



27th June 2017

Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Certification Program

Announcement of First Surveillance of the Alaska Pacific Halibut Commercial Fishery

This notice is to announce the commencement of the 1st Surveillance of the **Alaska Pacific Halibut Commercial Fishery** to the **Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Certification Program** on behalf of the 'Eat on the Wild Side' (FVOA).

This announcement also includes details about the Assessment Team.

This will be a remote surveillance audit.

The fishery was recertified January 2017 against the Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Program.

The Standard is available at <http://www.alaskaseafood.org/rfm-certification/fisheries-standard/>

Enquiries to:

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Units of Assessment within the Unit of Certification:

Unit of Certification			
U.S. ALASKA PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMERCIAL FISHERIES			
Fish Species (Common & Scientific Name)	Geographical Location of Fishery	Gear Type	Principal Management Authority
Pacific halibut (<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>)	Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	Benthic longline	International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG)

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Notice of Assessment Team

Based on the technical expertise required to carry out the above fishery assessment, Global Trust Certification Ltd., is pleased to confirm the re- assessment team members for the fishery as follows.

Dr. Ivan Mateo, Lead Assessor

Dr. Ivan Mateo has over 15 years' experience working with natural resources population dynamic modeling. His specialization is in fish and crustacean population dynamics, stock assessment, evaluation of management strategies for exploited populations, bioenergetics, ecosystem-based assessment, and ecological statistical analysis. Dr. Mateo received a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences with Fisheries specialization from the University of Rhode Island. He has studied population dynamics of economically important species as well as candidate species for endangered species listing from many different regions of the world such as the Caribbean, the Northeast US Coast, Gulf of California and Alaska. He has done research with NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center Ecosystem Based Fishery Management on bio-energetic modeling for Atlantic cod. He also has been working as environmental consultant in the Caribbean doing field work and looking at the effects of industrialization on essential fish habitats and for the Environmental Defence Fund developing population dynamics models for data poor stocks in the Gulf of California. Recently Dr. Mateo worked as National Research Council postdoc research associate at the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Services Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute on population dynamic modeling of Alaska sablefish.

Vito Ciccio Romito

Vito Ciccio Romito is Italian and holds a BSc in Ecology and a MSc in Tropical Coastal Management from Newcastle University in the U.K. After his BSc, he worked in Tanzania as a Marine Research officer at the Mafia Island Marine Park carrying out biodiversity assessments and monitoring studies of coral reef, mangrove and seagrass ecosystems. Subsequently, for his MSc, he worked on fisheries assessment techniques, ecological dynamics of overexploited tropical marine ecosystems, and evaluation of low trophic aquaculture as a support to artisanal reef fisheries. Over the last 5 years he has been fully involved through Global Trust with the FAO-based RFM Assessment and Certification



program covering the Alaska commercial salmon, halibut, sablefish, pollock, crab, Pacific cod and flatfish fisheries as well as the Icelandic cod, saithe, haddock and redfish fisheries. Vito has also participated in IFFO fisheries assessments for anchovy and sardine stocks in both Chile and Peru, and other pre-assessment work in Canada and the Gulf of Mexico. Vito is also lead, third party IRCA approved auditor.