

Responsible Fisheries Management Surveillance and Reassessment Announcement

Alaska cod fishery

Certification Body
Assessment team
Fishery client
Date

DNV Business Assurance USA
Jodi Bostrom, Giuseppe Scarella, and Paul Knapman
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation
December 14, 2021

1 RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Fishery name	Alaska cod fishery				
Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)	Applicant Group:	Alaska Cod Fishery Client Group			
	Product Common Name (Species):	Alaska cod (<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>)			
	Geographic Location:	Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) within Alaska jurisdiction (200 nautical miles EEZ)			
	Gear Types:	Bottom trawl, longline, and pot and jig gear			
	Principal Management Authority:	National Marine Fisheries Service, North Pacific Fishery Management Council, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Alaska Board of Fisheries			
Date certified	December 6, 2017	Date of certificate expiry	December 5, 2022		
Certificate number	10000445414-MSC-ANSI-USA				
Assessment and surveillance type	Off-site surveillance and reassessment <i>Note: Given the ongoing Covid-19 situation, CSC is allowing audits and site visits to take place remotely.</i>				
Date of assessment and surveillance audit	Week of January 17, 2022				
Assessment/Surveillance stage	1 st Surveillance				
	2 nd Surveillance				
	3 rd Surveillance				
	4 th Surveillance	X			
	Other (expedited, etc.)	Second reassessment			
Assessment team	Team Leader: Jodi Bostrom Team Member(s): Giuseppe Scarella and Paul Knapman				
RFM Standard version	Standard v1.3 (4 th surveillance) and v2.1 (second reassessment)				

2 PROPOSED ASSESSMENT TEAM DETAILS

Jodi Bostrom

Main area of responsibility:
DNV Team Leader and Fundamental clause D
(Serious Impacts of the Fishery on the
Ecosystem)

Jodi Bostrom is a team leader for RFM and MSC Fisheries at DNV Business Assurance. She earned an M.Sc. in Environmental Science from American University and a B.Sc. in Zoology from the University of Wisconsin. She has over six years of experience in MSC fisheries assessment services. Prior to that, she worked for five years at the MSC as a Senior Fisheries Assessment Manager. Among other things, she developed the MSC's benthic habitats policy and the Consequence Spatial Analysis (a risk-based framework for assessing habitat impacts in data-deficient situations) as part of the MSC Standard revision. Prior to the MSC, Jodi spent 11 years with the US National Academy of Sciences' Ocean Studies Board where she worked on various projects from fisheries management and policy to bycatch and dredging impacts to eutrophication and sea level rise.

Giuseppe Scarella

Main area of responsibility:
Fundamental clause B (Science and Stock Assessment Activities and the Precautionary Approach) and C (Management Measures, Implementation, Monitoring, and Control)

Giuseppe Scarella is an experienced fishery scientist and population analyst and modeller, with wide knowledge and experience in the assessment of demersal stocks. He holds a first degree in Marine Biology and Oceanography (110/110) from the Università Politecnica delle Marche, and a Ph.D. in marine Ecology and Biology from the same university, based

on a thesis "Age and growth of two rockfish in the Adriatic Sea". After his degree he was offered a job as project scientist in several research programs about the structure and composition of fish assemblage in artificial reefs, off-shore platform and other artificial habitats in the Italian Research Council – Institute of Marine Science of Ancona (CNR-ISMAR). During the years of employment at CNR-ISMAR he has gained experience in benthic ecology, statistical analyses of fish assemblages evolution in artificial habitats, fisheries ecology and impacts of fishing activities, stock assessment, otolith analysis, population dynamic and fisheries management. During the same years he attended courses of uni-multivariate statistics and stock assessment. He is also actively participating in the scientific advice process of FAO GFCM in the Mediterranean Sea. At the moment he is member of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries for the European Commission (STECF). He is author and co-author of more than 30 scientific paper peer reviewed journals and more than 150 national and international technical reports, most of them focused on the evolution of fish assemblages in artificial habitats and stock assessment of demersal species.

