Friend of the Sea Standard

FOS - Wild
Sustainable Fishing Requirements

Friend of the Sea
www.friendofthesea.org

REV	DATE	REASON	VALIDATION	APPROVAL
1	18/01/2013	First issue	Paolo Bray	
2	01/07/2015	Update	Paolo Bray	
3	30/09/2016	Standard update	Paolo Bray	
3.1	18/10/2017	Definitions and guidance to standard	Paolo Bray	

REV	DATE	REASON	APPROVED	VALIDATED	RATIFIED
4	18/03/2020	Standard update	Friend of the Sea Technical Committee	Accredia	Friend of the Sea Board of Directors

Valid from: 18/03/2020

Compulsory from: 18/03/2023

Foreword

Friend of the Sea is a non-governmental organisation established in 2008. Its objective is to safeguard the marine environment and its resources, encouraging a sustainable market and implementing specific conservation projects.

The Friend of the Sea certification program allows for the assessment of fisheries and aquaculture products according to sustainability criteria and requirements. The certification, granted following an audit by independent certification bodies, ensures that a product complies with the sustainability requirements.

Requirements are classified as Essential, Important or Recommendations, according to their level of importance.

Essential Requirements: The unit of certification shall be 100% compliant with essential requirements to be recommended for certification by the Certification Body (CB). Failure to comply with essential requirements is a major non-conformity. To achieve certification, corrective actions shall be implemented within three months from the date of assessment of non-conformities. Exclusively for the correction of requirements 2.1, 2.2, 3.1.1, 5.1.1b and 5.10.2 due to their more complex nature, six months are allowed. The unit of certification shall provide the CB with satisfactory evidence of correction of all major non-conformities, if necessary, with additional audits.

Important Requirements: Failure to comply with important requirements is a minor non-conformity. To achieve certification, the unit of certification shall first propose a corrective action plan within maximum three weeks from the date of assessment of the non-conformities - to the satisfaction of the CB. In the proposal, the unit of certification shall include the timeframe for the implementation of each corrective action, considering that all minor non-conformities must be closed before the surveillance audit. The proposal shall be analysed by the CB regarding its consistency and feasibility. If accepted, the certificate can be granted. Then, in the surveillance audit, the unit of certification shall be able to demonstrate that all minor non-conformities reported in the approved proposal were solved. If the approved proposal has not been fully implemented, the certificate is suspended until the resolution of any remaining minor non-conformities.

Recommendations: It is not compulsory for the unit of certification to comply with recommendations to achieve certification. Nonetheless, compliance with recommendations shall be verified during the audit and any non-conformities shall be highlighted in the audit report as a "recommendation". The unit of certification shall inform the CB, during the following audit, regarding any corrective measures implemented.

Requirements that are not applicable to the audited unit of certification will be marked with "N.A."

Description of the unit of certification

This document shall only be filled out by personnel of the CB in charge of the audit. It shall be filled out in English, if spoken fluently.

a) NAME OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED: Coldwater Prawns Production AS
b) NAME OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION REQUESTING THE AUDIT: Coldwater Prawns Production AS
c) IS THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED PART OF A GROUP? IF SO, PLEASE SPECIFY THE NAME OF THE GROUP AND LIST ALL MEMBERS: The organization is not part of a group.
d) ADDRESS OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED: Mefjordvegen 1529 9386 Senjahopen Norway The address for the head office is: Coldwater Prawns of Norway AS, Notenesgata 6 6002 Ålesund, Norway
e) NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS OF THE PERSON AT THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AUDIT AND CONTACTS WITH THE AUDITOR: Kristin Iversen - Quality Manager Dir/Mob: + 47 976 54 840 E-mail: kristin@prawnsofnorway.no Web: www.prawnsofnorway.no

f) FLEET TO BE AUDITED:

Name of the fishing vessel	*Registration number*	*Vessel's flag*	*Fishing method*	*Capacity (MT)*	*Unloading harbour*	*Ship owner if different from a)*
Arctic Swan	F-35-A 974006146 IMO 9258739	Norway	Botton trawler	2574	Tromsoe	Arctic Swan AS
Remoy	IMO 9660451	Norway	Botton trawler	3909	Tromsoe	REMØY HAVFISKE AS

The auditor verified that the vessels are regularly registered:

Skipssøk - SDIR

Skipssøk - SDIR – Arctic Swan

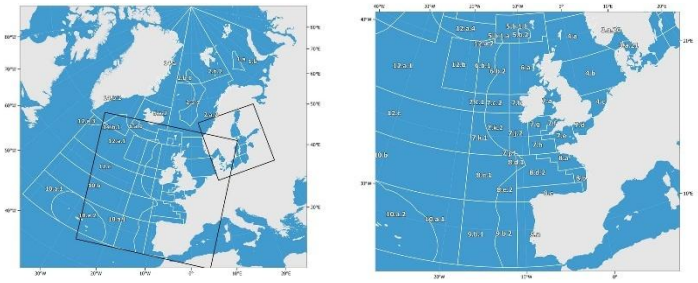
Skipssøk - SDIR - Remoy

f) VESSELS AUDITED ON SITE (the auditor shall list the vessels which have actually been audited on site as a sample representing the fleet)**:**

Name of the fishing vessel	Registration number	Unloading harbour
Arctic Swan	IMO 9258739 Norway	Tromsoe
Remoy	IMO 9660451 Norway	Tromsoe

h) FISHING ZONE *(Coordinates and/or FAO area and/or subarea and/or ICES area and/or EEZ. If available, please include a map.)***:**

Atlantic, Northeast (Major Fishing Area 27)



A description of the area and its subareas, divisions and subdivisions follows:
All waters of the Atlantic and Arctic Oceans and their dependent seas bounded by a line from the geographic North Pole along the meridian of 40°00' west longitude to the north coast of Greenland; thence in an easterly and southerly direction along the coast of Greenland to a point at 44°00' west longitude; thence due south to 59°00' north latitude; thence due east to 42°00' west longitude; thence due south to 36°00' north latitude; thence due east to a point on the coast of Spain (Punta Marroqui isthmus) at 5°36' west longitude; thence in a northwesterly and northerly direction along the southwest coast of Spain, the coast of Portugal, the north-west and north coasts of Spain, and the coasts of France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany to the western terminus of its boundary with Denmark; thence along the west coast of Jutland to Thyborøn; thence in a southerly and easterly direction along the south coast of the Limfjord to Egensekloster Point; thence in a southerly direction along the east coast of Jutland to the eastern terminus of the boundary of Denmark with Germany; thence along the coasts of Germany, Poland, Russian Federation, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Russian Federation, Finland, Sweden, and Norway, and the north coast of the Russian Federation to Khaborova; thence across the western entry of the Strait of Yugorskiy Shar; thence in a westerly and northerly direction along the coast of Vaigach Island; thence, across the western entry of the Strait of the Karskiye Vorota; thence west and north along the coast of the south island of Novaya Zemlya; thence across the western entry of the Strait of Matochkin Shar; thence along the west coast of the north island of Novaya Zemlya to a point at 68°30' east longitude; thence due north to the geographic North Pole.

Area 27 is divided as follows:

- Barents Sea (Subarea 27.1)
- Norwegian Sea, Spitzbergen, and Bear Island (Subarea 27.2)
- Skagerrak, Kattegat, Sound, Belt Sea, and Baltic Sea (Subarea 27.3)
- North Sea (Subarea 27.4)
- Iceland and Faroes Grounds (Subarea 27.5)
- Rockall, Northwest Coast of Scotland and North Ireland (Subarea 27.6)
- Irish Sea, West of Ireland, Porcupine Bank, Eastern and Western English Channel, etc (Subarea 27.7)
- Bay of Biscay (Subarea 27.8)
- Portuguese Waters (Subarea 27.9)
- Azores Grounds and Northeast Atlantic South (Subarea 27.10)
- Subarea XI
- North of Azores (Subarea 27.12)
- Subarea XIII
- East Greenland (Subarea 27.14)
- ICES Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus) functional units
- ICES Sandeel (Ammodytes spp.) management areas

website: Atlantic, Northeast (Major Fishing Area 27) - FAO Major Fishing Areas

i) COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME OF THE SPECIES TO BE AUDITED, WITH THE RESPECTIVE FISHING METHODS:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Fishing method
Coldwater prawns	*Pandalus Borealis*	Botton trawler

j) TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:

16

k) ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS:

The organization holds the following certifications:
-MSC Fishery Standard v2.01, certificate no. MSC-F-31361, valid until 08/12/2028.
-SMETA, report no. ZAA600096472.

l) STAKEHOLDERS INPUT:

*Before or during the audit, the CB shall inform all the relevant stakeholders about the audit of the unit of certification and recommend their input. Please refer to paragraph "**2.4.4. Stakeholders consultation in fishery assessments**" (FOS-Audit Guidance v.2) and provide the list of all contacted stakeholders below:*

The Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries - postmottak@nfd.dep.no

WWF Norway - post@wwf.no

m) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please specify the type of audit (initial, surveillance, additional, unannounced or recertification). In the case of multi-site audits, please specify also the method for calculation of sites inspected.

Renewal audit FOS Wild

The organization is FOS CoC certified.

Remote audit

Videos and photos of the fishing activity, unloading at the port and production have been attached as documentary support.

☐ **X The Friend of the Sea project was introduced** *(If not, the auditor shall provide a short description).*

☐ **X The unit of certification and the ship owners were informed of the opportunity, in case of approval, of using the Friend of the Sea logo on the certified products.**

☐ **X The unit of certification has a document qualifying and confirming the roles of the staff carrying out the audit.**

☐ **X The duration of the audit was agreed upon.**

☐ **X The information included in the Preliminary Information Form (PIF) was confirmed** (in the case of changes to the PIF, an updated version has to be promptly provided).

<table>
<tr><td>CERTIFICATION BODY:

LONDON ASSOCIATI SRL</td><td>AUDIT TEAM:

Chiara Di Pietro
(Lead Auditor)</td><td>AUDIT START AND END DATE:

01/04/2025
11/04/2025</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">SIGNATURE OF AUDITOR:

Chiara Di Pietro</td><td rowspan="2">NAME OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION AND ACCOMPANYING THE AUDITOR DURING THE AUDIT:

Kristin Iversen
Quality Manager</td><td>AUDIT CODE:</td></tr>
<tr><td>TYPE OF AUDIT:

Renewal Audit</td></tr>
</table>

NOTES TO THE AUDITOR

1) The auditor shall fill out all fields in the checklist.

2) Checklist compilation guidelines are highlighted in the blue boxes.

3) The Auditor shall provide an explanation when requirements are not applicable.

4) The Auditor shall write YES when the unit of certification complies with a requirement and NO when it does not.

5) The Auditor shall comment and explain the positive or negative answers. Simple "YES," "NO," or "N.A." are insufficient.

6) Each relevant document shall be added to the final audit report in a separate and numbered attachment.

7) Photographic evidence added to the checklist or attached are appreciated.

8) After a revised standard come into effect, a transitional period of three years is given to the certified companies to come into compliance. After this transitional period, the revised standard is considered compulsory.

9) The application process is NOT discriminatory on size, scale, management, minimum number of operators and number of vessels involved.

10) Enhanced fisheries and enhancement activities are not applicable to this standard. Friend of the Sea has excluded enhanced fisheries and enhancement activities from its Wild Standard because, among other reasons, these practices imply human intervention in the natural biological cycles of aquatic species. Due to the lack of knowledge on the consequences of these practices on the environment, Friend of the Sea has decided to adopt a responsible approach.

