**Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments**

# [Fishery name]

# MSC Client Document Checklist

## Instructions

### Using the Client Document Checklist

Review the information provided in this document, and then complete the Client Document Checklist by finding as much information related to your fishery as possible to provide to the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) using the structured checklist. The more information that can be provided to the CAB at an early stage in an assessment will result in a stronger, more robust assessment.

Please complete all unshaded fields. All notes and guidance indicated in italics, please delete and replace with your specific information where relevant.

In each of the ‘References’ section: Include any references, including hyperlinks, to direct CABs to the appropriate documents. Any data files should be sent directly to the CAB and be appropriately labelled.

In each of the ‘Client Comments’ section: Provide a written description of any useful information on the subject.

### Supporting information

Because the MSC Fisheries Standard covers every type of fishery from every corner of the globe, it is impossible to create a list that will be applicable to every fishery. The lists of suggested information in each section of this checklist provide an indication of the type of information that could be needed to assess the fishery. These lists are not exhaustive and if there is further information available that is relevant to each section, please also include this.

It is also important to know what information is available and what is not. If you look for documents but are unable to find them, make a note of this in the ‘Client Comments’ section in the relevant table so the assessment team is aware.

#### Guidance to the Client Document Checklist in the Appendix

The appendix includes guidance on providing supporting information to the Client Document Checklist.

#### Scope of the assessment

The Unit of Assessment (UoA) is the fishery that the client wants the CAB to assess against the MSC Fisheries Standard. The scope of the unit(s) is specified by the client and validated by the CAB and must include the species or stock that would carry the ecolabel (target stock), the fishing gear(s) and, if relevant, the types of vessels as well as the geographic area in which fishing takes place. The UoA can include the entire fishery or a subset of fishing fleet, groups of vessels or individual fishing operators pursuing that stock.

If there are other fishers, vessels or fleets targeting the same stock not presently in the client group but that the client may wish to share the certificate with after certification, information for these must be included below. Identifying these other eligible fishers at this stage allows new members to join the certificate at any time, if successful, without undergoing additional assessment. Seafood from other eligible fishers cannot carry the MSC label in the marketplace until a certificate sharing agreement is in place.

The information provided in this checklist will help to determine the UoA and what catch will be eligible to carry the ecolabel. Please keep the above information in mind when completing the checklist and provide as much information as possible about the expected UoA.

#### The MSC Fisheries Standard

The assessment team will score the fishery against the Performance Indicators in the MSC Fisheries Standard. Some of the documents listed in the MSC Client Document Checklist can be used for more than 1 Performance Indicator.

**Note:** For enhanced bivalve and salmon fisheries, there are separate requirements (defined in Section SB and Section SC, respectively) within the MSC Fisheries Standard that may require different or additional information to the data specified below.

## Client document checklist

Table 1: Basic information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Client name** |
|  | |
| **2** | **Fishery name** |
| * *See Track a Fishery website (*[*fisheries.msc.org*](http://fisheries.msc.org/)*) for examples.* * *The CAB will help you to refine the name of your fishery using MSC requirements.* * *This name should be the same as stated in the MSC Scope Declaration template.* | |
| **3** | **Which species or stocks would you like to carry the ecolabel?** |
|  | |
| **4** | **What fishing gears are used to fish the species/stock?** |
|  | |
| **5** | **In what area(s) are the species caught?** |
| * *See* [*fisheries.msc.org*](http://fisheries.msc.org/) *for examples.*  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **UoA X** | **Description** | | Target Stock |  | | Geographical area | *Usually includes the FAO fishing area code (and if relevant the ICES / NAFO or other area specific reporting units)* | | Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s) |  | | Client group |  | | Other eligible fishers |  | | |

