



FAO Based Responsible Fisheries Management Certification

Notice of Surveillance Assessment Team Members Nomination

March 2012

Application submitted by: **Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, Juneau, Alaska, U.S.A.**

Fishery: **US Alaska Pacific Halibut Commercial Fisheries in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands and the Gulf of Alaska caught with benthic longline gear**

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

Herman Savikko

Herman Savikko holds a degree in Biological Sciences and began his career in fisheries in 1975, working seasonally each year for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in remote locations, including four Bristol Bay river systems and the Karluk River on Kodiak Island. He worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service at their Auke Bay Biological Laboratory and then returned to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, working for the Divisions of Sport Fish, Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development, and the Division of Commercial Fisheries where he completed a 30-year state career. Responsibilities were in freshwater and marine species management, research, and policy development. Fisheries were those comprised under a Federal Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) including Bering Sea/Aleutian Island crab, federal groundfish in the Bering Sea and GOA, state-wide scallops, and Southeast Alaska troll salmon. State regulatory procedure was handled through participation in the Alaska Board of Fisheries process for groundfish (e.g., parallel and state managed Pacific cod issues, sablefish limited entry issues, rockfish bycatch concerns), federal FMP species removals, season and gear determinations, and shellfish issues (e.g., category 2 and 3 management measures as identified under the BSAI Crab FMP). Activities included: changes to the fishery observer programs, both in review of electronic and onboard biological staff attributes; establishing protected waters under a provision to describe and identify essential fish habitat (EFH) for FMP fisheries, for the purpose of minimizing the extent of practicable adverse habitat effects caused by fishing; and identifying other actions to encourage the conservation and enhancement of fish habitat. He attended all North Pacific Fishery Management Council meetings, as well as the Alaska Board of Fisheries meetings on crab and groundfish. Prepared and delivered the state's report (oral and written) at each Council meeting (Agenda "B" reports) and answered questions from Council members, NPFMC staff, NMFS staff, the Alaska Board of Fisheries and the public on the department's position and policies with regard to crab, scallops, Pacific cod and other species. During his career he worked for eight governors, seven commissioners, and twelve different directors.

Vito Ciccia Romito

Vito holds a BSc in Ecology and an MSc in Tropical Coastal Management (Newcastle University, United Kingdom). His BSc studies focused on bycatch, discards, benthic impact of commercial fishing gear and relative technical solutions, after which he spent a year in Tanzania as a Marine Research officer at Mafia Island Marine Park carrying out biodiversity assessments and monitoring studies of coral reef, mangrove and seagrass ecosystems. Subsequently, for his MSc, he focused on fisheries assessment techniques, ecological dynamics of overexploited tropical marine ecosystems, and evaluation of low trophic aquaculture as a support to artisanal reef fisheries. Since 2010, he has been fully involved through Global Trust with the FAO-based RFM Assessment and Certification program covering the Alaska salmon, halibut, sablefish, pollock and king & tanner crab fisheries.

Dave Garforth

Dave Garforth, BSC, HDip. (Applied Science), MSC has been involved in fisheries and aquatic resources for over 20 years. Currently, managing Global Trust FAO based Fishery Certification Program, with experience in the application of ISO/IEC Guide 65 based seafood certification systems and a professional background in numerous fishery assessments. Previous professional background includes; Development Officer in the Irish Sea Fisheries Board, supply chain and trade experience at Pan European Fish Auctions, the control and enforcement of fisheries regulations as a UK Fishery Officer. Dave is also a lead, third party IRCA approved auditor.

For further information on the assessment, please visit:

<http://sustainability.alaskaseafood.org/halibut-certification>