11) The FOS Audit Guidance Version 2 provides guidance on the content of this document. Please review the following definitions: "*best scientific evidence available", "legal framework", "management objectives", "precautionary approach", "irreversible or very slowly reversible", "enhanced fisheries", "enhancement activities" "essential habitat", "ecosystem (structure, processes and function)", "recruitment overfishing", "resilience", "fishery management plan", "participatory",* "data (information): adequate, reliable, current", *"stock under consideration" and "management system".*

1 – STOCK STATUS

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
1.1.1	The fisheries management organization or arrangement shall coordinate the collection and analysis of adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information necessary to assess the state and trends of the stock under consideration taking into account the structure and composition of that stock which contribute to its resilience. Management decisions made by the fisheries management organization or arrangement shall be based on this assessment. In data limited situations, with special regards to the deep-sea fisheries stocks in the high seas, a precautionary approach shall be applied. In these cases, it is required to the fishery to acknowledge and explain challenges in data collection and maintenance to cover all stages of fishery development, in accordance with applicable international standards and practices.	Essential	The fishery shall demonstrate it collects adequate, reliable and current data and /or information in accordance with applicable international standards (e.g. Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics, the FAO Guidelines for the routine collection of capture fishery data, FAO Fisheries Technical Paper No. 382).	Y	Fishery management system in Norway is controlled by the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and are based on recommendation from international organizations such as ICES. The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) is the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) for the North East Atlantic, one of the most abundant fishing areas in the world. The area covered by the NEAFC Convention (i.e., Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in North-East Atlantic Fisheries) stretches from the southern tip of Greenland, east to the Barents Sea, and south to Portugal. NEAFC's objective is to ensure the long-term conservation and optimum utilisation of the fishery resources in the Convention Area, providing sustainable economic, environmental and social benefits. In order to achieve this, NEAFC adopts management measures for various fish stocks and control measures to ensure that they are properly implemented. NEAFC also adopts measures to protect other parts of the marine ecosystem from potential negative impacts of fisheries. NEAFC's measures include setting limits to fishing by quantity and area, monitoring control and surveillance of fishing activity, joint fisheries inspections at sea, inspections at port and bans on bottom fishing in most of the Regulatory Area. The latter measure is in place to protect deep sea sponges and corals, but other conservation measures are also in place such as bans on targeting deep sea sharks, rays and chimaera. In order to make properly evidenced decisions, NEAFC relies on independent and authoritative science provided by the International Council for Exploration of the Sea, an intergovernmental organisation with which NEAFC has a

					memorandum of understanding. Each year NEAFC agrees a round of advice requests, both recurring annual advice and one-off special advice requests. About the Work of NEAFC | North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission The Main Fisheries statistic are about the fish species under Audit: Coldwater shrimp (Pandalus Borealis). The Regulatory Area is as a follow: -FAO statistical Area 27 -ICES Statistical area. The auditor viewed the document Assessment report for northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in the Barents Sea (ICES Subareas 1 and 2), of November 2024, which reports information relating to the stock, catches and other management measures to take into consideration.

The fisheries management organization is an institution responsible for fisheries management, including the formulation of rules governing fishing activities. The fishery management organization may also be responsible for collection of information, its analysis stock assessment, monitoring, control and surveillance. ***FAO 1997: FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries.***					
1.1.2	The stock under consideration shall NOT be overexploited.	Essential	F ≤ Fmsy within probability range of available stock assessments or at least F ≤ Flim (limit reference point – or its proxy). If overfishing of a stock under consideration of a certified fishery occurs, the certification of this fishery is suspended or revoked.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. Fishing pressure on the stock is below FMSY and F_{pa}, and spawning-stock size is below MSY $B_{trigger}$ and above B_{lim}. F2023/FMSY: 0.75 All catches are converted to live weight for input into the assessment, and advice provided is for live-weight catches. The management strategy evaluation used to calculate the reference points included an implementation bias of 8% to account for the fact that the TAC has not been adjusted for weight changes as a result of the onboard boiling process. In 2023, the new LTMS and TAC-year were evaluated, during which the hermaphroditic relationship (transition rate of males to females) was changed to make it more representative of the underlying biology of the stock, resulting in a revised perception of the SSB (biomass of mature females) with respect to the new reference points. In 2023 small corrections were made to the length–frequency distributions in the Norwegian catch data, and updates were made to calculation of the survey index, which resulted in an upward revision of SSB/MSYB trigger during 1983–2012. Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East has a short life span (max. four years), and its dynamics are driven by size of incoming recruitment. The fishery takes place on ages 1 to 3. Following a strong year class in 2020, the estimated SSB on o1 July 2024 has increased and is now slightly above Blim. Historically low recruitment in 2022 has reduced

					the total and fishable biomass (ages 1–3) of the stock (Figure 3), causing a further reduction in catch advice for the TAC year. Fishing mortality is presented only in relation to FMSY, and total stock biomass is presented only in relation to MSY Btrigger. These values are directly estimated from the stock assessment and change when the assessment is updated. B0 is the estimated unexploited spawning biomass at current conditions (average biological parameters for the last five years) (table 4). The auditor has viewed the extract of the document, which reports: 3.4 - Stock size and fishing mortality Exploitable stock biomass was estimated to above BMSY for the entire time series since 1970 (Figure 11). The lowest biomass level in the mid-1980s occurred following some years with high catches. Since then, the stock has varied on a stably high level. The corresponding mean estimate of fishing mortality has remained below FMSY throughout the history of the fishery, with only three periods during the 1980s, around 2000 and since 2018 that the estimates indicate a (low) probability of exceeding FMSY. For assessment year 2024, there is less than 5% probability that fishing mortality was above FMSY and less than 1% probability that exploitable biomass was below MSY Btrigger in the beginning of 2025 (Table 3). (https://www.hi.no/hi/nettrapporter/imr-pinro-en-2024-13#sec-1-2)

1.1.3	The stock under consideration shall NOT be overfished.	Essential	B ≥ Bmsy within probability range of available stock assessments or at least B>Blim (limit reference point – or its proxy). If the stock under consideration of a certified fishery becomes overfished, the certification of this fishery is suspended or revoked.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. B lim 0.15 × B0 Relative value; set at 15% of B0 Bpa 0.9 × B30% MSY Btrigger Fpa 1.13 × FMSY FP05. The F that leads to SSB ≥ Blim with 95% probability Bmgt 0.9 × B30% MSY Btrigger Fishing mortality is presented only in relation to FMSY, and total stock biomass is presented only in relation to MSY Btrigger. These values are directly estimated from the stock assessment and change when the assessment is updated. B0 is the estimated unexploited spawning biomass at current conditions (average biological parameters for the last five years) (table 4). The auditor viewed the table, extracted from the document (https://www.hi.no/hi/nettrapporter/imr-pinro-en-2024-13#sec-1-2), which reports the Precautionary MSY approach, FMSY and F for 2024 and 2025.
The auditor shall take into account the best scientific evidence available and, in the case of data limited fisheries,					

shall consider the Precautionary Approach.					
1.1.4	The current status and management measures for the stock under consideration shall include data of bycatch, discards, unobserved mortality, incidental mortality, unreported catch, and catch of all the fisheries over the entire area of the distribution of the stock under consideration.	Essential	Documented evidence	Y	The Directorate of Fisheries has issued fisheries management measures, with the aim of improving the use of marine resources and reducing exploitation and discards. The document "Discard Ban Package": Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries reports that the main objective of Norwegian policy is to promote an exploitation pattern where recruits and undersized fish are spared, and where unwanted by-catch can be minimized. Over the next 20 years, the ban on discarding of dead or dying fish was gradually extended to include new species, and by 2008 a total of 18 species were covered by the no-discard policy. On 1 January 2009 the old Act relating to Seawater Fisheries was replaced by a new Marine Resources Act [8], and at the same time an obligation to land all catch of fish (discard ban) was made the general norm. The earlier Act related only to fisheries and focused mainly on the exploitation of commercial stocks, whereas the new Act applies to all living marine resources. After initial adjustments the following years, the discard ban comprises approximately 55 species by 2014 [9]. Some further adjustments for species of low economic value could be expected in order to adapt the discard policy to some of the practical problems encountered by the fishing fleet (point 3). A commonly asked question with regard to the Norwegian discard policy is how to handle all the

					'illegal' catches that are now supposedly landed. Questions like this tend to overlook the combined set of measures that lie at the core of the policy. The discard ban, the obligation to change fishing ground, RTCs, the tailoring of quota regulations, gear restrictions and minimum fish and mesh sizes, and the development of more selective gear—all these measures aim at reducing the amount of unwanted catches in the first place. The accompanying measures are discussed below (point 4). The auditor viewed the table, extracted from the document (https://www.hi.no/hi/nettrapporter/imr-pinro-en-2024-13#sec-1-2), which reports the management of discards and bycatches.
1.1.5	The methodology, the results and the trends of the stock status assessment under consideration shall be made publicly available in a timely manner and based on the best scientific evidence available, respecting confidentiality where appropriate.	Essential	Documented evidence	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. The REPORT ON NORWEGIAN FLAG has been published STATE PERFORMANCE, self-assessment in accordance with the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Responsibility, which reports on the management of fisheries and vessels (monitoring, controls, authorizations). The auditor viewed the document Assessment report for northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in the Barents Sea (ICES Subareas 1 and 2), of November 2024, which reports information relating to the stock, catches and other management measures to take

					into consideration.

2 – ECOSYSTEM AND HABITAT IMPACT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
2.1	Adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information are collected and updated at the level of the Fishery Management System, taking into account the best scientific evidence available, in order to make an assessment of the effects of the unit of certification on the ecosystem structure, function, processes and essential habitats for the stock under consideration and for habitats that are vulnerable to damage by the fishing gear of the unit of certification (with special consideration to deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and vulnerable marine ecosystems). This includes knowledge of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat, not just that part of the spatial range that is potentially affected by fishing and an assessment on non-target stocks, Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species, habitats and ecosystem services. The methodology and results of the likelihood and magnitude of adverse impacts of the unit of certification on the ecosystem shall be made publicly available in a timely manner, respecting confidentiality where appropriate. In order to assess severe adverse impacts[1] on dependent predators, data and information shall be collected considering the role of the stock in the food web, including all sources of fishing.	Essential	Data collection shall be in accordance with international standards (e.g. CWP and DSF in the High Seas, FAO Programme). The data and analysis may include any traditional, fisher or community knowledge used within the management system. [1]Severe adverse impacts can be regarded as those that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.	Y	NEAFC has published Recommendation 19: 2014 on area management measures for the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area: Objective of the Recommendation: 1. The objective of this Recommendation is to ensure the implementation by NEAFC of effective measures to prevent significant adverse impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems known to occur or likely to occur in the NEAFC Regulatory Area based on the best available scientific information provided or endorsed by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). 2. This Recommendation takes into account NEAFC's responsibility as a regional fisheries management organisation to adopt measures in the Regulatory Area in regard to bottom fishing, in order to contribute to the key objectives of the UN General Assembly Resolutions on the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems and to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep sea fish stocks and non-target species; the rebuilding of depleted stocks and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable, or inadequate, conservation and management measures established consistent with the precautionary approach. 3. This Recommendation shall be without prejudice

					to any sovereign rights of coastal States over the continental shelf in accordance with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for the purpose of exploring and exploiting its natural resources, including living organisms belonging to sedentary species, such as vulnerable marine ecosystems. 4. For the purpose of this Recommendation, NEAFC will take into account the guidance provided by the FAO in the framework of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and any other internationally agreed standards, as appropriate. The Directorate of Fisheries has published Ecosystem-based fisheries management in Norway (EAFM): Ddefining management objectives and developing simple and efficient tools to achieve an overview of management needs and priorities among these, while integrating broader conservation issues and ensuring stakeholder involvement. A new Marine Resources Act entered into force in Norway in 2009. By integrating conservation and sustainable use as basic principles, the law represents a paradigm shift in the management of Norwegian fisheries. The document Towards ecosystem-based fisheries management in Norway – Practical tools for keeping track of relevant issues and prioritizing management effort, presents the practical implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in Norway. This involves defining management

					objectives and developing simple and efficient tools to achieve an overview of management needs and priorities among these, while integrating broader conservation issues and ensuring stakeholder involvement. A new Marine Resources Act entered into force in Norway in 2009. By integrating conservation and sustainable use as basic principles, the law represents a paradigm shift in the management of Norwegian fisheries. The law indicates which concerns should be addressed, but neither how nor how often evaluations should take place. That is for management to decide. A management principle in the Marine Resources Act confers on the Ministry an obligation to evaluate whether continued fishing at the present scale is justifiable, or whether improved management is required to ensure sustainability. A Stock table, and a table of "Catches of data-poor species" constitute a comprehensive system for monitoring the management principle. Along with a Fisheries table, these tables establish a framework for developing an ecosystem-based fisheries management by providing a basis and tools for prioritizing the needs of new and/or revised management measures. The auditor viewed the document Assessment report for northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in the Barents Sea (ICES Subareas 1 and 2), of November 2024, which I report in point 4 - Environmental

					and other considerations (report from the Institute of Marine Research).

