

Global Trust Certification

1. IRFM cod commercial fishery
2. IRFM haddock commercial fishery
3. IRFM saithe commercial fishery
4. IRFM Golden redfish commercial fishery
5. IRFM common ling commercial fishery
6. IRFM tusk commercial fishery
7. IRFM summer spawning herring commercial fishery

RFM Fishery Announcement

17 May 2024

1. Introduction

This Announcement marks the beginning of an RFM assessment during which the above fishery will be assessed for conformity to the requirements of the applicable Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) program(me)/scheme and documents outlined in Table 1 and details the information Global Trust Certification must provide when formally announcing this assessment.

Table 1. Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme and documents, including applicable versions and their usage.

Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme	Iceland Responsible Fisheries (IRF) Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Programme		
Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme documents	Document title	Version/Issue/Revision	Usage
IRFF Requirements Document: Certification requirements for the operation of an ISO accredited third party scheme for the assessment and certification of Icelandic fisheries		Revision 1.2	Process
Iceland Responsible Fisheries Foundation (IRFF) Responsible Fisheries Management Standard		Revision 2.0/Revision 2.1	Standard

2. Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) fishery announcement

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

1 Fishery name	
1.	IRFM cod commercial fishery
2.	IRFM haddock commercial fishery
3.	IRFM saithe commercial fishery
4.	IRFM Golden redfish commercial fishery
5.	IRFM common ling commercial fishery
6.	IRFM tusk commercial fishery
7.	IRFM summer spawning herring commercial fishery
2 Certification cycle, assessment type and number	
Certification cycle	Second (5-year) certification cycle First cycle for the other three fisheries
Assessment type and number	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4th surveillance assessments (7 fisheries) • First assessment of the 6 merged fisheries (cod, haddock, saithe, redfish, ling and tusk) as the IRFM Demersal fishery • First re-assessment of ISS Herring
3 Statement that the fishery is within scope	
Global Trust confirms that the fishery under assessment (as defined by the Units of Assessment (UoAs) described below) is within scope of the relevant RFM Fisheries Standard.	
4 Unit(s) of Assessment – UoA(s)	
The 7 Units of Assessment are presented in Table 2.	
Table 2. Unit(s) of Assessment.	
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 1 - Cod	
Species:	Common name: Atlantic cod (Porskur)
	Latin name: <i>Gadus morhua</i>
Geographical Area(s)	Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)	Cod in ICES Division 5a (Iceland grounds)
Management System	Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)	Demersal trawl; Long-line; Gill net; Danish Seine; Hook and line (Handline) by small vessels; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing cod*
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 2 - Haddock	
Species:	Common name: Icelandic haddock (Ýsa)
	Latin name: <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>
Geographical Area(s)	Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)	Haddock in ICES Division 5.a (Iceland grounds)
Management System	Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)	Demersal trawl;

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

		Long-line; Danish Seine net; Gill net; Hook and line (Handline) by small vessels; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing haddock*
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 3 - Saithe		
Species:	Common name:	Icelandic saithe (Ufsi)
	Latin name:	<i>Pollachius virens</i>
Geographical Area(s)		Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)		Saithe in ICES Division 5a (Iceland grounds)
Management System		Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)		Demersal trawl; Gill-net; Longline; Danish Seine; Hook and line (Handline) by small vessels; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing saithe*
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 4 - Golden redfish		
Species:	Common name:	Golden redfish (Gullkarfi)
	Latin name:	<i>Sebastes norvegicus</i>
Geographical Area(s)		Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)		Golden redfish in ICES Divisions 5 and 14
Management System		Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)		Demersal trawl (principal gear); Nephrops trawl; Long-line; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing golden redfish *
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 5 - Ling		
Species:	Common name:	Common ling (Langa)
	Latin name:	<i>Molva molva</i>
Geographical Area(s)		Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)		Ling in ICES Division 5.a (Iceland grounds)
Management System		Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)		Longline; Demersal trawl; Nephrops trawl; Gillnet; Danish seine; Hook-and-line by small vessels; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing ling*
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 6 - Tusk		
Species:	Common name:	Tusk/Cusk (Keila)

