

FISHERY By-Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Northern Rockfish (<i>Sebastes polyspinis</i>)
LOCATION:	Alaska EEZ
DATE OF REPORT:	16/12/2012
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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Form No: 9	Report Ref: Byproducts	Page 1 of 5	CCM Code:

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: Kodiak Fishmeal Company		
Address:		
Country: USA	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	IFFO 131
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	Mike Platt	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
1. Scope of Assessment		By-Product surveillance
2. Fishery By-Product		
2. Fishery By-Product		Northern Rockfish (<i>Sebastes polyspinis</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		Alaska EEZ
4. Fishery Method		
4. Fishery Method		Demersal trawls, seines, beam and otter trawls, longlines
5. Outcome of Assessment		
5. Outcome of Assessment		Maintain approval

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Alaska Northern Rockfish fisheries are subject to state or federal management and enforcement regimes which are based on scientific research. Although the species has not been assessed by the IUCN, Alaska scientific organisations do not consider it to be overfished.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By -Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>	
LOW	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

Determination: A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently. There have been no significant changes in the management of the fishery since the initial assessment. H

Administrative and legal framework

The State of Alaska manages groundfish fishery resources within state territorial waters (i.e. 0-3 nm from shore). The Alaska Board of Fisheries was established under Alaska Statute 16.05 and has control over the setting of fishing seasons, quotas, harvest levels, fishing methods and other aspects of Alaska fishery management (R1). Chapter 28 of the Alaska Commercial Fisheries regulations describes a detailed framework for the regulation of Alaska groundfish fisheries (including pollock, Pacific cod, sablefish, Atka mackerel, lingcod and numerous rockfish and flatfish species) (R2). These regulations define permitted gear types, fishing regions, seasons, permit requirements, TACs and distribution of TACs between commercial and other fisheries, and landing requirements. The federal groundfish fisheries are managed as two stock complexes; the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI).

Fisheries 3-200 nm from the Alaska coastline are managed by the US National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under federal Fishery Management Plans (R3). The Office of Sustainable Fisheries (OSF), which is part of the NMFS, implements the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 by mandating annual catch limits and accountability measures.

Compliance

State regulations (i.e. fisheries 0-3 nm from the Alaska coast) are enforced by the Marine Enforcement Section of the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers (R4). Federal regulations are enforced by the Alaska Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Law Enforcement (R5).

Management plans for Northern Rockfish

Northern Rockfish fisheries are managed under Groundfish Fishery Management plans which set out specific quotas, seasons, gear restrictions, permits and other management tools. Annual SAFE reports published by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) update these plans with science-based recommendations for management (R6 & R7). Neither NOAA nor the AFSC considers Northern Rockfish to be overfished or subject to overfishing in either the GOA or BSAI fishery.

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>		
LOW	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist	
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.	
HIGH	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.	
<p><i>Determination: Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate. There has been no significant change since the initial assessment.</i></p> <p>Management policy is based on scientific analysis of survey and fishery data. Northern rockfish is managed as a Tier 3 (of 5) stock in both the BSAI and GOA fisheries. The Alaska fishery tier system ensures that the precautionary approach is applied to the management of all fisheries. The 2011 spawning biomass was estimated at 201,429t in the BSAI and 100,463 in the BSAI (R6 & R7).</p>		H
C. STOCK STATUS		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish By -Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>		
LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.	
MEDIUM	The fish By-Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By-Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.	
HIGH	The fish By-Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.	
<p><i>Determination: The fish used to produce the by-product remains unclassified by the IUCN; however, NOAA, AFSC and the Alaska Board of Fisheries do not consider this species to be overfished.</i></p> <p>The Northern Rockfish has not been evaluated by the IUCN.</p>		M

5. REFERENCES

R1 – Alaska Department of Fish and Game

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fisheriesboard.main>

R2 – Alaska Department of Fish and Game – Commercial Fisheries Legislation

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.commercial>

R3 – National Marine Fisheries Service

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

R4 – Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers – Marine Enforcement Section

<http://www.dps.alaska.gov/AWT/Marine.aspx>

R5 – Office of Law Enforcement – Alaska Division

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/ak_alaska.html

R6 – BSAI Northern rockfish SAFE report 2011

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/docs/2011/BSAINorthern.pdf>

R7 – GOA Northern rockfish SAFE report 2011

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/docs/2011/GOAnorthern.pdf>