2.2	The unit of certification complies with the Marine Protected Areas regulations.	Essential	Verify compliance also by use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and plotters tracking and World database.	Y	The certification unit complies with the regulations on the Areas Protected Marines. The auditor has verified that the area is compliant (website: Norway (all waters) Marine Protection | Marine Protection Atlas).
The auditor, through random sampling, using the Satellite Control System on the vessels or valid alternative evidence, shall verify that the fishing activity is not carried out in infringement of Marine Protected Areas (MPA). Alternatively, an official declaration from local Control Authorities shall be produced. The Auditor shall provide a list of Protected Marine Areas in the area (refer to http://www.mpatlas.org/map/mpas/, where applicable).					

2.3	The unit of certification shall use fishing gears that do not affect the seabed, unless it is proved that such impact is negligible.	Essential	The auditor shall list all the gear types used by the applicant unit of certification and assess their impact on the specific type of seabed and its benthic communities.	Y	The Organization uses bottom trawler as fishing gear. As also highlighted by analyzes carried out by the FAO, the use of this method has no potential negative effects on the seabed (website: Bottom trawls (nei) - Fishing gear type)
The Auditor shall collect conformity evidence.					

3 - GEAR SELECTIVITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
3.1	Accidental catches (bycatch) coming from the unit of certification shall not include species listed in the IUCN red list of endangered species as Vulnerable or higher risk. The IUCN assessment shall have been carried out no more than 10 years before.	Essential	Bycatch studies shall have been carried out by the relevant bodies (FAO or RFMOs or National Authorities or Universities) and they shall provide information regarding level of bycatch and bycaught species. These studies shall not indicate the presence of species vulnerable or higher risk among the regularly caught (over 0.25% of total weight) species according to www.iucnredlist.org.	Y	No accidental catches are recorded. No evidence or impact on other fishes is registered. Selectivity is guaranteed by the compulsory application of grid in the net. This system results with practically no accidental catches. Once a year an enhanced audit observers from the fishing authority are comes on board. By catch are not coming from red listed species. Point 2.1: Discards of shrimp cannot be quantified but are believed to be small as the fishery is not limited by quotas. Bycatch rates of other species are estimated from at-sea inspections and research surveys and are corrected for differences in gear selection pattern, and raised with the corresponding shrimp catches from logbooks to give an overall bycatch estimate (Breivik *et al.*, 2017). Revised and updated discards estimates (1983–2017) of cod, haddock and redfish juveniles in the Norwegian commercial shrimp fishery in the Barents Sea were available in 2018. Since the introduction of the Nordmøre sorting grid in 1992, only small individuals of cod, haddock, Greenland halibut, and redfish, in the 5–25 cm size range, are caught as bycatch. Collecting bags, an extra codend mounted on the shrimp trawl for catching ground fish as bycatch, are being used by some EU vessels (ICES, 2022a). https://www.hi.no/hi/nettrapporter/imr-pinro-en-2024-13#sec-1-2
3.2	The unit of certification collects and maintains adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information about its effects on endangered	Essential	Evidence of conformity	Y	The Directorate of Fisheries has issued fisheries management measures, with the aim of improving the use of marine resources and reducing exploitation and discards. The document "Discard Ban Package":

	species, non-target catches and discards in accordance with applicable international standards and practices. It is required the monitoring and subsequent assessment of the extent to which non-target catches and discards by the unit of certification of stocks other than the stock under consideration threaten those non-target stocks with recruitment overfishing or other impacts that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.				Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries reports that the main objective of Norwegian policy is to promote an exploitation pattern where recruits and undersized fish are spared, and where unwanted by-catch can be minimized. NEAFC has published the following recommendation regarding discards and by-catches: Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area (no.10:2023). The auditor has viewed the document NORWAY NORTH EAST ARCTIC COLD WATER PRAWN and document Assessment report for northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in the Barents Sea (ICES Subareas 1 and 2), point 2.1. Assessment report for northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in the Barents Sea (ICES Subareas 1 and 2) | Havforskningsinstituttet
The auditor shall obtain records kept by the unit of certification of the species that are caught accidentally, and an assessment of the effects of the fishery on non-target stocks. The information included in the list shall be compared with the accidental catches actually occurred on site at the time of unloading. The list shall also be compared with the database of the IUCN red list www.redlist.org. The Auditor shall provide a final document that shows if any of the accidentally caught species is included in the IUCN list.					

3.3	The level of discard shall not be over 8% of total catch (in weight).	Essential	Discards are bycaught species, which are not used for human consumption nor for fishmeal or fish oil production.	Y	NEAFC has published the Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area. The level of discard is not be over 8% of the total catch. Accidental catch with small fish can occur, just like red fish or cod. In case of red fish, if there are more than 3 pieces for 10 kg the area is closed to fishing. The report NORWAY NORTH EAST COLD ARCTIC GAMBERO D'ACQUA reports that the level of waste must not exceed 5% of the total catch. Accidental capture of small fish, such as goldfish or cod, may occur. In the case of redfish or green halibut, there are regulations in place (page 87).
3.4.1	The unit of certification shall provide a census of the number of all fish aggregating devices (FADs) deployed per vessel during the previous 12 months. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Auditor shall collect the data provided by the fleet or fishery and attach it to the audit report.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
3.4.2	The unit of certification shall use non-entangling FADs only, to avoid entanglement of sharks, turtles and other non-target species. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to**	Important	Auditor shall collect evidence including pictures of FADs, purchase invoices with technical specifications to prove compliance.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.

	fisheries targeting any other species.				
3.4.3	Marking FADs and FAD components with ownership details, consistent with the Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear, adopted at the FAO's Committee on Fisheries (COFI 33). **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	More information about Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear at this link: https://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/WCPFC_Gear%20Marking_FAO.pdf The auditor shall attach to the report at least one picture of markers as example.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
3.4.4	Equipping all FADs with a tracking device and sharing real-time FAD location with relevant authorities. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Evidence of compliance, such as purchase invoices with technical specifications and maintenance records. If possible, the auditor can include pictures of tracking devices.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
3.4.5	Recovering all deployed FADs and avoiding their deliberate abandonment. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Evidence of recovering all deployed FADs, e.g. logbook.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
3.4.6	Ensuring there is adequate storage space on boats/vessels for recovered FADs.	Essential	Verify that there is adequate storage space on boat/vessels for recovered FADs, collecting evidence through pictures that	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.

	Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.		have to be attached to the audit report.		
3.4.7	Reporting of lost FADs with date, time and last known position to relevant authorities. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Essential	Verify the existence of a logbook where reported cases of loss and attach to the audit report at least one example.	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
3.5	Shark finning is prohibited.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity: site inspection and interview. The unit of certification shall declare that they do not practice shark finning.	Y	NEAFC has published recommendations regarding the ban on shark fishing: - Recommendation on Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (point 3: Contracting Parties shall prohibit the removal of shark fins at sea and the retention on board, transhipment and landing of shark fins); -Recommendation on Conservation and Management Measures for Basking Shark (Cetorhinus maximus) in the NEAFC Regulatory Area from 2024 to 2027; -Recommendation on Conservation and Management Measures for Deep Sea Sharks in the NEAFC Regulatory Area from 2024 to 2027.

					The auditor viewed the Regulations prohibiting fishing and trapping of basking sharks, dogfish, porcupines and silky sharks, which prohibits fishing for basking sharks (Cetorhinus maximus), dogfish (Squalus acanthias), common sharks (Lamna nasus) and silkworms (Carcharhinus falciformis). It is also prohibited to cut the fins of basking sharks and harriers before the catch has been landed (paragraph 2).
3.6	Turtle excluder devices (TEDs) are in place and subjected to periodic maintenance. **Only applicable to trawler fisheries and fleets targeting shrimps.**	Important	The unit of certification shall have appointed at least one employee to monitor the functioning and maintenance of TEDs. The auditor shall collect evidence of compliance, such as purchase invoices with technical specifications and maintenance records. If possible, the auditor can include pictures of TEDs.	Y	Turtle excluder devices, commonly called TEDs, promote sea turtle conservation by addressing interactions between sea turtles and trawl fishing gear. These devices are made of metal bars and mesh that fit inside the neck of a trawl net. While shrimp pass between the bars to the back of the net, turtles and other larger animals bump against the metal grid and escape through a flap in the mesh. Current TED designs have been determined to be 97 percent effective in excluding turtles from shrimp trawls. Turtle Excluder Devices | NOAA Fisheries Turtle Excluder Device

					Designs | NOAA Fisheries Not relevant in the Barents Sea (ICES subareas 1 and 2). Furthermore, the trawl is equipped with a sorting grid (photo attached). The purpose of the grill is to separate and release fish from catching shrimp. The auditor viewed the Regulations relating to the installation of sorting grids in shrimp trawls: The regulation applies to Norwegian and foreign vessels fishing with shrimp trawls in Norway's territorial waters and economic zone north of 62° N, in Norway's territorial waters and economic zone south of 62° N, in the Skagerrak bounded to the west by a straight line through Lindesnes lighthouse and Hanstholmen lighthouse and to the south by a straight line through Skagen lighthouse and Tistlarna lighthouse, in the fishing zone at Jan Mayen, in the fishery protection zone at Svalbard and in Svalbard's territorial waters.
3.7	The unit of certification shall use circle hooks. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet using pole and line and long line fishing methods.**	Recommendation	Evidence of conformity	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not use pole and line fishing gear.

4 - LEGAL CONFORMITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
4.1	All fishing vessels shall be officially registered.	Essential	Vessel registration and fishing license inspection.	Y	The auditor verified that the vessels are in possession of a regular fishing license: -ARCTIC SWAN vessel, license no.978913016; - REMOY vessel, license no.974006146.
The Auditor shall request a list of all the fishing boats and the respective registration number. The Auditor shall collect on site all the documents concerning the registration of at least 10%of the audited boats (copies of photos of the documents).					
4.2	The fleet does not include vessels with a flag of convenience.	Essential	The auditor shall verify that each vessel is not registered to another Nation identified as Flag of Convenience. Please refer to: https://www.itfseafarers.org/foc-registries.cfm	Y	The organization does not include flag of convenience vessels (FOCs). The auditor has reviewed the list of FOC vessels (website: https://www.itfseafarers.org/en/focs/current-registries-listed-as-focs).

