

Sustainable Seafood Fisheries Certification

The Scientific Certification Systems Sustainable Seafood Fisheries Certification is the best way to assure your buyers that your fishery is committed to sustainability. The Certification recognizes well-managed fisheries that conform to the international standards of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), the world's leading certification for sustainable wild-capture seafood.

Certified fisheries contribute to the maintenance of healthy populations of targeted species and the protection of the integrity of ecosystems. They help maintain the balance of biological, social and commercial interests.

As the first certifier to be MSC-accredited more than 10 years ago, SCS has the experience and knowledge to skillfully guide you through the assessment process.

Benefits of Sustainable Seafood Fisheries Certification

Due to rapidly increasing consumer demand for sustainable seafood, some of the world's largest retailers are now requiring their suppliers to earn MSC Certification.



Certification will also help you:

- Gain access to new markets.
- Safeguard jobs through good management practices.
- Earn potential price premiums.
- Gain a competitive edge by meeting buyer demand for certified products.
- Secure fish stocks for the future by protecting the marine environment.

Who Should Seek Sustainable Seafood Fisheries Certification?

Any wild-capture freshwater and marine fishery – regardless of size, scale, ecology, geography or technology – can seek certification.

Eligible wild-capture fisheries include, but are not limited to:

- Single species and multiple species.
- Trawl, longline, handraked and pots.
- Inshore and offshore.
- Pelagic and demersal.

Pure aquaculture fisheries are not within the scope of the MSC assessment.

www.SCScertified.com/msc

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Setting the standard for sustainability™
Providing global leadership in independent, third-party certification,
auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years.

MSC Certification Process

Pre-Assessment

SCS evaluates the fishery's qualifications and determines what risks, if any, may limit the fishery's ability to successfully complete a rigorous and comprehensive assessment. Pre-assessment service costs are lower than the full assessment.

The results, which remain confidential, help fisheries better understand the process and to plan for improvements before entering the full assessment process.

Full Assessment

SCS conducts a full fishery assessment, following procedures described in the MSC's Fisheries Assessment Methodology. An independent assessment team reviews documentation, interviews stakeholders and evaluates fisheries against specific performance indicators that relate to the health of the stock, the impacts on the ecosystem and the management system structures and functions.

The SCS certification team then writes a draft report, which is reviewed by the fishery client and two independent peer reviewers. The report is then posted for public comment. After considering all comments, a final report is released that includes the final decision on whether or not to award certification. If no objections have been raised, the public certification report is published and the fishery receives a certificate from SCS.

Additional full assessment details are available at www.msc.org/get-certified/fisheries/assessment.

Post-Assessment

Certification, once awarded, is valid for a period of five years during which time annual surveillance audits are required to ensure continued compliance with the MSC standards.

Why Choose SCS

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) has more than 25 years of experience certifying environmental, social, health and safety claims and is recognized globally for integrity, scientific rigor and true independence. SCS offers:

- Professional Expertise – SCS provides unmatched professional expertise and extensive knowledge. Since 2000, SCS has certified more than two million metric tons of fish and shellfish.
- Personalized Attention – SCS offers one-on-one personalized service tailored to meet your needs.
- Exceptional Value – SCS provides an efficient audit at a competing price.

SCS has assessed more than 400 fisheries worldwide including the British Columbia salmon fisheries and the Alaska salmon fisheries.

Having certified some of the largest commercial fisheries (Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska pollock fisheries) and small, community-based fisheries (South Australia's Lakes and Coorong fishery, Mexico's spiny lobster fishery), SCS can successfully conduct complex and simple assessments alike.

SCS also certifies seafood companies to the MSC Chain of Custody standard for seafood traceability.

