <td>Deep-water redfish</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stock(s):</td> <td colspan="2">Redfish stock complex in NAFO Division 3LN</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s):</td> <td colspan="2"><b>Bottom trawl</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Geographical area(s):</td> <td colspan="2">FAO Fishing Area 21 Northwest Atlantic, NAFO Division 3LN, within and beyond Canada EEZ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Client group:</td> <td colspan="2">Atlantic Groundfish Council (ACG)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other eligible fishers*:</td> <td colspan="2">There are no other eligible fishers.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> <p>*Other eligible fishers are fishing fleets, or individual fishing operators pursuing the same stock(s), using the same fishing gear and, if relevant, vessel type(s), in the same geographical area(s) as Client Group members but that are outside the Client Group. Other eligible fishers are eligible, upon agreement with the client group, to share the certificate as new client group members.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Table 3. Unit of Assessment 2.</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species:</td> <td>Latin name:</td> <td><i>Sebastes fasciatus</i></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Table 2. Unit of Assessment 1.</b>			Species:	Latin name:	<i>Sebastes fasciatus</i>	Common name(s):	Acadian redfish	Species:	Latin name:	<i>Sebastes mentella</i>	Common name(s):	Deep-water redfish	Stock(s):	Redfish stock complex in NAFO Division 3LN		Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s):	<b>Bottom trawl</b>		Geographical area(s):	FAO Fishing Area 21 Northwest Atlantic, NAFO Division 3LN, within and beyond Canada EEZ		Client group:	Atlantic Groundfish Council (ACG)		Other eligible fishers*:	There are no other eligible fishers.		<p>*Other eligible fishers are fishing fleets, or individual fishing operators pursuing the same stock(s), using the same fishing gear and, if relevant, vessel type(s), in the same geographical area(s) as Client Group members but that are outside the Client Group. Other eligible fishers are eligible, upon agreement with the client group, to share the certificate as new client group members.</p>			<b>Table 3. Unit of Assessment 2.</b>			Species:	Latin name:	<i>Sebastes fasciatus</i>
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**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	Common name(s):	Acadian redfish
Species:	Latin name:	<i>Sebastes mentella</i>
	Common name(s):	Deep-water redfish
Stock(s):	Redfish stock complex in NAFO Division 3LN	
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s):	<b>Midwater trawl</b>	
Geographical area(s):	FAO Fishing Area 21 Northwest Atlantic, NAFO Division 3LN, within and beyond Canada EEZ	
Client group:	Atlantic Groundfish Council (ACG)	
Other eligible fishers*:	There are no other eligible fishers.	
*Other eligible fishers are fishing fleets, or individual fishing operators pursuing the same stock(s), using the same fishing gear and, if relevant, vessel type(s), in the same geographical area(s) as Client Group members but that are outside the Client Group. Other eligible fishers are eligible, upon agreement with the client group, to share the certificate as new client group members.		
<b>6</b>	<b>Certificate sharing statement</b>	
	Not applicable as no other eligible fishers have been identified.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Name of proposed team leader</b>	
	<p><b>Vito Romito</b> meets the Fishery Team Leader Qualification and Competency Criteria outlined in MSC FCP Annex PC Table PC1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li> <li>▪ 3 years' fisheries experience.</li> <li>▪ Pass MSC's fishery team leader training at least every 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Review any updates to the MSC Fisheries Program Documents at least annually.</li> <li>▪ Pass new versions of the MSC online training prior to undertake assessments against the revised MSC Fisheries Standard or certification process.</li> <li>▪ Pass the Lead Auditor ISO 19011 course.</li> <li>▪ Have undertaken 2 MSC fishery assessment or surveillance site visits as a team member in the last 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques.</li> </ul> <p>Vito holds a BSc in Ecology and a MSc in Tropical Coastal Management from Newcastle University (UK). His studies were focused on fisheries bycatch and impacts of fishing gears/methods on benthic habitats.</p> <p>He completed MSC's Fishery Team Leader training both for FCR v.2.0 and FCP v.2.1, v2.2. updates, and passed the Lead Auditor ISO 19011 course. Vito has undertaken several MSC fishery surveillance/re-assessment site visits in Canada and the US as a team member and team leader, in the last 5 years.</p> <p>Vito will be in charge of coordinating the Assessment Team's work and be responsible for the completion of the initial assessment in accordance with FCP v.2.2.</p> <p>In addition to leading the Assessment Team, Vito will be the team's expert on Principle 2, RBF and Traceability. He meets the Principle 2, RBF and Traceability components of the Fishery Team Qualification and Competency Criteria in Annex PC Table PC3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 years or more experience in research into, policy analysis for, or management of, fishery impacts on aquatic ecosystems.</li> <li>▪ Pass the MSC's RBF training course and review any update to the RBF requirements at least annually.</li> <li>▪ Pass MSC's Traceability training module.</li> </ul> <p>His studies were focused on fisheries bycatch and impacts of fishing gears and fishing methods on benthic habitats in various part of the world. He has a decade of experience in the assessment of ecosystem effects of fisheries. He passed the MSC's traceability training.</p>	