4.3	The fleet does not include illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels.	Essential	The auditor shall verify that the vessels are not listed in EU IUU vessel list (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2015.199.01.0012.01.ENG), or in the IUU vessel list made available by the competent RFMO.	Y	The fleet does not include IUU vessels: -NEAFC IUU A List | North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission; -| North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission; -Norwegian Black List; -Evaluation of Norway's flag state responsibility At its 31 session in 2014 the FAO Committee on Fisheries adopted the Voluntary Guidelines on Flag State Performance (VGFSP) as a complementary tool in the fight against IUU fishing (Evaluation of Norway's flag state responsibility); -Port State Measures: Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a global threat to sustainable fisheries and to the management and conservation of fisheries resources (Port State Measures).
4.4	The fleet shall be "Dolphin Safe" approved by the Earth Island Institute. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Essential	The unit of certification shall be included in the Dolphin-Safe list of the Earth Island Institute: www.dolphinsafetuna.org	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not fish tuna.
The Auditor shall verify conformity on the latest list of approved Dolphin Safe companies and/or importers, brokers, and retailers. A copy of the signed EII DS Policy shall be included in the audit report.					

4.5	The unit of certification complies with local, national and international fisheries regulations. In particular, based on the best scientific evidence available, compliance with the following regulations has to be confirmed and verified:	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	Fisheries management organizations have published the following management measures: -Directorate of Fisheries has issued fisheries management measures, with the aim of improving the use of marine resources and reducing exploitation and discards. The document "Discard Ban Package": Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries reports that the main objective of Norwegian policy is to promote an exploitation pattern where recruits and undersized fish are spared, and where unwanted by-catch can be minimized. NEAFC has issued Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area, no.10:2023. Furthermore, the vessels are equipped with electronic reporting systems (VMS) that allow tracking of the fishing vessel, as established by the Directorate of Fisheries: Electronic Reporting Systems The vessels complies with the Norwegian national regulation using the compulsory grid for the shrimps trawlers,

					respecting the TAC system for shrimps, minimum size of shrimps, distance of fishing from the coast and the size of nets (photo attached). The auditor viewed the following regulations: -Regulations relating to the installation of sorting grids in shrimp trawls: The regulation applies to Norwegian and foreign vessels fishing with shrimp trawls in Norway's territorial waters and economic zone north of 62° N, in Norway's territorial waters and economic zone south of 62° N, in the Skagerrak bounded to the west by a straight line through Lindesnes lighthouse and Hanstholmen lighthouse and to the south by a straight line through Skagen lighthouse and Tistlarna lighthouse, in the fishing zone at Jan Mayen, in the fishery protection zone at Svalbard and in Svalbard's territorial waters; -Regulations on the implementation of fishing, catching and harvesting of wild marine resources (harvesting regulations): The regulation applies to the harvesting of wild marine resources with the exception of anadromous salmonids. The regulation applies to Norwegian and foreign vessels in Norway's

					economic zone, in the fishing zone at Jan Mayen, in the fishing protection zone at Svalbard, in Norway's territorial waters and on the Norwegian continental shelf. For Norwegian vessels, the regulation also applies outside these areas as long as this does not conflict with another state's jurisdiction.
4.5.1	Total Allowable Catches (TAC).	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable limits.**	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the status of the TAC of the species audited. In 2023, the new LTMS and TAC-year were evaluated, during which the hermaphroditic relationship (transition rate of males to females) was changed to make it more representative of the underlying biology of the stock, resulting in a revised perception of the SSB (biomass of mature females) with respect to the new reference points. In 2023 small corrections were made to the length–frequency distributions in the Norwegian catch data, and updates were made to calculation of the survey index, which resulted in an upward revision of SSB/MSY Btrigger during

					1983–2012. Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East has a short life span (max. four years), and its dynamics are driven by size of incoming recruitment. The fishery takes place on ages 1 to 3. Following a strong year class in 2020, the estimated SSB on o1 July 2024 has increased and is now slightly above Blim. Historically low recruitment in 2022 has reduced the total and fishable biomass (ages 1–3) of the stock (Figure 3), causing a further reduction in catch advice for the TAC year. Table 7: History of the catch and landings: Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East. Catch distribution by fleet in 2023 (1 July 2023 30 June 2024) as estimated by ICES - based on the assumption that the remaining TAC is taken in Q2 of 2024. Catch: 6216 tonnes Advice on fishing opportunities for northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*) in the Barents Sea (ICES subareas 1 and 2): https://www.hi.no/hi/nettrapporter/imr-pinro-en-2024-14

4.5.2	Use of a logbook.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	All fishing vessels in Norway uses electronic logbook passing by mail to the fishing directorate every morning and every evening. The fishing trip of a shrimps' boat is an average 4/5 weeks. https://www.fiskeridir.no/Yrkesfiske/Rapportering-paa-havet/elektronisk-rapportering-ers All data is stored by the Directorate of Fisheries and is only accessible to authorized personnel who are subject to a duty of confidentiality. The main users of the information are the Norwegian Coast Guard and the Directorate of Fisheries. The Joint Rescue Coordination Centers and the Institute of Marine Research also have access to part of the information. The auditor viewed the Arctic Swan logbook screenshot from 03/02/2025.
4.5.3	Minimum net mesh size.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	Diamond shape: 35 mm The auditor has viewed the following documents of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN: -Dimensions of shrimp trawl net "COSMOS 2005 TIGER" - 3000 meshes in half mesh of 20 mm; -Mesh size of the net.

4.5.4	Net size.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	Opening: W 60 x H 10 meters. Total length of the trawl including belly aprox. 240 m. thereof grid + extension and codend 40 m. Mesh size in belly 64-80 mm. The auditor has viewed the following documents of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN: -Dimensions of shrimp trawl net "COSMOS 2005 TIGER" - 3000 meshes in half mesh of 20 mm; -Mesh size of the net.
4.5.5	Minimum legal size of the target species.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The Minimum legal size of the target species is 6 cm. (shrimp). According the law Shrimps is measured from the front of the eye to the rear edge of the tail. https://www.fiskeridir.no/English/Fishing-in-Norway/Minimum-sizes
4.5.6	Distance from the shore.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/	Y	The vessels are equipped with electronic reporting systems (VMS) which allow tracking of the fishing vessel, as established by the Directorate of Fisheries: Electronic Reporting Systems The vessels are equipped with electronic reporting systems (VMS) which allow tracking of the fishing vessel, as established by the Directorate of Fisheries: Electronic Reporting Systems. Fishing is not permitted within 12 miles. The vessel

					never operates closer to the shore than 250NM due to environmental regulations. The auditor verified the position of the vessels: -ARCTIC SWAN, Fishing Vessel - Details and current position - IMO 9258739 - VesselFinder -REMOY, Fishing Vessel - Details and current position - IMO 9660451 - VesselFinder
4.5.7	Measures that minimize unwanted catch and discards, where appropriate.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable measures.**	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the evaluation of discards during fishing for the audited species. Table 7: History of the catch and landings. Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East. Catch distribution by fleet in 2023 (1 July 2023 30 June 2024) as estimated by ICES - based on the assumption that the remaining TAC is taken in Q2 of 2024. Catch: 6216 tonnes, Discard: 141 tonnes. Table 8: Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East. History of commercial catch and landings; ICES estimated values are presented by country. For year 2024, estimated Norwegian discards: 61

					tonnes. The vessels are using eco-sonar and is controlled by VSM system. A grid system is mounted on the net to implement selectivity.
4.5.8	No fishing in protected habitats.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The vessels are equipped with electronic reporting systems (VMS) which allow tracking of the fishing vessel, as established by the Directorate of Fisheries: Electronic Reporting Systems The fleet does not operate in protected area. The legal basis for fisheries management to protect marine areas is: The marine resources act https://www.fiskeridir.no/English/Coastal-management/Marine-protected-areas Pursuant to this Act the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs has laid down detailed provisions in the regulations relating to sea-water fisheries. The regulation is frequently updated, and attached to it are maps showing a substantial number of, but by far not all, marine areas protected by Norwegian fisheries legislation. The regulation with annexed maps (in Norwegian) - in link above. Included are for example 18 coral reef MPAs. (annex 4.5.8.)

4.5.9	Use of forbidden gear, chemical substances and explosives.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The marine resources act, Act of 6 June 2008 no. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources, prohibits the use of explosives and chemicals in the sea (section 18).
The auditor shall verify, according to fisheries national and international regulations, that the aforementioned legal requirements are met and provide an exhaustive report with reference to the law. Where possible, the auditor shall provide documents and photographs. A detailed description of the fishing regulation concerning each Country is available on FAO's website http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/**.**					

5 – FISHERY MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments

5.1.1a	The fishery management system of which the unit of certification is a part is managed under an effective legal framework according to a regularly updated Fishery Management Plan (FMP), at the appropriate level, and complies with local, national and international laws and regulations.	Essential	The Unit of Certification shall provide a copy of the FMP according to the Fishery Management System (FMS). In addition, national fishery ministries and authorities can be considered, e.g. Fisheries Management Organisations (FMOs). A map of existing RFMOs is available at http://www.fao.org/figis/geoserver/factsheets/rfbs.html	Y	.The Directorate of Fisheries' role is: • to provide professional input to the policy making process by way of analyses, statistics and advice legislature, regulative work and regulation planning development; • to be an efficient manager:- by implementing political decisions, processing applications and appeals;- by conducting monitoring and control;- being a partner through active cooperation with trade and industry, research community and relevant public services, sharing national and international knowledge with various stakeholders and the general public The Directorate has seven regional offices, located at the coast from Egersund in the south to Vadso in the north. Their responsibilities include dealing with individual cases, providing guidance and conducting monitoring and auditing activities, including resource monitoring. The regional offices are also in charge of a number of local offices. The Directorate was founded in 1900, and

					its main goal is to promote profitable economic activity through sustainable and user-oriented management of marine resources and the marine environment. The Fiskeridirectorate operates as surveillance and control entity and performs a constant monitoring on the stocks thanks to an informatic organization using logbook data and the results of the inspection activity on the boats. In relation of the general situation of the stocks they decide specific measures in the availability of catching areas, closing or re-opening them. Each single measure is defined for specific specie, area limits, period and it's communicated directly to the vessels captain by e-mail. The activity is performed in connection and integration with the Costal Guard. News and press releases - regjeringen.no Determining fishing quotas are the recommendations issued through ICES from Norwegian and international marine researchers. Norway

					attaches great importance to research, and actively seeks to acquire increased knowledge of the marine environment and resources, as well as expertise on the interaction of different species. The Norges Råfisklag is one of the six fish sales organizations in Norway. Norges Råfisklag's head office is in Tromsø, and the organization has approximately 60 employees According with the Norway legislation all the fish has to be sold through the recognized fishermen organization, such as Norges Råfisklag. The main scope of these organizations is to keep under control all the catches in order to ensure that all the fish is sold under license and complying the regulations. Therefore the Norges Råfisklag covers all the 7000 vessels fishing in the directorate area, and the average 170000 landings. Norges Råfisklag hjemmeside At the point of landing, the document "landing declaration" is issued

					and signed by the capatain and the receiver (often a ware house terminal) The Norges Råfisklag is one of the fish sales organizations in Norway. Norges Råfisklag's head office is in Tromsø. According with the Norway legislation all the fish has to be sold through the recognized fishermen organization, such as Norges Råfisklag. The main scope of these organizations is to keep under control all the catches in order to ensure that all the fish is sold under license and complying the regulations. The system organization follows: the landing is bought by the buyer, who immediately issues the "contract note", signed by the vessels master and the same buyer. One copy of the document will be kept by the buyer, a second one by the master and a third one immediately appears on the Norges Råfisklag thanks to the web net programme. The payment and the invoice made through the Norges Råfisklag . Norges Råfisklag validates performing a

					three types of electronic checks: 1) Check if all necessary information are present 2) Logical tests with reference to the content 3) On the Directorate information base, received by web every night, checking of the legal registered vessel, appropriateness of specie, fishing method, etc. The quota control takes some more time – at present it is performed 4 times a year. Anyway for prawns there is a precautionary TAC on the specie and a precautionary measure is taken when the limit is almost reached, closing the whole area for that species, to all vessels, no matter the flag. Therefore, if a buying exceeds the quota, thanks to the Norges Råfisklag intermediation the fishermen will be charged of the difference and he will pay immediately or a balance with future catching will be established. Norges Råfisklag generates the catch certificate referred to that contract note as the evidence of its validation.

