



Accredited Certifier



The Bahamas Spiny Lobster Fishery

Operated by

Bahamas Marine Exporters Association
of
384 Bay Street, Kelly Building
Nassau
Bahamas

Control Union (UK) Limited (CU UK) certifies that the above-named Entity, as defined in the attached schedule, has been assessed against and conforms to the MSC Fisheries Standard V2.01 and has been found to meet the criteria for a well-managed and sustainable fishery. Fish and fish products originating from this MSC certified fishery are eligible to carry the MSC logo. Further claims made about the fishery shall be in accordance with the rules established by Marine Stewardship Council International Ltd. (MSCI).

Authorising signatory:

Dr. Toru Tsuzaki
Certifications Director
Control Union (UK) Limited

Fishery name:	The Bahamas Spiny Lobster Fishery
Certificate number:	MSC-F-31393
Certificate date of issue:	31-07-2024
Certificate expiry date:	30-07-2029
Version control:	2.0, Last revision: 31-07-2024
Compliant with:	MSC FCP 2.3 & GCR 2.6
CU UK accreditation code:	ASI-ACC-011

This certificate remains the property of Control Union (UK) Limited. Bahamas Marine Exporters Association is permitted to use this in accordance with the agreed Terms & Conditions of Certification.

ASI-ACC-011



Control Union (UK) Limited

OFFICE 2nd Floor, 56 High Street • Lymington • Hampshire • SO41 9AH • United Kingdom
T +44 (0)1590 613007 • E info@controlunion.com • W uk.controlunion.com
Registered in England and Wales No: 1141329



Certificate Schedule

The MSC Unit of Certification covered by the scope of this Certificate is as follows:

Species and stock:	Spiny lobster (<i>Panulirus argus</i>) – Caribbean Spiny Lobster – Bahamas stock
Geographical range:	Territorial waters and EEZ of The Bahamas, FAO 31
Method of capture	UoC 1: Hook and spear * UoC 2: Lobster traps
Client group:	Bahamas Marine Exporters Association (BMEA)
Parties or categories of parties entitled to use the certificate:	Other eligible fishers, trading agents

* This UoA's method of fishing is commonly referred to as "condo fishing" in The Bahamas, however, whilst condos are now considered a fishing gear under the Fisheries Act (2020), they are not considered a gear as part of the MSC definition and this assessment (G7.4.8.7). This is because, in FCP v2.3, condos do not actually 'catch' the lobster; the fishing *gear* used in the 'condo fishery' is hook and spear. Therefore, for the purposes of the MSC requirements, the gear type is hook / spear, but for cultural reasons and consistency, hook and spear fishing will be referred to as "condo fishing throughout this report. This method involves fishers diving with or without compressors (SCUBA is not allowed) but may involve fishing on both condos and free patches

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The point(s) at which fish and fish products may enter a Chain of Custody:

Spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) caught in the manner specified above by the BMEA members' vessels are eligible to enter further Chains of Custody as of the first point of sale and in line with the Traceability Section requirements as set out in the Public Certification Report (PCR).

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The parties, or categories of parties outside the client group that are entitled to use this certificate to enter (including to sell) fish from the certified fishery into certified Chains of Custody:

Trading agents: employed under the BMEA members

Points of landing: throughout the Bahamas – either in New Providence (Coral Harbour or Potters Cay) or throughout the Family Islands on beaches

Other eligible fishers: Any Bahamian lobster fisherman landing legal product and selling to the BMEA*

* For historical/cultural reasons, there is no direct requirement for subsistence fishers to have a fishing licence or permit to fish in The Bahamas. As per the Fishery Act 2020, fishing vessels >15 ft are required to have a licence, and permits are required for catches >250 lbs, as well as for using compressors and setting lobster traps. There is therefore no such thing as an illegal subsistence Bahamian fisherman in The Bahamas, except under certain specific circumstances. (It is, however, illegal for non-Bahamians to commercially fish in Bahamas waters). This is the reason that 'other eligible fishers' is worded in this way.

Current BMEA members are:

Tropic Seafood Ltd

P.O.Box SP63775,
Nassau, Bahamas,
Tel: 1-242-361-3000
Fax: 1-242-461-5020
Email: info@tropicseafood.com

Ronald's Seafood Ltd

P.O. Box EL 27453,
3rd St. Waterfront,
Spanish Wells,
N. Eleuthera, Bahamas
Tel: 1-242-333-4143
Fax: 1-242-333-4734

Heritage Seafood Ltd

P.O.Box EE 15999
41 Carib Road
Nassau, Bahamas
Tel: # 1-242-677-9913
Fax: # 1-242-393-4242
Email: info@jjhseafood.com

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Any other limits to product eligibility (e.g. specific terms of the certificate sharing agreement): N/A

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