Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Program

Notice of 4th Surveillance Assessment Team

BSAI King and Snow Crab Commercial Fisheries (Bristol Bay Red King Crab, EBS Snow crab and St Matthew Blue King Crab)

On behalf of Bering Sea Crab Client Group LLC

Based on the technical expertise required to carry out the above fishery surveillance assessment, Global Trust Certification Ltd., is pleased to confirm the 4th Surveillance 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 modelling. 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 bioenergetics modelling 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 Defense 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 modelling of Alaska sablefish.

Sam Dignan, Assessor

Sam Dignan is a fisheries scientist who has previously worked with the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA), Isle of Man and Bangor University Fisheries and Conservation Science Group (Wales). He has a BSc in Biological and Chemical Sciences with Zoology from University College Cork and an MSc in Marine Environmental Protection from Bangor University. He has experience conducting stock assessments, from the survey design and implementation phases through to final

analysis and report presentation; from 2013 to 2015 he was a member of the ICES working group on scallop stock assessment. He has been involved in providing scientific data to ensure fishery compliance with the Marine Stewardship Council's (MSC) certification framework and has participated in MSC surveillance audits from a client's perspective. Sam has extensive experience of interacting directly with fishers and their representative organisations as well as members of scientific and government institutions. He was previously an advisor to the Isle of Man Queen Scallop Management Board that manages the MSC certified Isle of Man queen scallop fishery. He has also worked on the spatial analysis of fishing activity, using Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and logbook data, to spatially quantify fishing activity and fisheries-ecosystem interactions.

Virginia Polonio, Assessor

Virginia has a degree in Environmental Sciences (B.S.c. University of Cádiz). She has a master degree (M.Sc. University of Cádiz) in Fisheries management and aquaculture. She obtained her PhD in biodiversity and natural resources at the University of Oviedo and during her PhD she gained experience in the field of research of fisheries and how protect the Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems as coral reefs versus fishing. She wrote several articles describing new species of corals under her thesis and she developed skills in the fields of benthic ecology and management of ecosystems. Before her PhD, she was contracted as technician in the Spanish Oceanographic Institute where she realized work at sea and gained field experience to assessment fisheries stocks. She participated in the Spanish National Basic Plan of Data to collect and evaluate the fishing in the ICES and CECAF areas where Spanish fleets realize theirs activities. During this period, she carried out feeding habit studies of *Pagellus Bogaraveo* and others commercial species to know how the trophic level affects the ecosystems and the distribution of the species in the Gulf of Cadiz and the Strait of Gibraltar.