					On prawns the above system is applied with the only exception that, at present, thanks to the good situation of the stock, there is not quota for each vessel. The price is the auction price Besides, Norges Råfisklag performs a control on landings. In 2011, have been controlled approximately the 25% of shrimps. A report is issued for each control and it's shared with the other Directorate. Among the controls: - Checking the size Presence of other species (haddock, halibut, juveniles,). Directorate of Fisheries
5.1.1b	If the stock under consideration is a transboundary fish stock, straddling fish stock, highly migratory fish stock or high seas fish stock, a bilateral, sub regional or regional fisheries organization or arrangement is in place. States and entities in the arrangement shall collaborate in the management of the whole stock unit and bycaught or discarded species, over their entire area of distribution, with clear roles and responsibilities. The arrangement shall ensure the rights of the small-scale fishing communities are granted. In order to find out the potential effects of bycatch management and discard reduction measures, States shall also provide an assessment on livelihoods to ascertain the potential effects of their implementation and the support	Essential	Evidence of conformity. In case this is not applicable, provide justification.	Y	The document Management of transboundary and straddling fish stocks in the Northeast Atlantic in view of climate-induced shifts in spatial distribution reports: The introduction of 200 n.m. exclusive economic zones (EEZs) in the late 1970s required increased collaboration among neighbouring coastal states to manage transboundary and straddling fish stocks. The established agreements ranged from bilateral to

	necessary to facilitate their uptake.				multilateral, including high-seas components, as appropriate. However, the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea does not specify how quotas of stocks crossing EEZs should be allocated, nor was it written for topical scenarios, such as climate change with poleward distribution shifts that differ across species. The productive Northeast Atlantic is a hot spot for such shifts, implying that scientific knowledge about zonal distribution is crucial in quota negotiations. This diverges from earlier, although still valid, agreements that were predominately based on political decisions or historical distribution of catches. The bilateral allo cations for Barents Sea and North Sea cod remain robust after 40 years, but the management situation for widely distributed stocks, as Northeast Atlantic mackerel and Norwegian spring-spawning herring, appears challenging, with no recent overall agreements. Contrarily, quotas of Northern hake are, so far, unilaterally set by the EU despite the stock's expansion beyond EU

					waters into the northern North Sea. Negotiations following the introduction of EEZs were undertaken at the end of the last cooler Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) period, that is, with stock distribu tions generally in a southerly mode. Hence, today's lack of management consensus for several widely distributed fish stocks typically relates to more northerly distributions attributed to the global anthropogenic signal accelerating the spatial effect of the current warmer AMO. Highly migratory, transboundary and straddling stocks are overrepresented among overfished stocks, particularly those associated with high seas (Ye et al., 2013). Yet some regions have shown significant progress towards sustainable harvest over the last decades, such as in waters of the United States, Australia and in the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent seas (FAO, 2018). An in trinsic part of the sustainable development in the Northeast Atlantic has been the continuing efforts from the late

					1980s to reach coastal state agreements for stocks occurring across several EEZs, including stocks that straddle the high seas. Paragraph 5: DEVELOPMENT OF QUOTA ALLOCATIONS FOR TRANSBOUNDARY AND STRADDLING STOCKS As stocks may well extend beyond more than one LME, the below perspectives on progress in management refer principally to the stock units, grouped by the primary LME. Furthermore, we use the starting point for negotiations, either being political, based on his torical catches, distribution of the fishable part of the stock, or zonal attachment (see definition below) as an overarching criterion, corresponding principally from the earliest to the most recent agreements in the Northeast Atlantic (Figure 4). Barents Sea cod, North Sea cod, Northern hake, Norwegian spring-spawning herring and Northeast Atlantic mackerel are key targets. However, as management devel opment in these five stocks is intimately linked to similar or

					related progress in other stocks (Figure 4), the Appendix S1 provides com plementary narratives and discussions for Iceland–Greenland–Jan Mayen capelin (Mallotus villosus, Osmeridae), Barents Sea capelin, Barents Sea (Northeast Arctic) Greenland halibut (Reinhardtius hip poglossoides, Pleuronectidae) and beaked redfish (Sebastes mentella, Sebastinae), North Sea herring, and blue whiting. The document Northern Shrimp – Pandalus borealis shows how temperature variations associated with climate and habitat variations lead this species to be vulnerable, both in terms of life activity and in the growth and reproduction phases: Climate Effects on Abundance and Distribution: The productivity of Northern Shrimp in the Gulf of Maine is affected by ocean temperatures. Reduced recruitment in recent years has been linked with increasing temperatures (Richards et al., 2012) and has led to closure of the fishery (ASMFC, 2015). In Greenland, warming temperatures has led to

					an increase in the area occupied by the species (Wieland, 2005). In experiments, larval survival was not affected by CO2 levels expected by 2100, but development rates were lower than in a control group (Bechmann et al., 2011; Arnberg et al., 2013). However, effects of warming temperature are likely greater on survival than decreasing pH (Arnberg et al., 2013). Decreasing pH may also decrease the quality of Northern Shrimp to consumers raising the possibility of a socio-economic interaction (decreased value at lower pH). The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (the "OSPAR Convention") is the organization in place for the management of the stock. OSPAR Convention and its strategies is taken forward through the adoption of decisions, which are legally binding on the Contracting Parties, recommendations and other agreements. Decisions and recommendations set

					out actions to be taken by the Contracting Parties. These measures are complemented by other agreements setting out: - issues of importance - agreed programmes of monitoring, information collection or other work which the Contracting Parties commit to carry out - guidelines or guidance setting out the way that any programme or measure should be implemented - actions to be taken by the OSPAR Commission on behalf of the Contracting Parties. https://www.ospar.org/about/how The fisheries management system (FMS) under the Organization is under audit is transparent and accessible for consultation. NEAFC Contracting Parties propose recommendations to the Commission that, once formally adopted, become a measure for management of its regulatory areas. NEAFC provides statistics to, and takes advice from, the International Council for the Exploration of

					the Sea (ICES) http://ices.dk(link is external). NEAFC also uses the areas defined by ICES for its maps. After taking advice and formal adoption, NEAFC may define protected Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME) and set up Closures to ensure the sustainability of the fishing grounds. https://www.neafc.org/managing_fisheries NEAFC decides upon conservation and/or management measures for the regulatory area (see Article 5 of the NEAFC Convention). These 'measures' can cover different things, for example stocks or individual species and or a specific area or time period, depending on what policy makers want to achieve. Measures are decided by the Parties which make up the Commission on the basis of scientific advice from an independent scientific body The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)(link is external). The majority of these measures are decided at the Annual Meeting of the Commission held in November, but decisions can also be taken by postal vote

					throughout the year should the need arise. In order to operate within the regulations fishing vessels must abide by both the Current Management Measures and the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement. The NEAFC Scheme describes the procedures for Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fishing activities within the NEAFC regulatory area. It the responsibility of the flag-state which licenses the vessel to fish to ensure that it complies with all the regulations. https://www.neafc.org/managing_fisheries
5.1.1c	The fishery management organization or arrangement convenes to update its management advice according to the most updated data and in a timely manner, with special consideration to deep-sea fisheries, adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, bycatch management, reduction of discards and ecosystem structure, function and processes.	Essential	Evidence of meeting frequency.	Y	Directorate of Fisheries has developed and updates fisheries management measures based on the data in its possession: -Ecosystem-based fisheries management in Norway; -The "Discard Ban Package": Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries. The NEAFC, in association with ICES, also develops and updates fisheries

					management measures based on the data in its possession: -Recommendation 19 : 2014 on area management measures for the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area; -Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area. Different actors are involved at the different level: ICES - The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) is an intergovernmental marine science organization, meeting societal needs for impartial evidence on the state and sustainable use of our seas and oceans. Their goal is to advance and share scientific understanding of marine ecosystems and the services they provide and to use this knowledge to generate state-of-the-art advice for meeting conservation, management, and sustainability goals. OSPAR - worked to identify threats to the marine environment and to put in place programmes and

					measures to ensure effective collective and national action to combat them. In doing so, OSPAR has pioneered ways of monitoring and assessing the environmental status of our seas and set internationally agreed goals and commitments for participating Governments to deliver. Our proven record of success makes the OSPAR Commission a vital mechanism in helping Governments to cooperate in the region and a key partner in further efforts to improve the protection and restoration of the North-East Atlantic. (NEAFC) - the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission objective is to ensure the long-term conservation and optimum utilisation of the fishery resources in the Convention Area, providing sustainable economic, environmental and social benefits. To this end, NEAFC adopts management measures for various fish stocks and control measures to ensure that they are properly implemented. NEAFC also adopts measures to protect other parts of the marine ecosystem from

					potential negative impacts of fisheries. Each relevant entity contributes and updates the relevant data for the part of its own interests. https://www.ices.dk/Pages/default.aspx

The Auditor shall verify and describe briefly the legal and administrative structure of the fishery management system in force and provide the evidence of compliance with local laws and regulations.

Small-scale fisheries are here intended as those using fishing craft with size < 24 m and engine <375 kW.

Large-scale fisheries are intended as those using fishing craft with size ≥ 24 m, engine ≥375 kW, vessels with freezing facilities and/or factory vessels (i.e. ocean-going vessels with on-board facilities for processing and freezing).

5.1.2	The fisheries management system (FMS) under which the fishery or fleet under audit is managed shall be **both** participatory and transparent, including consultation with "responsible" deep-sea fishers, to the extent permitted by national laws and regulations.	Essential	Information and advice used in FMS decision- making is publicly available. A consultation process regularly seeks and considers relevant information. Consultation with Deep Sea fishers shall be carried out when applicable.	Y	NEAFC establishes recommendation and management measures for the fishery. The vessels apply the established management measures. Managing Fisheries | North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission Norwegian Maritime Authority controls and supervises vessels carrying out fishing activities. Legislation - Norwegian Maritime Authority The fisheries management system (FMS) under the Organization is under audit is transparent and accessible for consultation. NEAFC Contracting Parties propose recommendations to the Commission that, once formally adopted, become a measure for management of its regulatory areas. NEAFC provides statistics to, and takes advice from, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) http://ices.dk(link is external). NEAFC also uses the areas defined by ICES for its maps. After taking advice and

					formal adoption, NEAFC may define protected Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME) and set up Closures to ensure the sustainability of the fishing grounds. https://www.neafc.org/managing_fisheries NEAFC decides upon conservation and/or management measures for the regulatory area (see Article 5 of the NEAFC Convention). These 'measures' can cover different things, for example stocks or individual species and or a specific area or time period, depending on what policy makers want to achieve. Measures are decided by the Parties which make up the Commission on the basis of scientific advice from an independent scientific body The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)(link is external). The majority of these measures are decided at the Annual Meeting of the Commission held in November, but decisions can also be taken by postal vote throughout the year should the need arise. In order to operate within the regulations fishing vessels must abide by both the

					Current Management Measures and the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement. The NEAFC Scheme describes the procedures for Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) of fishing activities within the NEAFC regulatory area. It the responsibility of the flag-state which licenses the vessel to fish to ensure that it complies with all the regulations.
5.2.1	A precautionary approach shall be applied, through the FMS, taking into account the best scientific evidence available to protect the target stock and its habitat and preserve the marine environment, with special consideration for data limited fisheries.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. NEAFC and the Directorate of Fisheries have developed management measures relating to the stocks and with respect to the reference ecosystem: - The marine resources act Act of 6 June 2008 no. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources; - Towards ecosystem-based fisheries management in

					Norway– Practical tools for keeping track of relevant issues and prioritising management efforts; - Recommendation 19 : 2014 on area management measures for the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area. The precautionary approach was first stated by Principle 15 of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in 1992. "In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environment degradation" (www.pprinciple.net). This principle is part of a larger group of terms, concepts, principles and issues, which define the wider idea of Sustainability (Weybrecht, 2014; VanderZwaag D.L & Chao G. 2012; De Young, 2008; Garcia, 2003 &1994).

