

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: | 05/12/13 |
| ASSESSOR: | Sam Peacock |

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

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

This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.

1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Name: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Country: USA | Zip: | |
| Tel. No. | Fax. No. | |
| Email address: | Applicant Code | |
| Key Contact: | Title: | |

Certification Body Details

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Name of Certification Body: | Global Trust Certification Ltd. | |
| Assessor Name | Peer Reviewer | Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification |
| Sam Peacock | Dave Garforth | Surveillance |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Scope of Assessment | By-Product surveillance |
| 2. Fishery By-Product | Northern Rockfish (<i>Sebastes polyspinis</i>) |
| 3. Fishery By-Product Location | Alaska EEZ |
| 4. Fishery Method | Demersal trawls, seines, beam and otter trawls, longlines |
| 5. Outcome of Assessment | Maintain approval |

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

The robust legal and administrative framework in Alaska, identified in the previous and initial assessments, remains in place. Management measures are in place and research is conducted on both Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GoA) northern rockfish populations, although the details vary between the two. As there have been no substantial changes since the previous assessment, the assessment team recommends the byproduct remain approved.

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: There have been no substantial changes to the Alaska fishery management framework since the previous assessment.

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.

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3 rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864 | | | |
| Form No: 9 | Report Ref: | Page 3 of 5 | CCM Code: |

| 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 previous 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 2012 spawning biomass was estimated at 202,173t in the BSAI and 104,155t in the BSAI.</p> <p>(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 2012

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Docs/2012/BSAInorthern.pdf>

R7 – GOA Northern rockfish SAFE report 2012

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Docs/2012/GOAnorthern.pdf>

| | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3 rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864 | | | |
| Form No: 9 | Report Ref: | Page 5 of 5 | CCM Code: |

This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.