



## Barents Sea cod and haddock FIP

### Workplan April 2013

#### Status of the fishery

In general, the fishery is now healthier than it's been for nearly 60 years, with both cod and haddock stocks biomass well above target levels, and reduced illegal fishing.

In early April 2010, Norway North East Arctic cod & haddock were the first two fisheries to be awarded Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification; which was quickly followed by five other fisheries:

Barents Sea cod & haddock – November 2010

*Pescafria-Pesquera Rodriguez Barents sea cod – February 2012 (withdraw on 19 March 2013 as fishery no longer exist)*

Comapêche and Euronor cod & haddock fishery – April 2012

UK Fisheries Ltd/DFFU/Doggerbank Northeast Arctic cod, haddock and saithe – May 2012

Faroe Island North East Arctic cod & haddock – August 2012

Nevertheless, the MSC certification has highlighted several issues that need to be addressed in the short to medium term.

Conditions related to stock status/harvest control rules (all fisheries, except UK Fisheries Ltd/DFFU/Doggerbank Northeast Arctic cod, haddock and saithe)<sup>1</sup>:

1. Harvest strategy – setting TACs in line with scientific advice and with agreed management plan;
2. Fishery removals – information on cod and haddock catches are needed to improve IUU and discard estimations;

Conditions related to environmental impact of the fishery (all fisheries, except Comapêche & Euronor and UK Fisheries Ltd/DFFU/Doggerbank where only habitat conditions apply)<sup>2</sup>:

3. Retained species – management strategy needed for retained species other than the targeted species;
4. Bycatch – data needed regarding interactions with ETP species;
5. Habitat – level of interaction with sensitive seabed habitats needs to be determined, fisheries likely to damage/harm benthic habitat; management strategy needed.

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<sup>1</sup> Conditions for Barents Sea cod and Barents Sea haddock certified fishery - on target and closed.

<sup>2</sup> Conditions for Barents Sea cod and Barents Sea haddock certified fishery - on target (and closed for beaked redfish & Greenland halibut); UK Fisheries Ltd/DFFU/Doggerbank - on target.



Conditions related to the governance and management of the fishery<sup>3</sup>:

6. Consultation – the consultation process continues to improve to ensure that all stakeholders are involved;
7. Long term objectives – management objectives are explicit and consistent with precautionary approach;
8. Svalbard Fisheries Protection Zone (only for UK Fisheries Ltd/DFFU/Doggerbank) – fair treatment of EU fleet in the Norway/Russian negotiations regarding no haddock quota allocation.

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<sup>3</sup> Conditions for Barents Sea cod and Barents Sea haddock certified fishery - on target (and likely to be closed in the next audit).

## Workplan

The FIP workplan steps are developed to address the issues identified in the MSC assessment, initially focusing on the following topics and timetable, to be further developed as time progresses:

TOPIC	DELIVERABLES	DEADLINE	STATUS
Stock status (removals and IUU)	Monitor ICES advice;	3 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2013	
	Update fishsource profiles.	December 2013	On going
Improve catch reporting by supporting observers programme	FIP letter to catching sector certified companies highlighting the importance of the observers programme.	2013	To be determined
MSC certification	Monitor MSC audits report;	December 2013	On going
	Update SFP Advisory Note for companies seeking MSC certification.	December 2013	On going
Improve habitat management by supporting detailed public data	Incorporate in Procurement Policies the need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VMS &amp; catch data to be public;</li> <li>- all vessels to use detailed logbooks.</li> </ul>	December 2013	
Minimise habitat impact by supporting development of semi-pelagic trawl	FIP letter to catching sector certified companies encouraging the efforts to develop a semi-pelagic trawl.	2013	To be determined
Encourage dialogue between stakeholders	Make public statement and/or press release encouraging dialogue between stakeholders;	2013	To be determined
	Participate in stakeholders meetings.	2013	