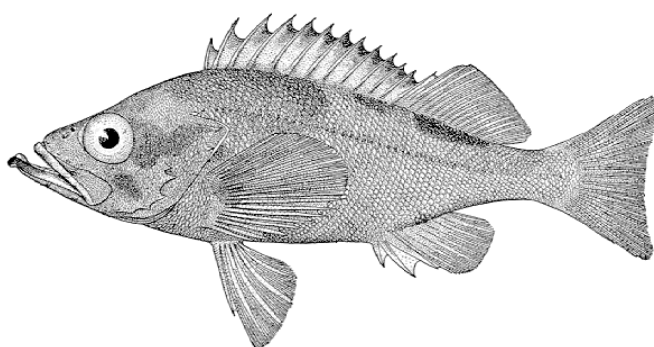


FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| FISHERY By-Product: | Pacific Ocean Perch (<i>Sebastes alutus</i>) |
| LOCATION: | Alaska EEZ |
| DATE OF REPORT: | December 2015 |
| ASSESSOR: | Deirdre Hoare |

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

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| 1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME | | |
|--|---|---|
| Name: | | |
| Address: | | |
| Country: USA (Alaska) | Zip: | |
| Tel. No. | Fax. No. | |
| Email address: | Applicant Code | |
| Key Contact: : | Title: | |
| Certification Body Details | | |
| Name of Certification Body: | Global Trust | |
| Assessor Name | Peer Reviewer | Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification |
| Deirdre Hoare | Giles Bartlett | Surveillance |
| 1. Scope of Assessment | | |
| | IFFO RS By-Product surveillance year 2015 | |
| 2. Fishery By-Product | | |
| | Pacific Ocean Perch (<i>Sebastes alutus</i>) | |
| 3. Fishery By-Product Location | | |
| | Alaska EEZ | |
| 4. Fishery Method | | |
| | Demersal trawls, seines, beam and otter trawls, longlines | |
| 5. Outcome of Assessment | | |
| | Maintain byproduct approval | |

| 2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT |
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| 3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION |
| Alaska fisheries management has a robust legal and administrative framework which is applied specifically to POP. Management is supported by species-specific stock assessment and data collection. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct. |

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 is a robust fishery management framework in place at the state and federal levels, which is applied specifically to Pacific ocean perch.

H

Fishery management 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. 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). 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. 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.

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. Federal regulations are enforced by the Alaska Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Law Enforcement.

Species-specific management:

Pacific ocean perch (POP) is managed as a component of the two groundfish complexes according to frequently updated Fishery Management Plans (FMP). POP in the BSAI is managed at the species level, with an annual quota applied and further subdivided between subareas and districts. In 2015 the Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) (and also TAC) for POP was 34,988t in the BSAI. In the GOA, POP is managed as a component of the ‘slope rockfish’ assemblage, but is also subject to a species-specific ABC/TAC; in 2015 this was set at 21,012t. In both areas, total landings have been below TAC in recent years.

R2 – R8

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>Determination: Species-specific data collection and stock assessment activities are carried out in support of the management Pacific ocean perch in Alaska.</p> <p>Fisheries management in Alaska waters is supported by the Alaska Fisheries Science Centre (AFSC), a research branch of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The AFSC plans, develops and manages scientific research programs, and conducts stock assessments, in support of fishery management throughout the state and federal waters off Alaska.</p> <p>Management policy is based on scientific analysis of survey and fishery data. In both the BSAI and GOA, POP is classified as a Tier 3 stock. The Alaska fishery tier system ensures that the precautionary approach is applied to the management of all fisheries. The 2014 spawning biomass was estimated at 234,426t in the BSAI and 142,029t in the GOA. Analytical assessments of both stocks concluded that neither was overfished, and neither subject to overfishing. Biomass and fishing mortality reference points have been defined for both stocks.</p> <p>R9, R10</p> | | H |
| C. STOCK STATUS | | |
| LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE | | |
| 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. | | |
| 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>Determination: Pacific Ocean perch has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.</p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Sebastes alutus</i>, and it is not listed in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R11, R12</p> | | M |

5. REFERENCES

R1 - Sebastes alutus Drawing by A.H. Baldwin

<http://www.fishbase.org/photos/PicturesSummary.php?ID=504&what=species>

R2– 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/>

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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 groundfish FMP: <http://www.npfmc.org/wp-content/PDFdocuments/fmp/BSAI/BSAIfmp.pdf>

R7 – GOA groundfish FMP: <http://www.npfmc.org/wp-content/PDFdocuments/fmp/GOA/GOAfm.pdf>

R8 – Bering sea/Aleutian Island 2015 POP SAFE report: <http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Docs/2015/BSAipop.pdf>

R9 – Gulf of Alaska 2015 POP SAFE report: <http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/REFM/Docs/2015/GOApop.pdf>

R10 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R11 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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