					Its application to Fisheries management is particularly important. In fact Fishery planning and management are frequently surrounded by uncertainty and ignorance of the potentially irreversible damages caused by unscrupulous decisions. Therefore, higher the level of risk, higher should be the degree of precaution employed in decision making. Although Fisheries management still suffers from lack of scientific certainties of potential consequences, making the precautionary Principle often hard to apply, FAO offers some precious guidelines through its Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Article 6.5 of General Principles, and 7.5 of Fisheries Management, in particular, stress again on the need of never postponing conservation in case of absence of sufficient scientific information. If these guidelines were applied on both target and non-target species, through an international reinforcement of pre-existing regulations, there would be many beneficial

					consequences for biodiversity and environment conservation. The Statement of the Minister of Fisheries, the Marine Research Institute, the Directorate of Fisheries and the Fisheries Association of Norway providing information about the national fishing industry and how measures are taken to ensure responsible fisheries and the proper treatment of the marine ecosystem around area of interest. The statement is intended for everyone concerned about the status of the fish stocks and responsible fisheries, particularly the numerous parties that purchase and consume Norway fish products: 1. Norway Directorate of fisheries are responsible fisheries; 2. The catch limitation system is the cornerstone of the fisheries management system; 3. Stock assessments and fisheries advice in conformity with international criteria; 4. Deciding the total allowable catch (TAC) based on

					scientific grounds; 5. Effective catch control and enforcement; 6. Reliability of catch information ensured; 7. Severe penalty for breaches of the fisheries management legislation; 8. Extensive research of the impact of fisheries on the marine ecosystem; 9. Special measures for protecting small fish and the ecosystem; 10. Clear rules on discards and the disposition of by-catch. 11. Steady improvements. Available as an documental evidence the Submission by the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission regarding the theme Ocean Science and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/124.

5.2.2	Management measures specify the actions to be taken in the event that the status of the stock under consideration (with special consideration to deep-sea stocks) drops below a level consistent with achieving management objectives that allow for the restoration of the stock to such levels within a reasonable timeframe. These measures shall be based on the best scientific evidence available. This requirement also pertains to species introductions or translocations that have occurred historically and that have become established as part of the natural ecosystem.	Essential	Procedure indicating target reference points and timeframe.	Y	ICES evaluates the state of stocks and develops management measures. Stock assessment graphs Stock Information Database (SID) The The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) has established a system of frequent meetings and assessments in order to constantly update its management measures to adapt for example the target reference points (e.g. MSY) to the current status of the stock under consideration. This ensures to constantly adapt the management measures, in the case the status of the stock under consideration drops below a level consistent with achieving management objectives that allow for the restoration of the stock to such levels within a reasonable timeframe. These measures are always taken based on the best scientific evidence available. The unit of certification operate base on of the CMM's of NEAFC (most relevant): -Recommendation 7:

					2018, Recommendation on Deep-Sea Fisheries within the NEAFC Regulatory Area; -Recommendation 11:2015, Recommendation on Shrimp Fisheries in the NEAFC Regulatory Area – Sorting Grids;
5.2.3	Efficacy of management measures and their possible interactions are kept under continual review in order to evaluate and adjust the regulatory measures as necessary. The assessment shall take into account the multipurpose nature of the use patterns in inland and marine waters.	Essential	Evidence of periodical reviews of the management measures shall be provided.	Y	ICES updates and reviews management measures, like NEAFC. Stock Information Database (SID) Current Measures | North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission The Management measures carried out by the numerous actors involved, are in continual review in order to implement the Ecosystem and the fishery activities. Available under the The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) web page some section about the continuous

					implementation of managements measures and or modification to the Scheme of Control and Enforcement: Available the complete list of NEAFC Historic Measures at the following link https://www.neafc.org/managing_fisheries/measures/historic Available the complete NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement Summarised Lists of Historical Changes at the following link https://www.neafc.org/scheme-changes.
The auditor shall verify if the Country the flag of the unit of certification refers to has ratified the FAO Code of conduct. Otherwise, the unit of certification shall include a precautionary approach in their procedures, including a risk assessment procedure.					
5.3	The compliance with fishery regulations is ensured by the fishery management organization or arrangement through an effective and suitable monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement.	Essential	This requirement refers to the wider fishery of which the unit of certification is a part. Procedure and evidence of monitoring and control by the fishery management authority.	Y	Fishing activities are subject to monitoring and surveillance by the Directorate of Fisheries, through the monitoring of vessels and their activity (Statistiche della pesca) and and by NEAFC, which controls vessel activities within its regulatory area (Informazioni sul programma NEAFC | Commissione per la pesca nell'Atlantico nordorientale). NEAFC has released NEW NEAFC SCHEME OF

					CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT : Note at 13 January 2025 The NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement has been updated into two versions, which first entered into force on 15 January 2024 marking the start of a two-year transition (Scheme Changes 2024 | NEAFC Scheme: Summarised Lists of Changes). An effective and Sustainable Monitoring Surveillance and control enforcement are achieved at different level. At Norway Fisheries Directorate level, The FMC (Fisheries Monitoring Centre) is the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries' 24/7 office for monitoring Norwegian and foreign fishing vessels' activities.he centre is responsible for processing various reporting schemes imposed on the Norwegian fishing fleet while at sea and foreign vessels operating in Norwegian waters. One key task is the follow-up of Norwegian and foreign vessels in terms of tracking reports and various electronic catch and activity reports required when active at

					sea. Major benefits By combining the various data that are the subject of electronic reporting, we will be able to localise fishing activity with great precision. This offers major benefits, not just in the monitoring of the activities at sea, but also monitoring of the development in the fisheries by foreign vessels operating in Norwegian waters and by various Norwegian fleet groups. Staff in the FMC does also provide services and responds on requests from employees at the Directorate's regional offices and from external users such as the coastguard and other public and private sector actors. https://www.fiskeridir.no/English/Fisheries/Fisheries-Monitoring-Centre At the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) level, NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement is the baseline for the enforcement of the Sustainable Monitoring Surveillance and control system. https://www.neafc.org/scheme/contents Available the complete

					NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement. https://www.neafc.org/mcs/scheme
The Auditor shall describe briefly the monitoring, surveillance, control, and application methods and provide the evidence of the activities undertaken by the wider fishery of which the unit of certification is a part and its enforcement system to ensure compliance.					
5.4	The unit of certification shall record bycatch and discards during every fishing trip.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	All the discarded fish are recorded on the logbook. Catch and activity reporting (ERS) Norwegian vessels, when operating in national waters, in the economic zones of other countries or in international waters, are able to report their fishing activity using one reporting system. All relevant information, including the final recipient of the report, is registered in the software on board the vessel, and the reports are sent electronically to the Directorate of Fisheries. The established data communication system at the Directorate of Fisheries identifies the final recipient of the report and, if required, forwards the report automatically. The requirements of catch and activity reporting applies to all Norwegian vessels 15 meters and above (12 meters when operating in the Skagerrak area) involved in fishing

					operations. The auditor has viewed the Requirements for weight, location, readability and access: The purpose of the Regulations is to ensure sustainable management of wild living marine resources through the registration of information on catches for use in resource control, quota control and for statistical purposes.
5.5	Bycatch and discard data shall be made publicly available by the fisheries management system.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	All the by-catch fish are recorded on the logbook. Catch and activity reporting (ERS) When fishing in other countries' waters and in international waters Norwegian vessels have been required to send various catch and activity reports for many years. In 2005 the Directorate of Fisheries facilitated an electronic system that enabled Norwegian fishing vessels to fulfill the reporting requirements by sending such reports electronically (replacing the manual system by telex or telefax). In 2007 the scope of this simple electronic reporting system was widened, in a pilot project, to facilitate more detailed reporting of catch and activity while at sea, i.e.

					information compatible with the information registered in the traditional paper log book. Based on the experience from the pilot project a new national regulation on the electronic reporting of catch and activities was introduced in 2010. In this new regulation the requirements related to content, format and reporting frequency of various reports were specified. The idea was that by combining the information in the required electronic reports it sums up to the information registered in the traditional paper log book. Private IT-companies, sometimes in cooperation with the owners of fishing vessels, were invited to develop the necessary software to meet the requirements of the Norwegian fishery authorities. In addition the Directorate of Fisheries required that the software should make the fishermen able to comply with the reporting requirements when operating in other countries zones as well as in international waters. The underlying principle used by the

					Directorate of Fisheries was, however, that all official information as regards catch and activity by vessels flying the Norwegian flag while at sea should be stored and be made accessible in the Directorate's databases. Reporting of data on catch and activities is required to be carried out in the same way as other electronic reporting (i.e. in accordance with the Flag State Principle, whereby reports are sent to the flag state FMC as encrypted e-mail and the sender of data is uniquely identified, and RETURN messages confirming that the messages are received are part of the message exchange). Norwegian vessels, when operating in national waters, in the economic zones of other countries or in international waters, are able to report their fishing activity using one reporting system. All relevant information, including the final recipient of the report, is registered in the software on board the vessel, and the reports are sent electronically to the Directorate of Fisheries. The established data

					communication system at the Directorate of Fisheries identifies the final recipient of the report and, if required, forwards the report automatically. The CatchID Program
The auditor shall attach copies of the bycatch and discard reports to the audit report.					
5.6	A management system to prevent possible accidental catch, reduction of discards and significant negative impacts of endangered species shall be in place and in compliance with national policies, legal and institutional frameworks. This shall consider international fisheries management plans and include objectives, strategies, standards and directed measures.	Essential	Procedure, performance indicators and evidence of conformity.	Y	The Directorate of Fisheries has issued fisheries management measures, with the aim of improving the use of marine resources and reducing exploitation and discards. The document "Discard Ban Package": Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries reports that the main objective of Norwegian policy is to promote an exploitation pattern where recruits and undersized fish are spared, and where unwanted by-catch can be minimized. NEAFC has published the following recommendation regarding discards and by-catches: Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area (no.10:2023)

					Directorate of Fisheries requires that fishing activity data, and therefore also bycatch and discards, be recorded electronically (Electronic Reporting Systems), with a Catch and activity reporting system (ERS) Electronic Reporting Systems The vessel is using a device at the mouth of the net, a grid of 19 mm of distance among bars with inclination no more than 35 degrees. Fishing is also regulated through effort control, bycatch limits and a partial TAC.
5.7	The unit of certification implements a management program with an effective and suitable monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement to manage bycatch and reduce discards. The management of bycatch shall be consistent with achieving management objectives and include procedures for the release of live animals under conditions that guarantee high chances of survival. This shall consider the "FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards", where applicable.	Essential	Procedure, performance indicators, and evidence of conformity. Refer to: http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/ba0022t/ba0022t00.pdf , Para 4.1.4.	Y	The Directorate of Fisheries has issued fisheries management measures, with the aim of improving the use of marine resources and reducing exploitation and discards. The document "Discard Ban Package": Experiences in efforts to improve the exploitation patterns in Norwegian fisheries reports that the main objective of Norwegian policy is to promote an exploitation pattern where recruits and undersized fish are spared, and where unwanted by-catch can be minimized.