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	<p>In addition, Vito has a current knowledge of the country, and local fishery context based the several surveillance and re-assessments carried out in Canada / North America.</p> <p>Vito has been involved in numerous fisheries projects in the last 5 years, including several MSC surveillance audits of Canadian and US fisheries / re-assessment of a US/Canadian fishery. He is fluent in English which is the language used to publish information in Canada.</p> <p>Vito does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery.</p> <p>A summary of his CV and the ones of the team members below has been provided in Appendix 1 (FCP v2.2 7.12.2.c).</p>
8	<p>Name(s) of proposed team members</p>
	<p><b>Dr Ivan Mateo</b> is responsible for Principle 1 and meets the Team Member Qualification and Competency Criteria outlined in MSC FCP Annex PC Table PC2 as well as Principle 1 components of the Fishery Team Qualification and Competency Criteria outlined in MSC FCP Annex PC Table PC3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li> <li>▪ 3 years or more experience in applying relevant stock assessment techniques being used by the fishery under assessment.</li> <li>▪ Passed MSC's fishery team member training at least every 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Review of updates to MSC Fisheries Program Documents.</li> <li>▪ Two assignments in the country or region in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years.</li> </ul> <p>Ivan has a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences with Fisheries specialization from the University of Rhode Island. He completed MSC's Fishery Team Leader training for MSC CRv.1.3, FCR v.2.0, FCP v.2.1, FCP v2.2 and passed Lead Auditor ISO 19011 course. Ivan has over 20 years' experience working with natural resources population dynamic modelling. His specialization is in ecosystem-based models and has studied population dynamics of candidate species for endangered listing in North America. Ivan led numerous MSC assessments in the last 5 years in Canada, including the last 4 surveillance audits of this fishery. He is fluent in English which is the language used in Canada.</p> <p><b>Robert (Bob) Allain</b> is responsible for Principle 3 and meets the Team Member Qualification and Competency Criteria outlined in MSC FCP Annex PC Table PC2 as well as Principle 3 components of the Fishery Team Qualification and Competency Criteria outlined in MSC FCP Annex PC Table PC3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A degree in a relevant subject.</li> <li>▪ 3 years or more experience as a practicing fishery manager and/or fishery/ policy analyst.</li> <li>▪ Passed MSC's fishery team member training at least every 5 years.</li> <li>▪ Review of updates to MSC Fisheries Program Documents.</li> <li>▪ Two assignments in the country or region in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years.</li> </ul> <p>Bob has a Bachelor of Science and is a former senior executive with over 30 years' experience with Canada's Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans in fisheries management, strategic policy development and analysis, facilitation and conflict resolution, and mentoring. He passed MSC's Fishery Team Member training and was involved in numerous MSC fisheries assessments in Canada in the last 5 years.</p> <p>In addition, Bob has a current knowledge of the country, language and local fishery context as well as several assignments in the country or region in which the fishery under assessment is based in the last 10 years. He was involved in the initial assessment of this fishery. Bob's mother tongue is English which is the language of harvesters in Canada. Bob is based in New Brunswick, Canada and was involved in numerous MSC fisheries assessments in Canada and U.S. in the last 5 years.</p>

