

Norway North East Arctic cod and haddock fisheries**Marine Stewardship Council Certification****Certification Body: DNV GL - Business Assurance****Announcement of Determination and Release of Final Report for Stakeholder Comment**

DNV GL is pleased to announce that following the 30 day period of stakeholder comment on the Public Comment Draft Report, the Assessment team at DNV GL has reviewed the report which includes the Peer reviewer comments and all stakeholder comments.

DNV GL's assessment team has reached the Determination that the Norway North East Arctic Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) and Atlantic haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) fisheries in the North East Arctic Ocean within ICES sub-areas I and II (FAO area 27) using trawl, longline, gill-net, Danish seine, and hook and line gears as harvesting methods (as defined in the accompanying report) should be certified according to the Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fisheries set by the Marine Stewardship Council.

The Final Report for this assessment is now available on the MSC website. Please note that this is a determination and not a final certification result. The fishery is not certified until the final consultation period of 15 working days has been concluded. In this period a party may lodge a statement of intent to object on either merit grounds (if the party has previously provided input to the assessment team) or procedural grounds (if any party has been prevented from earlier participation in the assessment process). Additionally any party (regardless of prior participation) may file support of a merit objection.

A description of the Grounds for Objection is available in the MSC Objections Procedure on <http://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders>, where stakeholders also can find the MSC Notice of Objection Form with procedural instructions.

Intent to file an Objection should be addressed to DNV GL contact person and copied to MSC's Chief Executive at objections@msc.org by **5 PM GMT on 16 June 2015**.

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