					NEAFC has published the following recommendation regarding discards and by-catches: Recommendation for the banning of discards in the NEAFC Regulatory Area (no.10:2023) Directorate of Fisheries requires that fishing activity data, and therefore also bycatch and discards, be recorded electronically (Electronic Reporting Systems), with a Catch and activity reporting system (ERS) Electronic Reporting Systems All the live animals are sorting out of the net alive before the grid. Fishing is also regulated through effort control, bycatch limits and a partial TAC.
The auditor shall provide documented evidence that the unit of certification collects data to assess the impact of the fishing activities on non-target species and endangered fauna (i.e. IUCN listed). The data collection shall address specific outcome indicator(s) consistent with achieving management objectives.					
5.8	The fleet is equipped with measures that guarantee a quick retrieval of lost fishing gear to avoid "*ghost fishing"*.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The marine resources act, Act of 6 June 2008 no. 37 relating to the management of wild living marine resources, reports the management measures in the event of loss of fishing gear at sea and findings of lost fishing gear (section 17 and

					29).
5.8.1	Vessels shall have appropriate equipment on board to assist in the safe recovery of lost fishing gear.	Important	Evidence of conformity.	Y	Abandoned, lost, or discarded fishing gear is a significant problem in all fisheries. These gears continue to catch or trap fish, birds, and mammals for a long time, also known as ghost-fishing. Ghost-fishing is more problematic in deeper waters (e.g. Greenland halibut fishery) The boat is normally fishing on muddy and sandy bottom with low risk of losing nets. Normally recovers lost nets. If some piece of the nets is lost at sea and not recovered it is signaled to the DPM The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.
5.8.2	When retrieval is not possible, the vessel must record the last known position of lost gear and report to the relevant authorities.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity. Further information about the Ghost Gear	Y	Abandoned, lost, or discarded fishing gear is a significant problem in all fisheries. These gears continue to catch or trap fish, birds, and

	If fishing authorities do not have the means to collect information on lost fishing gear, an alternative option is to report the details to the Global Ghost Gear Initiative via the Ghost Gear Reporter App.		Reporter App: https://www.ghostgear.org/news/2018/7/6/ggi-ghost-gear-reporter-app		mammals for a long time, also known as ghost-fishing. Ghost-fishing is more problematic in deeper waters (e.g. Greenland halibut fishery) The boat is normally fishing on muddy and sandy bottom with low risk of losing nets. Normally recovers lost nets. If some piece of the nets is lost at sea and not recovered it is signaled to the DPM The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.
5.8.3	Vessels shall be prepared and commit to the recovery and salvage of fishing gear lost by other vessel operators and to recycle damaged or found fishing gear, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.

5.8.4	The unit of certification undertakes an annual assessment of the lost gear records (amount and reasons for loss) and, in high-risk areas or during high-risk times, implement mitigation measures to address, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity. Such measures could include: reducing soak times, implementing gear use limits in high-risk areas or during high-risk times (e.g. inclement weather), implementing other spatial or temporal measures as needed (e.g., to avoid severe weather or crowded fishing areas) and measures to reduce gear conflict that could result in gear loss.	Y	Annual Captains Review re issues related to ESG issues covers also lost gear. In addition, the membership in Fishing For Litter covers this issue.
The auditor shall obtain a copy of the procedures.					
5.9	The unit of certification has an independent observer on board, from the fisheries management organizations or States. In alternative, a CCTVs system has been deployed and it is accessible by the auditor to verify compliance with Friend of the Sea requirements. **Only applicable to large-scale vessels and fleets. Not applicable to small-scale artisanal fisheries.**	Important	Documented evidence of employment. At least one monthly report of the on-board inspector.	Y	In Norway there is not a requirement in the fishery management for observers on board the vessels; the management and control of the different fisheries are performed as described here: https://www.fiskeridir.no/Yrkesfiske/Kontroll The environmental aspect of the marine environment is administrated by the Norwegian Maritime Authority. Requirements and regulations for the different categories of vessels can be found

					here: https://www.sdir.no/naringsfartoy/fartoystyper/fiskefartoy/ On this link there can be found a brief description of the responsibilities of the different Authorities: https://www.sdir.no/naringsfartoy/fartoystyper/fiskefartoy/offentlige-etater---hvem-har-ansvar-for-hva/
The auditor shall verify the presence of the observer(s) and obtain their CV and contacts. See definition for large-scale fisheries in section 1.					
5.10	Outcome indicator(s), including target and limit reference points, shall be consistent with all management objectives related to the unit of certification and the conservation of stock under consideration. Management objectives shall take into account the best scientific evidence available and, where applicable, take into account a Precautionary Approach regarding:	Essential	Documented evidence.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. FishSource reports the study relating to the Pandalus borealis species - MANAGEMENT QUALITY which reports the data relating to the stock. FishSource - Northern prawn - Skagerrak, Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep

5.10.1	Clear target reference points consistent with achieving Maximum Sustainable Yield, MSY (or a suitable proxy) on average and limit reference points (or proxies) consistent with avoiding recruitment overfishing or other impacts that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.	Essential	A proxy is a surrogate or substitute approach that results in acceptable outcomes consistent with the primary approach.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. Table 4: MSY approach. MSY Btrigger 0.9 × B30% Relative value; set at 90% of B0 × 30% (BMSY); determined through management strategy evaluation with the objective to achieve high sustainable yields without exceeding a 5% probability of SSB falling below Blim in any single year. FMSY FB30% Relative value; set as the F that will achieve B0 × 30% (BMSY); determined through management strategy evaluation, with the objective to achieve high sustainable yields without exceeding a 5% probability of SSB falling below Blim in any single year.
5.10.2	Marine resources exploited in deep-sea fisheries in the high seas that have low productivity. Biological reference points shall be set, in a precautionary manner and determined on a case-by-case basis, to ensure long-term sustainability. **Only applicable to deep-sea fisheries.**	Essential	Documented evidence that deep-sea stocks are harvested at levels that are sustainable in the long term.	Y	ICES published the report Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak and Kattegat and northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep), in June 2024, which reports the stock status of the species audited. ICES updates stock data:

					- Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in subareas 1 and 2 (Northeast Arctic); - Northern shrimp (Pandalus borealis) in divisions 3.a and 4.a East (Skagerrak, Kattegat, northern North Sea in the Norwegian Deep).
5.11	There are clear management objectives[1] based on the best scientific evidence available, applicable to the unit of certification and the stock under consideration, as well as consistent with the outcome indicators and measures defined and periodically reviewed by means of risk assessment, including knowledge of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat[2], to ensure protection and/or avoid significant/severe[3] adverse impacts[4] on:	Essential	[1]Management objectives consider all the economic, social and environmental aspects for the fishery of which the unit of certification is part. In addition, it includes recruitment overfishing or other impacts likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible. [2]Consideration of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat, not just that part of the spatial range that is potentially affected by fishing. [3]Severe adverse impacts can be regarded as those that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible and are applicable only in relation to dependent predators. Thus, the auditor shall consider the term "severe adverse impacts"	Y	ICES, NEAFC and Directorate of Fisheries develop management measures to reduce/avoid negative impacts on the ecosystem.
5.11.1	Essential habitats and vulnerable marine ecosystems (with special consideration to high seas), that are specifically those of the unit of the certification, and on habitats that are highly vulnerable to damage by the fishing gear of the unit of certification.			Y	ICES processes reports relating to: -Norwegian Sea ecoregion – fisheries overview, December 2024; -Norwegian Sea ecoregion – Ecosystem overview.
5.11.2	Endangered species.			Y	IUCN publishes the European Red List, which lists endangered species. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ICES has published Norwegian Sea ecoregion – fisheries overview, which reports in the paragraph

			only in relation to the requirement 5.11.4 and the term "significant adverse impacts" in relation to the requirements 5.11.1, 5.11.2, 5.11.3 and 5.11.5. [4]Adverse impacts are from the interaction with the unit of certification.		"Bycatch of protected, endangered, and threatened species": Marine mammals that get entangled in fishing gear may drown or die later from injuries or from being partially entangled in parts from the fishing gear. In the Norwegian Sea, the largest bycatch of marine mammals occurs in the bottom-set gillnet fisheries targeting cod and monkfish. Harbour porpoises, harbour seals, and grey seals are frequently killed in these fisheries. Around 2000 harbour porpoises are taken in Norwegian commercial fisheries each year. Surveys of grey seals have shown a 50–60% reduction in pup production between 2007 and 2015 in mid-Norway, probably as a result of increased bycatches in gillnet fisheries for monkfish and cod. Bycatch of seals in coastal areas is uncertain (owing to unreliable species identification) but believed to be in the order of around 200 individuals per species. Bycatch of larger whales are less frequent. The number of bycatches of sperm whale and humpback whale in Norwegian

					fisheries is usually fewer than ten individuals annually (per species), and many of these are released alive. Among the marine mammals, the blue whale, North Atlantic right whale, and the harbour porpoise are on the OSPAR list of threatened species in the Norwegian Sea. There is no quantification on the bycatch of these species at the ecoregion level, but as threatened species even a small number might be a significant problem. The estimated annual bycatch of seabirds in gillnet fisheries along the Norwegian coast during 2006–2015 was around 5000 (variability range 1580–11500) individuals, with northern fulmar and common guillemot dominating. The bycatch rate in offshore longlining for Greenland halibut is lower than in gillnet fisheries in coastal areas and mainly involves fulmars. Several species of elasmobranchs in the ecoregion are considered endangered or threatened. Spurdog is one of the most frequent bycatches

					among the elasmobranchs; 1618 tonnes were landed from the Norwegian Sea in 2010–2020. The bycatch of porbeagle and basking shark amounted to 63 tonnes and 24 tonnes, respectively, for the same period. Flapper skate is part of the common skate complex (critically endangered), but species-specific data and status assessments are as yet missing. Golden redfish in the Norwegian Sea is considered an endangered species. Although ICES has advised zero catch since 2017, catches have risen, mainly because of bycatch in the fishery for beaked redfish. FishSource reports the study relating to the Pandalus borealis species and reports that no direct interaction exists with PET species and the northern shrimp trawl fishery.

5.11.3	Non-target stocks represented by non-target catches and discards coming from the unit of certification. Additional research shall be conducted where information is insufficient to conduct a risk assessment.			Y	ICES has published Norwegian Sea ecoregion – fisheries overview, which reports in the paragraph "Bycatch of protected, endangered, and threatened species": Marine mammals that get entangled in fishing gear may drown or die later from injuries or from being partially entangled in parts from the fishing gear. In the Norwegian Sea, the largest bycatch of marine mammals occurs in the bottom-set gillnet fisheries targeting cod and monkfish. Harbour porpoises, harbour seals, and grey seals are frequently killed in these fisheries. Around 2000 harbour porpoises are taken in Norwegian commercial fisheries each year. Surveys of grey seals have shown a 50–60% reduction in pup production between 2007 and 2015 in mid-Norway, probably as a result of increased bycatches in gillnet fisheries for monkfish and cod. Bycatch of seals in coastal areas is uncertain (owing to unreliable species identification) but believed to be in the order of around 200 individuals per species. Bycatch of larger

					whales are less frequent. The number of bycatches of sperm whale and humpback whale in Norwegian fisheries is usually fewer than ten individuals annually (per species), and many of these are released alive. Among the marine mammals, the blue whale, North Atlantic right whale, and the harbour porpoise are on the OSPAR list of threatened species in the Norwegian Sea. There is no quantification on the bycatch of these species at the ecoregion level, but as threatened species even a small number might be a significant problem. The estimated annual bycatch of seabirds in gillnet fisheries along the Norwegian coast during 2006–2015 was around 5000 (variability range 1580–11500) individuals, with northern fulmar and common guillemot dominating. The bycatch rate in offshore longlining for Greenland halibut is lower than in gillnet fisheries in coastal areas and mainly involves fulmars. Several species of elasmobranchs in the

					ecoregion are considered endangered or threatened. Spurdog is one of the most frequent bycatches among the elasmobranchs; 1618 tonnes were landed from the Norwegian Sea in 2010–2020. The bycatch of porbeagle and basking shark amounted to 63 tonnes and 24 tonnes, respectively, for the same period. Flapper skate is part of the common skate complex (critically endangered), but species-specific data and status assessments are as yet missing. Golden redfish in the Norwegian Sea is considered an endangered species. Although ICES has advised zero catch since 2017, catches have risen, mainly because of bycatch in the fishery for beaked redfish. FishSource reports the study relating to the species Pandalus borealis and BYCATCH OF MAIN SPECIES: Shrimp fishery by trawl has severe bycatch problems when species-selective grids are not utilized; saithe and cod are the main species but among others, argentines and sharks are also captured. Despite the