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

	Latin name:	<i>Brosme brosme</i>
Geographical Area(s)		Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)		Tusk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>) in Subarea 14 and Division 5.a (East Greenland and Iceland grounds)
Management System		Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)		Longline; Demersal trawl; Hook-and-line by small vessels; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing tusk*
Unit of Assessment (UoA) 7 – SS Herring		
Species:	Common name:	Atlantic herring/herring (Síld)
	Latin name:	<i>Clupea harengus</i>
Geographical Area(s)		Iceland 200-mile EEZ within FAO Fishing Area 27
Stock(s)		Herring in Division 5.a, summer-spawning herring (Iceland grounds)
Management System		Ministry of Industries and Innovation (Iceland)
Fishing gear(s)/method(s)		Purse seine net; Pelagic trawl; Gears from other Icelandic fisheries legally landing summer-spawning herring*

6 Name of proposed team leader

1. Vito Romito is the Team Leader for these assessments and has shared responsibility for ecosystem impacts of the fishery.
2. Vito has 10 years (2010-2015, 2018-2023) experience as ecosystem impacts expert for fisheries assessments in Alaska, Iceland, Louisiana, Canada, Eastern US, Italy, Baltic Sea with Global Trust Certification Ltd. He has been involved with all key Icelandic fisheries since the first assessments in 2011.
3. Vito does not have a conflict of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment.
4. Summary of CV provided in Appendix 1.

7 Name(s) of proposed team members

1. Rasmus Hedeholm is the assessor with primary Responsibility for stock assessment and fish stock biology/ecology.
 2. Dr. Ramus Hedeholm is an independent fisheries consultant with 15 years of experience specializing in stock assessment, research, and management consultancy in both small and large-scale fisheries.
 3. Rasmus does not have a conflict of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment.
 4. Summary of CV provided in Appendix 1.
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1. Deirdre Hoare is the assessor with primary responsibility for ecosystem impacts of the fishery.
 2. Deirdre has 14 years' experience as ecosystem impacts expert for fisheries assessments in Alaska, Iceland, Canada. She worked previously for Global Trust and was involved with all key Icelandic fisheries during the first assessments in 2010/2011.
 3. Deirdre does not have a conflict of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.
 4. Summary of CV to be provided in Appendix 1.

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

1. Christos Maravelias, is the assessor with primary Responsibility for fisheries management and compliance.
2. Dr. Christos Maravelias is a fisheries policy officer for DG MARE, with many years of experience in fisheries science and management.
3. Christos does not have a conflict of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.
4. Summary of CV provided in Appendix 1.

8 Site visit

The site visit will take on the proposed date(s) and at the following location(s):

- Site visit dates: 18th of June 2024 to 21st of June 2024.
- Site visit location(s): The site visit portion of this assessment will take place on site, in Iceland.

Stakeholders wishing to consult directly with the assessment team during this period may contact Global Trust as outlined below requesting to do so:

1. Contact Global Trust Client Services: ClientServicesie@nsf.org.
2. The deadline for doing so is **17:00 UTC on Sunday 16 June 2024**.
3. Provide at least the following details when doing so:
 - Your name and contact details.
 - Your association with the fishery.
 - Your interest in the fishery/the issues you would like to discuss.

3. Appendices

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

The assessment team for this assessment consists of:

- Vito Romito (Lead Assessor) and shared responsibility for ecosystem impacts
- Rasmus Hedeholm (Assessor and primary responsibility for stock assessment and fish stock biology/ecology.)
- Deirdre Hoare (Assessor with primary responsibility for ecosystem impacts.)
- Christos Maravelias, (Assessor with primary responsibility for fisheries management.)

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

Team Leader and shared responsibility for ecosystem impacts section: Vito Romito

Vito has 14 of expertise in fisheries certification. 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. 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. 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, as well as other fishery related projects. Vito re-joined the Global Trust Fisheries Team in 2018 and has since led marine and freshwater fisheries assessments in Canada, New England, Alaska and Gulf of Mexico, Ireland, Iceland, Norway and the North Sea, Faroe Islands, the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. Vito has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery.