### Information on vessels or fishers pursuing the stock

Table 2: Information on vessels or fishers pursuing the stock(s)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1** | **Description of how the fishery under assessment operates** |
| References | |
|  | |
| Client comments | |
|  | |
| **2** | **Description of fishing gears used by the fishery under assessment** |
| References | |
|  | |
| Client comments | |
|  | |
| **3** | **Description of how all vessels or fishers pursuing the stock operate** |
| References | |
|  | |
| Client comments | |
|  | |
| **4** | **Description of fishing gears that all vessels or fishers pursuing the stock use** |
| References | |
|  | |
| Client comments | |
|  | |
| **5** | **Proportion of catch between all vessels or fishers pursuing the stock including the client group** |
| References | |
|  | |
| Client comments [Complete the below table for each target species under assessment] | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TAC / Catch Data** | **Year** | **Amount** | | UoA share of TAC | Year (YYYY) | Amount (n, unit) | | UoA share of total TAC | Year (YYYY) | Amount (n, unit) | | Total catch by UoC (most recent year) | Year (YYYY) | Amount (n, unit) | | Total catch by UoC (second most recent year) | Year (YYYY) | Amount (n, unit) | | |

## Principle 1 – Stock status

### Stock assessment

Please complete Table 3 with the following information on the target stock and how it is assessed, as available:

* Reports of current and previous stock assessments, including reviews and benchmark reports.
* Details of the data used in stock assessment (stock structure, productivity, fleet composition, stock abundance, fishery removals, sensitivity analyses, etc).
* Information on the reference points, including how they were derived.
* Reports of scientific meetings and relevant stock assessment working groups.
* Reports of peer review of stock assessments, including details of the review process.

Table 3: Available information on the stock and how it is assessed

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Management of the fishery

Please complete Table 4 with the following information on how the fishery is managed, as available:

* Details of management agencies and advisory bodies involved in the management of target stocks.
* Details of the fishery management plan and harvest strategy, including stock management objectives.
* Details of the development, testing, and implementation of harvest control rules, including reference points, management strategy evaluations and relevant legislation, regulation and licensing arrangements.
* List of management regulations in place for the fishery (catch and effort limitations, quotas, fleet licensing, minimum sizes, gear restrictions, technical measures, etc.).
* Details of the strategy to manage discards or slippage.
* Details of the stock rebuilding plan or strategy.

Table 4: Available information on how the fishery is managed

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments [Complete the below table for each target species under assessment] |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Stock management attribute** | **Answer** | **Reference(s)** | **Client comments** | | Does the stock have a stock assessment | Y/N |  |  | | Does the stock / fishery have a management plan/ harvest strategy? |  |  |  | | Does the stock /fishery have management regulations in place |  |  |  | | Does the stock have a discard plan? |  |  |  | |

### Evaluation of management

Please complete Table 5 with the following information on how management is evaluated, as available:

* Details of the review process of the fishery management plan, regulations and the harvest strategy.
* Reports of reviews and evaluations of the harvest strategy and management regulations.
* Reports of simulations of the outcome of different management strategies.
* Reviews of the fishing gear or the use of alternative fishing gears or measures to reduce unwanted catch.
* Evidence of the implementation of any management recommendations.

Table 5: Available information on how management is evaluated

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Data collection in the fishery

Please complete Table 6 with the following information on data collection in the fishery, as available:

* Details of legal and practical arrangements for monitoring, surveillance and data collection in the fishery.
* Catch and effort information (logbook and/or sales data, observer reports or data, register of vessels or licences, records of fishing effort, etc.).
* Research plans and other research outputs relevant to the fishery, including scientific papers
* Evaluation of monitoring and surveillance programmes.
* Information on illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) catches in the fishery.

Table 6: Available information on data collection in the fishery

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Catches of sharks

If relevant, please complete Table 7 with the following information in relation to the retention of sharks, as available:

* Information on how sharks are treated or processed, including all relevant policy, codes of conduct etc.
* Details of the Fins Naturally Attached (FNA) policy or non-retention policies.
* Details of how FNA or non-retention policies are enforced, including the agencies involved.

Note that information in relation to the retention of sharks is also relevant to Principle 2 so include information for all shark species caught (target and non-target catches).