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	<p>Bob does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery.</p> <p>A summary of their CVs has been provided in Appendix 1.</p>
9	<p><b>Stakeholder opportunities</b></p> <p>The following stakeholder consultation opportunities are available as part of this assessment (for further information see <a href="#">3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments</a>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Stakeholder comment at Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR):</b> Stakeholders may submit written input using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which is available here: <a href="https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment">https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment</a>.</li> <li><b>2. Site visit:</b> During the site visit portion of this assessment specified in <a href="#">12. Site visit</a> below, all members of the assessment team will be available to meet either in person or remotely with interested stakeholders.</li> <li><b>3. Stakeholder comment at Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR):</b> Stakeholders, who have provided written input on the ACDR or attended the site visit in person or remotely may submit written input using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input'.</li> </ol> <p><b>IMPORTANT NOTE:</b> The opportunity for stakeholders to comment at the PCDR stage is limited to those stakeholders that provided written input at the ACDR stage or attended the site visit in person or remotely; therefore, stakeholders wishing to comment at the PCDR stage should ensure they engage in one or more of those earlier stakeholder consultation opportunities.</p>
10	<p><b>Assessment tree to be used</b></p> <p>The assessment tree applied will be the default tree.</p>
11	<p><b>Estimated timeline</b></p> <p>If the assessment result is positive, the assessment is expected to be completed and extended certification awarded by the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Public Comment Draft Report should be available in July 2022.</li> <li>– The Final Draft should be available in October 2022.</li> <li>– The Public Certification Report should be available in November 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Please note that, in accordance with MSC FCP v2.2 §7.13.1, a separate indicative assessment timeline, has been submitted to the MSC database. Stakeholders should use this indicative assessment timeline as the basis for tracking the assessment process. Should Global Trust determine that the publication date of the next public report will be ≥30 days before or after the date stated in the indicative timeline, a revised timeline will be published to the MSC webpage for this fishery.</p>
12	<p><b>Site visit</b></p> <p>Commencing after the stakeholder input on the Announcement Draft Report, the site visit will take place on the proposed date(s) and at the following location(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <u>Site visit dates:</u> 04<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 to 08<sup>th</sup> of April 2022.</li> <li>– <u>Site visit location(s):</u> Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the site visit portion of this assessment will take place remotely.</li> </ul> <p>Stakeholders wishing to consult directly with the audit team during this period should be contacted by Global Trust as outlined in 3.2. Consulting directly with the audit team below.</p> <p><b>Use of the Risk-Based Framework (RBF)</b> A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the MSC's RBF see <a href="http://www.msc.org/about-">http://www.msc.org/about-</a></p>

**Table 1. Fishery announcement.**

	<p><a href="https://www.msc-standards.com/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework">us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework</a>, Please note we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative 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. Details of which species have been assessed using the RBF (primarily with the Productivity Susceptibility Analysis) are provided in the ACDR.</p>
14	<p><b>Announcement Comment Draft Report stakeholder input deadline</b></p>
	<p>The deadline for stakeholder input on the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— 17:00 UTC on 25 March 2022.</li> </ul> <p>For further information see <a href="#">3. Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments</a>.</p>

### 3 Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments

During fishery assessments, CABs are required to seek the views of relevant parties. Therefore, Global Trust wishes to invite organisations or individuals with an interest in this fishery to provide written information relevant to the surveillance audit process and/or consult directly with the audit team.

Prior to participating, stakeholders should familiarise themselves with the MSC process using the resources provided on the MSC's website: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

Global Trust encourages stakeholders not to withhold information, including their concerns and knowledge about the fishery in question; however, information that they cannot be shared with all stakeholders cannot be referenced in an assessment or used in determining assessment outcomes unless it relates to; a) financial transactions about certification, b) the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being made public, or c) information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the client's country.

#### 3.1 Submitting written information

Please note, Global Trust can only accept written stakeholder input as public record if it is submitted using the 'MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' which can be found on the MSC website here: <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment>.

When submitting information, stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or any claimed errors of fact.

For your written submissions to be considered as part of this audit, you must:

1. Use the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments.
2. Submit it by **17:00 UTC on Friday 25 March 2022**.
3. Send it to Global Trust Client Services: [ClientServicesie@nsf.org](mailto:ClientServicesie@nsf.org).

#### 3.2 Consulting directly with the audit team

During the site visit portion of this assessment (specified in [12. Site visit](#) of Table 1 above), all members of the assessment team will be available to meet, either in person or remotely, with interested stakeholders.

If you would like to meet with the assessment team during this period, you must:

1. Contact Global Trust Client Services: [ClientServicesie@nsf.org](mailto:ClientServicesie@nsf.org).
2. The deadline for doing so is **17:00 UTC on Friday 25 March 2022**.
3. Provide at least the following details when doing so:
  - Your name and contact details.
  - Your association with the fishery.
  - The issues you would like to discuss.

#### 3.3 Importance of engaging early in a fisheries assessment

Please note that the MSC's defined processes now mean CABs cannot accept comments at the Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR) stage from stakeholders who have not either provided written input at the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) stage or met with the assessment team during the site visit. In addition, only previously involved stakeholders may object to a Certification Determination.