Vito does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment and will take part in the site visit.

Team Member: Rasmus Hedeholm, Primary Responsibility for stock assessment and fish stock biology/ecology.

Dr. Ramus Hedeholm is an independent fisheries consultant with 15 years of experience specializing in stock assessment, research, and management consultancy in both small and large-scale fisheries. For a decade, he served as a senior scientist at the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources in Nuuk, Greenland. In this capacity, he provided expert advice to government policymakers on fisheries matters, which required close collaboration with various stakeholders, including fisheries managers, scientists, legislators, and NGOs. RH has been a primary stock assessor for a decade, worked actively in the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) as an expert group member, expert group chairman and an Advisory Committee (ACOM) member. RH also served as a NAFO observer for the past five years. RHs has a Ph.D. in marine ecology and his scientific background in fish biology has had particular emphasis on demersal fish, small pelagics, sharks, and bycatch. Research highlights include integrating genetics and stock dynamics, ecological interactions, investigating key aspects of long-lived elasmobranch life history traits, and studying bycatch and methods for its mitigation. RH has more than 40 peer-

reviewed publications. RH has expertise in demersal and pelagic species fish such as gadoids, redfish, flatfish, small pelagics, lumpfish etc.

Rasmus does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment and will take part in the site visit.

Team Member: Deirdre Hoare, Primary Responsibility for ecosystem impacts.

Deirdre Hoare is a fisheries scientist with over 15 years of experience in a wide range of projects associated with fisheries stock assessment and ecosystem impacts of fisheries. She is an ISO19011 Certified Lead Auditor and MSC FCR v.2.0 and FCP v.2.1 approved Fisheries Team Leader for NSF. Deirdre has a BSc and MSc in Marine Zoology from University College Galway. Until recently Deirdre worked as an independent MSC Principle 2 expert on many different fisheries in Europe, Greenland, North America and Asia. Principle 2 focuses on the effects of the fishery on associated species of fish and interactions with seabirds, marine mammals, and the benthic ecology. Prior to this, she held the position of Fishery Science Manager at MarinTrust, working on reduction fishery sustainability. Before this, she worked North-western Waters Advisory Council as an Executive Assistant. This involved working on multidisciplinary and multilingual teams to consult with stakeholders, gather evidence, and produce substantial reports and proposals for the European Commission. As a Fisheries Assessment Analyst and a Scientific and Technical Officer for the Marine Institute in Ireland, she was involved in fisheries research and stock assessment for ICES working groups. As well as having worked as a researcher, she completed many trips on commercial fishing vessels as a scientific observer in the NAFO area, Northwest Atlantic, and Irish Coast.

Deirdre does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment and will take part in the site visit.

Team Member: Christos Maravelias, Primary Responsibility for fisheries management.

Dr. Christos Maravelias is Director of Research in the Institute of Marine Biological Resources (IMBR) of HCMR. Previously he was a Lecturer in the University of Thessaly, Magnesia, Greece from 2000-2005. He has 20 years of high-level hands-on experience with international scientific collaborations through numerous European projects, scientific working groups, data collection/analysis, and evaluation and impact assessment of alternative management strategies in Mediterranean fisheries.

He has been the Fisheries Expert of the 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission (EC) in the Directorate General for Research and Technological Development (DG RTD) in Brussels. Since 2000 has been acting as an independent Expert Consultant for the European Commission, DG XIV Fisheries (now MARE) for progress monitoring of approved FP5 and FP6 research programs in the fields of Fisheries Management + Interactions / environment as well as Policy Oriented Research. Dr. Maravelias holds a Ph.D degree in Fisheries Biology from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland (United Kingdom), a M.Sc degree in Fisheries Biology and Management from the University of Wales, Bangor (United Kingdom) and a B.Sc degree in Biology from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece).

Christos does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fisheries under assessment and will take part in the site visit.