



WHEN TRUST MATTERS

## Responsible Fisheries Management Surveillance Announcement

# Alaska cod fishery

**Certification Body**  
**Assessment team**  
**Fishery client**  
**Date**

DNV Business Assurance USA  
Jodi Bostrom, Giuseppe Scarcella, and Paul Knapman  
Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation  
March 27, 2025



## 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	February 6, 2023	Date of certificate expiry	February 5, 2028
Certificate number	10000445414-RFM-ANSI-USA		
Assessment type	On-site surveillance		
Date of surveillance audit	April 28-29, 2025		
Surveillance stage	1 <sup>st</sup> Surveillance		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Surveillance		X
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Surveillance		
	4 <sup>th</sup> Surveillance		
	Other (expedited, etc.)		
Assessment team	Team Leader: Jodi Bostrom Team Member(s): Giuseppe Scarcella and Paul Knapman		
RFM Standard version	v2.1		

## 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 Scarcella

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 Scarcella 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 ENGOs 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 AUDIT DETAILS AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

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.

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. Additional information about stakeholder involvement is available at <https://rfmcertification.org/stakeholder-involvement/>. Recommendations of new stakeholders are also welcome.

**If you would like to be registered as a stakeholder, please advise DNV of your interest by 5 PM PDT on April 26, 2025, 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 in person in Seattle, Washington or remotely during the scheduled surveillance audit on April 28-29, 2025.

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 months.

3/27/2025: Surveillance announced

4/28-29/2025: On-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

6/29/2025: Surveillance report submitted

Submitted by:

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## ABOUT DNV

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Whether certifying a company's management system or products, providing training, assessing supply chains or digital assets, DNV enables customers and stakeholders to make critical decisions with confidence, continually improve and realize long-term strategic goals sustainably.

DNV draws on its wide technical and industry expertise to help companies worldwide build consumer and stakeholder trust. Driven by its purpose, to safeguard life, property, and the environment, DNV helps tackle the challenges and global transformations facing its customers and the world today and is a trusted voice for many of the world's most successful and forward-thinking companies.

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