It is therefore critically important that stakeholders wishing to participate in the latter stages of an assessment, engage with that assessment at either the ACDR or site visit stages.

## 4 Appendices

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

The assessment team for this assessment consists of:

- Vito Romito (Lead Assessor with additional responsibility for Principle 2, Traceability, RBF).
- Dr Ivan Mateo (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 1).
- Robert (Bob) Allain (Assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 3).

A brief bio for each assessment team member is presented below.

#### **Audit Team Leader: Vito Romito, Team leader and assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 2: Environmental impact of fishing and Traceability, RBF**

Vito has 10 years of expertise in fisheries certification. He's an ISO14001 Certified Lead Auditor and MSC FCR v.2.0 and FCP v.2.2 approved Fisheries Team Leader for Global Trust Certification (an NSF International Company) with extensive experience in ecosystems effects of fisheries. Vito received a BSc (Honours) in Ecology and a MSc in Tropical Coastal Management from Newcastle University (U.K.), in between which he worked for a year in Tanzania, carrying out comparative biodiversity assessments including pristine and dynamited coral reef ecosystems surveys around the Mafia Island Marine Park. For five years he worked at Global Trust Certification/ later SAI Global as Lead Assessor for all the fishery assessments in Alaska, Iceland and Louisiana. Vito has also carried out several IFFO forage fisheries assessments in Chile, Peru, Europe and other various pre-assessments in Atlantic and Pacific Canada. To date, Vito has headed and conducted dozens of assessments involving 40+ different species including salmonid, groundfish, pelagic, flatfish, crustacean and cephalopod species in Europe, North and South America, and SE Asia. For three years, as a senior fisheries consultant and then manager with RS Standards Ltd., he was involved in the development and testing of a Data Deficient Fisheries framework and v.2.0 fisheries standard for the ASMI Alaska RFM Scheme, and IFFO RS Improver/FIP projects related to Southeast Asia multispecies bottom trawl fisheries. Vito re-joined the Global Trust Fisheries Team in 2018 and has since been involved in marine and freshwater fisheries assessments in Canada, New England, Alaska and Louisiana, Iceland, the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. Vito has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery.

#### **Audit Team Member: Dr. Ivan Mateo, Team member and assessor with primary responsibility for Principle 1: Sustainable Stock status**

Ivan has over 20 years' experience working with natural resources population dynamic modelling. His specialization is in fish and crustacean population dynamics, stock assessment, evaluation of management strategies for exploited populations, bioenergetics, ecosystem-based assessment, and ecological statistical analysis. Ivan received a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences with Fisheries specialization from the University of Rhode Island. He has studied population dynamics of economically important species as well as candidate species for endangered species listing from many different regions of the world such as the Caribbean, the Northeast US Coast, Gulf of California and Alaska. He has done research with NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Centres' Ecosystem Based Fishery Management on bio-energetic modeling for Atlantic cod. He also has been working as environmental consultant in the Caribbean doing fieldwork and looking at the effects of industrialization on essential fish habitats and for the Environmental Defense Fund developing population dynamics models for data poor stocks in the Gulf of California. Recently Ivan worked as National Research Council postdoc research associate at the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Services Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute on population dynamic modelling of Alaska sablefish. Ivan is a SAI Global in-house assessor and has been involved in numerous MSC assessments in the Northwest Atlantic as a Principle 1 assessor. Ivan had led the 1st and 2nd surveillance audits of the Canada 3LN redfish. Ivan has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery.

**Audit Team Member: R.J. (Bob) Allain, Team member and assessor with primary responsibility for**

**Principle 3: Effective management**

R. J. (Bob) Allain is the president and principal consultant of OceanIQ Management Services Inc. He is a former senior executive with over 30 years' experience with Canada's Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans in fisheries management, strategic policy development and analysis, program design and delivery, human and financial resources management, media and inter-governmental relations, facilitation and conflict resolution, and mentoring. He has consulted internationally for the Canadian International Development Agency, the (former) International Centre for Ocean Development, the World Bank, and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. Bob has participated in approximately 25 Canadian and U.S. pelagic, demersal, and crustacean fishery assessments and audits under the MSC Standard since 2010. While he was not a member of the assessment team for the initial assessment of this fishery, he is quite informed about and familiar with the specifics of the fishery. Bob has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery.

## 5 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Fishery Announcement Template v2.1'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with Global Trust's corporate identity, Global Trust has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

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**Table 4.** 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 ([www.msc.org](http://www.msc.org)).

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