Table 7: Information in relation to the retention of sharks (if relevant)

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

## Principle 2 – Minimising environmental impacts

### Monitoring and data collection

Please complete Table 8 with the following information on monitoring and data collection in the fishery, as available:

* Catch and effort information for species and habitats e.g.:
  + If available, 4 years of catch logs from the fishery detailing landings and discard estimates for each species.
  + If available, 4 years of observer records for the fishery detailing, landings and discard estimates by species and area. If applicable ‘fate codes’ and ‘condition at release codes.
  + If available, 4 years of VMS maps of the fishery footprint.
  + If available 4 years of bait data detailing, source and transaction data.
* Information on fishing gear, including its design specifications, how and where it is used, and any other operational details.
* Information on prevalence of gear loss and associated code of conduct to minimise loss.
* Information on which species are retained or discarded, including information on unobserved mortality.
* Lists of protected species applicable to the jurisdiction concerned (see ‘note on protected species’ below).
* Lists of any mammals, seabirds, reptiles or amphibians impacted by the fishery.
* Research plans and other research outputs relevant to the fishery, including scientific papers.
* Habitat surveys or other reports giving information on changes in habitats, including information on the sensitivity of habitats impacted.
* Information on marine ecosystems where fishing takes place.

Note on endangered, protected or threatened species:

Species impacted by the UoA and listed on the following lists may be considered as ‘endangered, threatened or protected’ according to the MSC Fisheries Standard (noting that lists below apply differently in Standard versions v2.01 and v3.0):

* Appendix 1 and 2 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
* Appendix 1 and 2 of Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
* Binding agreements concluded under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), including:
  + Annex 1 of the Agreement on Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP).
  + Table 1 Column A of the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).
  + Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS).
  + Annex 1, Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS).
  + Wadden Sea Seals Agreement.
  + Any other binding agreements that list relevant ETP species concluded under this Convention.
* National ETP legislation.
* International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species and classified globally as “Endangered” or “Critically Endangered” or “Vulnerable”

Table 8: Available information on monitoring and data collection in the fishery

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Stock status

Please complete Table 9 with the following information on the status of the stocks/populations that are not the target species but are potentially impacted by the fishery, as available:

* Reports of current and previous stock assessments for all species caught in the fishery, including non-target species.
* Details on the population status and trends of relevant species (e.g. IUCN red listing details, scientific surveys or other analyses).
* Details of any quantitative assessment of impacts of fishing on the population status of these species.

Table 9: Available information on the status of the stocks/populations of species potentially impacted by the fishery

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Managing impacts of the fishery

Please complete Table 10 with the following information on managing impacts of the fishery, as available:

* Details of management plan or management actions taken in relation to scientific advice.
* List of regulations applying to the fishery (e.g. TAC and quotas, effort restrictions, obligations to discard or retain, closed areas, etc.).
* Details of measures or strategies to manage interactions with these species.
* Reviews or studies undertaken regarding the reduction of unwanted (i.e. discarded, unused) catches.
* Details of management measures or strategies regarding the fishery’s interactions with Endangered, Threatened or Protected species and with marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and/or amphibians.
* Details of any actions taken by the fishery in this regard (e.g. training in handling, recording of interactions).
* Details on any measures in place to limit/monitor gear loss and/or the impact of ghost gear on unwanted species or habitats.
* Details of measures and strategies for habitat protection or mitigating ecosystem impacts.
* Details of an ecosystem management plan.

Table 10: Available information on managing impacts of the fishery

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Scientific research

Please complete Table 11 with the following information from scientific research, as available:

* Details of relevant research on impacted habitats and their sensitivity to fishing activity.
* Reports of relevant research on the population status, biology, productivity, or longevity of species impacted by the fishery.
* Copies of relevant scientific papers regarding ecosystem structure and function.

Table 11: Available information from scientific research

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

## Principle 3 – Effective management

### Governance and policy

Please complete Table 12 with the following information on high-level governance and policy, as available:

* Information on local, national or international laws, acts, policies and regulations that have an impact on the fishery and its management.
* Information about cooperation between national, regional or local management authorities that is relevant to the governance of the fishery.
* Details of legal disputes that involve or are related to the fishery, and information on any dispute mechanisms that are in place.
* Details of any groups that depends on the fishery for food and/or livelihood and information on how their rights are respected.
* List of organisations (statutory, commercial, NGO or other) involved in the fishery, along with their role and responsibility in the governance of the fishery.
* Details of any consultation process, including evidence of stakeholder participation and how information is used in the management system.
* Details of long-term management objectives that guide decision-making on policy that is relevant to the fishery.