Paul Knapman

Main area of responsibility:

Fundamental clause A (The Fisheries Management System) and C (Management Measures, Implementation, Monitoring, and Control)

Paul Knapman is an independent consultant based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Paul began his career in fisheries more than 30 years ago as a fisheries officer in the UK, responsible for the enforcement of UK and EU fisheries regulations. He then joined the UK government's nature conservation advisors, establishing and managing their marine fisheries programme. He developed an extensive programme of work with fisheries managers, scientists, the fishing industry and NGOs to integrate national and European fisheries and nature conservation requirements. He also helped lead a national four-year project contributing to the 2002 review of the Common Fisheries Policy. He then became Head of the largest inshore fisheries management organisation in England, with responsibility for managing an extensive area of inshore fisheries on the North Sea coast. The organizations responsibilities and roles included: stock assessments; habitat monitoring; setting and ensuring compliance with total allowable catches and quotas; establishing and applying regional fisheries regulations; the development and implementation of fisheries management plans; the lead authority for the largest marine protected area in England. In 2004, Paul moved to Canada and established his own consultancy providing analysis, advisory and developmental work on fisheries management policy in Canada and Europe. He drafted the first management plan for one of Canada's marine protected areas, undertook an extensive review on IUU fishing in the Baltic Sea and was appointed as rapporteur to the European Commission's Baltic Sea Regional Advisory Council. In 2008, Paul joined Moody Marine as their Americas Regional Manager, responsible for managing and developing their regional MSC business. He became General Manager of the business in 2012. Paul has been involved as a lead assessor, team member and technical advisor/reviewer for more than 50 different fisheries. Paul returned to consultancy in 2015.

3 SITE VISIT/AUDIT DETAILS AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Given that this is the fourth annual surveillance, the audit will run in conjunction with the second reassessment site visit. The objective of the surveillance audit is to confirm the conformance of the fishery with the RFM standard by collecting and reviewing updates and changes from the previous year. A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fisheries. DNV assessment team encourages any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fisheries to participate in these meetings.

DNV seeks to solicit stakeholder input from all organizations or individuals with a direct interest in this fishery. Anyone wishing to provide comments or information to the assessment process (in terms of the status of the stocks, ecosystem interactions, fishery management practices, etc.) is invited to contact DNV and register as a stakeholder. Recommendations of new stakeholders are also welcome.

Registered stakeholders will be consulted during the assessment and will be sent the draft report when the 30-day comment period begins. Additional information about stakeholder involvement is available at <https://rfmcertification.org/stakeholder-involvement/>.

If you would like to be registered as a stakeholder, please advise DNV of your interest by 5 PM PST on January 15, 2022, giving the following details:

1. Name, organization, and with contact information
2. Your association with the fishery
3. Issues you would like to discuss
4. Suitable venue/method and time for a meeting

The assessment team will be available to meet remotely during the week of January 17, 2022.

Information on this fishery can be found at: <https://rfmcertification.org/certified-fishery-species/alaska-cod/>.

4 PROJECTED TIMELINE

Surveillance is estimated to take approximately 3.5 months.

12/15/2021: Surveillance announced

1/17/2022: Off-site audit/desktop document review commences

Audit activities will include (but not limited to) review of the following topics:

- Changes to the stock status
- Changes in the management systems
- Changes or additions/deletions to regulations
- Any personnel changes in scientific staff, key management, or industry to evaluate impact on the management of the fishery
- Any potential changes to the scientific basis of information
- Changes regarding impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem

3/31/2022: Surveillance report submitted

The reassessment is estimated to take approximately 11 months. Expected certificate award date is December 6, 2022. Additional information regarding the assessment process is available at <https://rfmcertification.org/fisheries-standard/>.

12/15/2021: Announcement of second reassessment

Week of 1/17/2022: Remote site visit

5/1/2022: Full Assessment Report

6/1/2022: Peer Review

8/1/2022: Public comment period of Full Assessment Report

11/1/2022: Final Assessment Report and certification decision

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