



Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Certification Program

Announcement of Surveillance and Site Visit Activities

For the

2nd Surveillance Audit

Of the

Alaska Pacific Sablefish (Black Cod) Commercial Fishery (200nm EEZ)

This announcement substantiates the commencement of the 2nd Surveillance Audit of the Alaska Sablefish Commercial Fishery to the Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Certification Program on behalf of 'Eat on the Wild Side' (FVOA).

The fishery was re-certified 10th January 2017 against the Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Standard v1.3 which is available at <http://www.alaskaseafood.org/rfm-certification/fisheries-standard/>.

The proposed site visit will take place between Monday May 14th and Friday May 18th 2018 with exact details of meetings still to be determined.

This announcement also includes, on the following pages, details of the Unit of Certification under consideration and the Assessment Team that will be conducting the audit.

Enquiries may be submitted to:

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Unit(s) of Certification under Consideration

The Unit of Certification that will be considered during this surveillance audit is the U.S. Alaska Sablefish commercial fishery, under federal and state management, fished with benthic longline, pots and trawl gear, within Alaska's 200 nm EEZ as presented below:

Unit(s) of Certification for the US Alaska Sablefish Commercial Fishery:

Fish Species (Common & Scientific Name)	Gear Type	Location of Fishery	Principal Management Authority
Sablefish/Black cod (<i>Anoplopoma fimbria</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Benthic longline▪ Pot▪ Bottom Trawl	U.S. Federal and State fisheries within the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)▪ North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)▪ Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) and Board of Fisheries (BOF)



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 assessment team members for this surveillance audit 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.

William (Bill) Brodie, Assessor

Bill Brodie is an independent fisheries consultant with previously, a 36-year career with Science Branch of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO, Newfoundland and Labrador Region). For twelve years he worked as Senior Science Coordinator/Advisor on Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) issues, serving as chair of the Scientific Council of NAFO and chairing 3 standing committees. As a senior stock assessment biologist, he led assessments and surveys for several flatfish species and stocks, including American plaice, Greenland halibut, yellowtail and witch flounders. These include the largest stocks of flatfish in the NW Atlantic. He also participated in assessment of flatfish, cod, and shrimp stocks in the NE Atlantic and North Sea. Bill has participated in over 30 scientific research vessel surveys on a variety of Canadian and international ships. Bill has previously served as an assessor on Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management certification surveillance audit for Pacific cod.