Table 12: Available information on high-level governance and policy

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

### Fishery management system

Please complete Table 13 with the following information on the fishery management system, as available:

* Details of short-term objectives that guide decision-making for the management of the fishery.
* Details of decision-making processes for the management of the fishery, including evidence that decisions are made in response to issues identified in research and monitoring.
* Information related to the performance of the fishery and management actions.
* Details of how disputes in the fishery have been dealt with, including legal challenges and judicial decisions.
* Information on the fishery’s monitoring, control and surveillance system, including details of any enforcement plans and operations.
* Details of any sanctions used to deal with non-compliance, including evidence of where they have been applied.
* Information on compliance with management regulations in the fishery.
* Review documents of the management performance or process, including details of corrective actions.
* Peer reviewed reports on aspects of the management system.

Table 13: Available information on the fishery management system

|  |
| --- |
| References |
|  |
| Client comments |
|  |

## Traceability

Please complete Table 14 and Table 15 with information on traceability at the fishery, and provide information for each of the factors set out in the tables, as available. This information will be used to check whether product is eligible to enter certified Chains of Custody.

At this stage the specific Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA) and Unit(s) of Certification (UoC) may not have been defined. We therefore request information relating to the ability to segregate and identify catch by gear type, species and catch area.

Product eligibility

* MSC certified product must be traceable back to each individual UoC to be eligible to be sold as certified.
* The systems and documents in place to allow for this must be described.
* The risks of substitution with product caught outside the UoC(s) also needs to be considered. This requires:
  + Identifying and documenting where risks of mixing or substitution exist within the fishery.
  + If these risks exist, explaining how they are addressed or mitigated by the systems in place.
* First buyers will also need to know how information on the UoC(s) of each fish/fish product batch entering the supply chain will be provided to them so they know which batches can bear an MSC claim/ecolabel.

Table 14: Traceability risks and mitigations (required information)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Factor** | **Response**  *Include in each response:*   * *Whether each factor occurs.* * *When it occurs and how frequently.* * *How any potential traceability risks are mitigated/ managed.* * *If covered by information provided elsewhere in the checklist, cross reference as needed.* |
| Will the vessels to be assessed ever use different gear types that will not be part of the assessment?  If Yes, include in your response:   * If this may occur on the same trip, on the same vessels, or during the same season. |  |
| Will vessels in the fishery also fish in catch areas that will not be part of the assessment?  If Yes, also describe:   * If this may occur on the same trip. * If it is a seasonal occurrence. |  |
| Do vessels from outside the fishery to be assessed ever fish on the same stock? |  |
| Are there any steps before change of ownership from the fishery where fish that will be assessed are handled together with fish that will not be assessed?  This refers to both at-sea activities and on-land activities and includes:   * Translocation * Transhipment * Transport * Storage * Processing * Sorting / grading * Packing * Landing * Auction   If transhipment occurs within the fishery, also describe whether it takes place at-sea, in port, the high seas, or a combination of these. |  |
| Are there any other risks of mixing or substitution between fish of different species, caught by different gears or from different catch areas? |  |
| Are trading agents used?  If so, also describe:   * When they are used * How many there are * How do they provide details of species, gear, catch area, and where relevant vessel onto buyers? |  |

Table 15: Traceability within the fishery (optional information)

**Note:** If this information is not available at the Client Document Checklist phase, the CAB will require the information at the initial site visit.