					identification of these species, no quantitative data is available. Vessels operating in Swedish waters use Nordmore grids reducing bycatch significantly (NAFO/ICES, 2011). Several studies compare different grids' efficiency and aim to reduce bycatch.
5.11.4	Dependent predators resulting from fishing on the stock under consideration and/or key prey species.			Y	The main predators of northern shrimp are humans (*Homo sapiens*). Northern shrimp are the most common type of shrimp consumed by humans and are often captured with large cone-shaped nets. Octopi and seals may also feed on them. Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) and silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*) consume northern shrimp opportunistically, but the impact of humans as predators is more substantial. ADW: Pandalus borealis: INFORMATION
5.11.5	Ecosystem (structure, processes and function).			Y	ICES, NEAFC and Directorate of Fisheries develop management measures to reduce/avoid negative impacts on the ecosystem: - Recommendation 19 : 2014 on area management measures for the protection of vulnerable marine

					ecosystems in the NEAFC Regulatory Area; - Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems; -Norwegian Sea ecoregion – Ecosystem overview; -The marine resources act; -ICES Report on Ocean Climate (IROC).
5.12	A yearly reviewed Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) that considers the interdependencies and functioning of the ecosystem, minimizing cumulative negative impacts and, as far as possible, enhancing ecosystem health and integrity is in place.	Recommendation	Documented evidence Refer to the EAF: http://www.fao.org/fishery/topic/16034/en	Y	ICES prepares reports in reference to the Norwegian Sea ecosystem overview, analyzing ecosystem and environmental trends and pressures impacting the marine ecosystem. Norwegian Sea ecosystem overview NEAFC has issued Recommendation 19:2014 relating to the measures to be implemented to safeguard vulnerable areas. Directorate of Fisheries has issued the report Ecosystem-based fisheries management in Norway, for managing fisheries by applying preventive measures for the ecosystem.
5.13	Fisheries management approaches, plans and strategies are an integral part of integrated coastal management, and/or ocean management for oceanic fisheries. Safeguards are in place to protect the	Recommendation	Documented evidence	Y	ICES has published the following reports following studies carried out on the ecosystem of interest: -Definition and rationale for ICES

	fisheries ecosystems from adverse effects coming from other sectors.				ecoregions (page 3, Experience of developing ecoregions); -ICES Report on Ocean Climate (IROC): Northern Norwegian Sea.
5.14	Any traditional, fisher or community knowledge[1] used within the management system can be objectively verified.	Essential	[1]Uncertainties can be assessed using a risk assessment/risk management approach.	Y	The auditor has viewed the vessel familiarization and risk assessment checklist, this is an example describing the mitigation measures to be considered during the refueling operation, which confirms that the crew is properly prepared.
The auditor shall provide evidence of the reference values targeted and implemented. In some cases, these can be threshold reference limits and precaution limits set by regional bodies. Therefore, the auditor shall verify if such limits were measured or estimated with acceptable certainty.					

6 – WASTE MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
6.1	The unit of certification recycles, re-uses or re-processes all materials used during fishing, conservation and transport of the fish up to the selling point, including packaging.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the vessel plans which show the different waste collection areas marked. Attached photos relating to waste management on vessels and at the port.
6.2	The unit of certification implements measures to prevent dispersion of waste at sea (including fuels, lubricants and plastic materials).	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	All the waste is collected and delivered in the harbor port by a specialized service company. The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for

					Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.
6.3	The unit of certification utilizes all the chemical non-toxic alternatives available in order to reduce the use of toxic, persistent or bio-accumulating substances.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	Consumption of chemicals are logged, documentation on chemicals are filed on board. The auditor viewed the following Safety Data Sheets: -Detergent for cleaning on deck: Asfaltfjerner Kaldavfetting; -Detergent used in the factory: Skumvask GEL; -Detergent for the engine area: S-1 EXTRA: SDS S-1 EXTRA -Lubricants: CASTROL MHP 154; -CASTROL SPEHEEROL SX 2: SDS - Spheerol SX 2; -Premalube Xtreme FG.
6.4	The unit of certification does not use CFC, HCFC, HFC or other refrigerants that cause ozone depletion.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	Shrimps are frozen on board with ammonia freezer. R22 is used as a refrigerator for coldstore. Shrimps are frozen in blocks and wrapped in paper to deliver blocks to the processing plants. The auditor viewed the Safety Data Sheet R-717 Ammonia, provided by SIAD.
6.5	Fishing vessels must be equipped with storage facilities for damaged or end-of-life fishing gear, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Evidence of conformity	Y	The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.
6.6	Gear shall be properly disposed of at port. If appropriate disposal facilities are not available, the unit of certification shall endeavour to work with port operators to provide adequate, low-cost and accessible disposal facilities.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in

					Norwegian waters.
6.7	Where applicable, the unit of certification shall work with ports to implement gear collection and/or recycling programs for end-of-life gear.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The vessel is a member of Fishing for Litter - https://fishingforlitter.org/norway/ The auditor viewed the certificate of the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, registered for Fishing For Litter 2024, which confirms that the organization has contributed to the reduction of marine litter in Norwegian waters.
The auditor shall provide procedures complete with photographic evidence. See definition of large-scale fisheries in section 5.					

7 - ENERGY MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
7.1	The unit of certification shall keep a register of all energy sources and their use, updated at least once a year.	Essential	Energy consumption records, which shall be created at least once a year shall be included in the procedure. As a minimum, the register shall include the following parameters: 1. incoming energy sources (renewable or not); 2. energy consumption per process line (fishing, processing, transport).	Y	There are records of energy sources and their use. Daily records of fuel consumption are made. All electrical devices are connected to the engine. When the boat is a taxi only one generator works. The ship is equipped with SEEMP (Ship Energy Efficiency management plan). Fuel use during shrimp fishing in 2024: 1.22 liters per kg of catch. Marine only according to Norwegian legislation, diesel fuel with low sulfur content (less than 500 ppm) is used. According to the Norwegian Environment Agency, an obligation to sell biofuel for maritime transport has been introduced from 1 October 2023. This means that a certain

					percentage of fossil fuel will have to be replaced with biofuel over the course of a year. Those who sell fuel must document and report to the Norwegian Environment Agency which type of biofuel they use to meet sales requirements. The auditor viewed the consumption table for the year 2024.
7.2	The unit of certification should calculate its carbon footprint per product unit and commit to reducing it every year.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The Carbon Footprint value per kg shrimps is equal to 2.68 * The Carbon Footprint value per kg shrimps is equal to 2.68 *. The auditor has viewed SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022, chapter 4 contains information on emissions.
The Auditor shall request copies of the registers.					

8 - SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
8.1	The unit of certification shall respect human rights, complying with the following requirements:			Y	The Organization is in compliance with the national regulation and ILO on child labour. https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/child-labour/lang--en/index.htm Refer to ILO: http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/lang--en/index.htm Refer to ILO: http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/lang--en/index.htm
8.1.1	Compliance with national regulations and ILO on child labour.	Essential	The Minimum Age Convention 1973 (No. 138) sets "the general minimum age for admission to employment or work at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 (16 under certain strict conditions). It provides for the possibility of initially setting the general minimum age at 14 (12 for light work) where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed".	Y	The auditor has viewed the procedure and risk assessment of the ship regarding young workers (under 18 years old). The organization complies with the regulations described in the ILO and also with the regulations: https://lovdata.no/forskrift/2002-04-25-423.

8.1.2	Pay the employees adequate salaries compliant at least with the minimum legal wages according to the international legal framework.	Essential	The minimum wages vary depending on the country. The Auditor shall verify that the unit of certification is aware of the minimum wages of the countries in which it operates.	Y	The auditor viewed the standard labor contract from the Arctic Swan vessel. The auditor checked that the minimum wage in Norway is approximately €5620/month.
8.1.3	Grant employees access to health care.	Essential	The unit of certification shall have workers' compensation insurance to cover their employees when an illness or injury happens at work. The auditor shall verify that the unit of certification provides, where necessary, measures to deal with emergencies and accidents, including adequate first-aid arrangements.	Y	The auditor has viewed the following documents: Insurance information for the Fiskebåt Tariff package, 2025, issued by Aon Norway AS; -Health insurance certificate for the vessel ARCTIC SWAN, year 2024, issued by AVONOVA.
8.1.4	Apply safety measures required by the law. Nonetheless, compliance with the minimum safety requirements are mandatory, even if not required by local law.	Essential	To assess the minimum safety requirements, the auditor shall verify and collect evidence of hazards and risks in the work environment, dangers to life, safe drinking water, health and safety training and use of Personal	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -Health and Safety Policy, -Rest Hours Routine -DOC issued by the Norwegian Maritime Authorities. The DOC serves to certify compliance with the Safety Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and the Prevention of Pollution (ISM Code).

			Protective Equipment (PPE).		
8.1.5	Keep records of accidents or injuries.	Important	These records shall be used to take corrective measures and identify the causes of the incidents, preventing future occurrences.	Y	The vessel has implemented an electronic system for reporting and managing non-conformities/incidents/casualties etc. The auditor has viewed Arctic Swan's electronic system document. The system is also a requirement in the ISM Code, during the regulations "Forskrift om sikkerhetsstyringssystem for norske skip og flyttbare innretninger": All companies must develop, implement and maintain a safety management system (SMS) that includes the following functional requirements: .1 a safety and environmental protection policy; .2 instructions and procedures to ensure the safe operation of ships and the protection of the environment in accordance with relevant international and flag State legislation; .3 defined levels of authority and lines of communication between and among personnel on shore and on board; .4 procedures for reporting incidents and deviations from the provisions of this standard, .5 procedures for emergency preparedness and response, and .6 procedures for internal audit and management review.
8.1.6	Freedom of association and collective bargaining.	Essential	The auditor shall verify if workers are free to form	Y	The Employment Protection Act states that workers have the freedom to participate in collective associations.

			organizations to bargain collectively, advocate for and protect their rights.		
8.1.7	No forced or compulsory labour.	Essential	All work, including overtime, must be voluntary. The hours worked in excess of the normal working hours must be remunerated at the rates prevailing in the case of overtime for voluntary labour.	Y	The Ship Labour Act states that forced labour is not permitted and the document REST PERIOD - ROUTINE AND DOCUMENTATION states the rules on hours of rest and work.
8.1.8	No discrimination.	Essential	Opportunities for recruitment, access to training, promotion, compensation, termination and retirement shall not be made based on race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin. Physical, verbal or sexual abuse, bullying or harassment are prohibited.	Y	The auditor has viewed the HSE policy and the Skipsarbeidsloven (Ship Labour Act) states that no discrimination of any kind is permitted.

8.1.9	Rights on board.	Essential	The auditor shall verify if the vessels are maintained in a clean and habitable condition and check if regular periods of rest of sufficient length are given to fishers.	Y	The auditor has viewed the "Skipsarbeidsloven" regulation, which regulates the crew's rights, general rules and photos of the vessel's refreshment, rest and toilet areas for the crew.

Further comments:

CONCLUSIONS:

The Auditor shall fill out the following fields

X The unit of certification COMPLIES with Friend of the Sea requirements

☐ The unit of certification DOES NOT COMPLY with Friend of the Sea requirements

MAJOR NON-CONFORMITIES (to be corrected within 3 months)

List major Non-conformities: None

MINOR NON-CONFORMITIES (corrective plan to be produced within 3 weeks and correction within 1 year)

List minor Non-conformities: None

RECOMMENDATIONS (to be communicated within the next inspection)

List recommendations