|  |
| --- |
| **Movement of fish and fish product between harvest and landing** |
| *Describe/illustrate how product moves between harvest and landing, e.g.*  *Fishing vessel → Transhipment → Landing* |
| **Processing, sorting and grading at sea or prior to sale** |
| *Confirm whether:*   * *Processing ever happens at sea and what processing this is, e.g. heading and gutting, sorting, filleting, canning.* * *Any sorting or grading happens at sea or at landing.* |
| **Transhipment and oversight** |
| *Include if the transhipment is at sea, in-port or at high seas.*  *Describe the systems and oversight in place and the proportion of catch and transhipment vessels covered by this. Confirm any segregation and labelling on board.* |
| **First change of ownership** |
| *Describe when the first change of ownership happens and the parties involved in selling (e.g. trading agents, auctions).* |
| **Points of landing** |
| *Describe where product is landed (e.g. the geographic region, specific ports) and what takes place there (e.g. auctions, offloaders).* |
| Movement of fish and fish products between **landing** and **change of ownership**, if relevant |
| *Describe or illustrate how product moves between harvest and landing (where sale happens after landing). An example is provided below:*  *Landing → Offloader → Transport → Storage → Sale by client group company* |
| **How information on species, catch area and gear is passed between harvest and sale** |
| *Describe the documents and/or systems that allow this information to be transferred from harvest to sale.*  *If using traceability systems this would be considering the key data elements and critical tracking events.* |
| **Any stocks not covered in the assessment which are caught together with the stock to be assessed** |
| *Confirm what these stocks are and if/to what extent they are segregated from the stocks to be assessed. Does this happen at sea or at/after landing and if not segregated what proportion to they make of the overall haul.* |

## Appendix 1 - Guidance to the Client Document Checklist

What helpful information can you provide to the certifiers?

### Stock status data

**What is it?**

This is information about the condition of all stocks being fished and how this is monitored. Where there is an MSC fishery certified or in assessment on the same stock as this fishery, information from this/these assessment(s) may be useful to include as well.

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* Assessment teams need to know the reference points that are used to evaluate stock status and/or fishing mortality, how they were calculated, and the status of the stock in relation to these reference points. This is usually available in stock assessment reports.
* Assessment teams need to know how the stock is being monitored, including the details of any scientific models, the data that goes into them and how the fishery uses this information for management.
* Assessment teams need similar data on species caught by the fishery other than the species under MSC assessment, even if not specifically targeted by the fishery, to ensure that they are not being adversely affected by fishing effort. This includes both weight of species caught and an indication of how this relates to the overall population status of that species.
* If the species forms a low proportion of the total catch by weight (less than 5%), you may not need to consider it in as much detail, unless the species is known to be less resilient to fishing pressure (generally long lived, low fecundity species such as most sharks).

**What if you don’t have this information?**

If reference points are not defined for the fishery or if formal data to assess stock status are not available, another method of assessment called the [Risk-Based Framework (RBF)](https://www.msc.org/for-business/fisheries/developing-world-and-small-scale-fisheries/our-approach-to-data-limited-fisheries) may be used by the assessment team, either for the stock under certification or for other species impacted by the fishery. In this case, some data over time on the catch, effort, CPUE, fish length and age indexes, sex ratio, catch composition, species distribution, etc. may be used instead as indicators (proxy data) to identify and score the most vulnerable aspect affected by the fishing activity.

### Details of harvest strategy and harvest control rules

**What is it?**

This refers to the mechanisms used by the fishery to moderate its fishing effort should it become apparent that current levels of fishing effort are causing stock levels to decline.

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* External regulations (such as quota limits, effort limitations, minimum sizes, gear restrictions and technical measures, etc.) that aim to control the exploitation of the stocks.
* Internal rules and triggers for modifying fishing effort when data available suggest that current levels are too great.
* Records of how this is monitored and when/how it has been enforced/followed in the past.
* This information is explicitly needed for the stock(s) under assessment but will also be useful for other stocks caught by the fishery, whether targeted, retained or discarded.

### Ecosystem management strategy data

**What is it?**

This is the strategy used by fishery management to monitor and moderate the effect that its fishing effort has on the wider ecosystem in which it operates.

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* Records of the internal and/or external restrictions placed upon the fishery to monitor its impact upon the following:
  + Bycatch/Discarded species.
  + Endangered, Threatened or Protected (ETP) and out-of-scope (OOS) species.
  + Habitats.
  + Wider ecosystem.
* Information about the actions taken by the fishery to control these impacts (e.g. closed areas, gear selection, gear modifications, fishing time/place/season, etc.).
* Details of how impacts are monitored (e.g., logbooks, observer reports, VMS/AIS, self-sampling, scientific monitoring and mapping programmes, ecosystem empirical research and/or modelling, etc.).
* Details of species legally protected in the fishery’s country or area of operation (e.g. national protected species lists; this may include marine mammals, reptiles, birds, fish or shellfish).
* Information about how the fishery deals with and tries to minimise, mortality of unwanted catches.
* Any information about unobserved mortality (e.g. as a result of gear loss, illegal fishing, injury/stress from fishing resulting in mortality).

### Catch and effort data

**What is it?**

This is a record of what is caught by the fishery and the amount of fishing effort required to catch it (e.g. number of fishing trips taken per vessel, number of days per trip, distance covered, gear used (when and where), number of traps/hooks/lines, length of fishing net, etc.).

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

Records of the following catch and fishing effort data:

* Target species (species that will be assessed against the MSC Fisheries Standard).
* Retained species (other than MSC-assessed species).
* Discards/slipped catches.
* Endangered, Threatened or Protected and Out-of-Scope species.

### Governance and policy information

**What is it?**

Here, the MSC Fisheries Standard refers to the wider legal framework within which the fishery operates. There may be a formal legal framework (international and/or national policies, laws and regulations), and/or there may be a customary framework (including customs and traditions that are protected by law).

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* Local, national and international laws, regulations and agreements that govern any element of the fishery process, information on how the fishery ensures that it meets these requirements, and evidence of compliance.
* Any policy documents or management plans that provide guidance to the fishery management system.
* List of organisations or groups involved in, or potentially impacted by, the fishery and information on how these stakeholders (including the fishery client) can participate in the fishery management or policy-making system. (Note: a list of stakeholders may have already been prepared as part of the pre-assessment.)

### Fishery-specific management system information

**What is it?**

This is a fishery’s own management policy related directly to how the fishery operates. This could be a fishery management plan or other policy document relating to the fishery directly, whether at local, national or regional level and/or policies and statements of objectives from commercial stakeholders. This also includes information on the day-to-day operation of the fishery (e.g. decision making, monitoring, control and surveillance, review of the management system).

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* Policies or statements of objectives relating to the fishery.
* Details of monitoring, control and surveillance system at sea and quayside (e.g. at-sea inspection, quayside inspections, cross-checking of logbook and landings data, observers, VMS, CCTV, etc.). This includes details of any infractions by the client fishery and how these were dealt with. (Note: minor accidental infractions are not likely to be an issue for MSC certification; for major infractions, show how the operation of the fishery has been adapted to ensure that there is no repeat.)
* Details of how the fishery is kept informed about regulations (e.g. information from authorities or protection officers, instructions to skippers, etc.).

### Data-deficient fishery information

**What is it?**

If you have been informed by your CAB that your fishery will be, or might be, assessed against the Risk-Based Framework (RBF) for some aspects, you will be required to provide different types of information to assist the team.

**What do assessment teams need to see?**

* Management arrangements in place together with any specific strategies such as bycatch reduction of species recovery strategies.
* Descriptions of any monitoring strategies in place, including at-sea observer programmes (coverage, duration, objectives).
* Maps of:
  + The distribution of fishing effort within the jurisdictional boundaries of the fishery.
  + The distribution of all fishing effort on the target stock outside the fishery being certified.
  + Species, habitat and community distributions (including depth ranges).
* The level of overlap between the species, habitat, ecosystem and the fishery’s gear.
* Information needed for scoring the consequence of fishing activity on the species and/or habitats. Information for consideration of four components is needed: population size, reproductive capacity, age/size/sex structure and geographic range. For example, for population size, information on the impact of the fishery on the size or growth rate of the population and any difference between natural variability is required. Stakeholders will provide feedback for each, and where information does not exist, a high-risk score will be given.

## Template information and copyright

The Marine Stewardship Council’s ‘Client Document Checklist v2.2’ and its content is copyright of “Marine Stewardship Council” - © “Marine Stewardship Council” 2022. All rights reserved.

*The CAB shall* *delete the table below:*

Table 16: Template version control

| **Version** | **Date of publication** | **Description of amendment** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.0 | 08 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 |
| 2.2 | 26 October 2022 | Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.3 and v3.0 |

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website (<https://www.msc.org/for-business/certification-bodies/supporting-documents>).

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