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## MRAG Americas, Inc.

### Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod Fisheries

### MSC Use of the Risk-Based Framework (RBF) in a Fishery Assessment

**Table 1 – Fishery information**

1	Fishery name
	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod fisheries
2	CAB
	MRAG Americas, Inc.
3	Date that the proposal to use the RBF is submitted to the MSC
	May 15, 2019
4	Date stakeholder comment period closes on the proposal to use the RBF
	June 16, 2019
5	PI that the RBF is to be applied for
	Aleutian Islands Pacific cod - PI 1.1.1
6	Justification for use
	- Refer to FCP v2.1 7.7.3 and its associated guidance and the criteria in FCP v2.1 Table 3 when providing justification.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Note that it is required that stakeholder comments on the use of the RBF need to be considered (FCP v2.1 Annex PF2.1.1.e). The stakeholder comment and CAB response shall be included in the Public Comment Draft Report (FCP v2.1 7.20.6.a).</li> </ul>
	<p>In the previous full assessment, the Aleutian Islands stock was merged with the Eastern Bering Sea stock and was assessed as such. Since then, it has split off and as a Tier 5 stock in the NMFS taxonomy of stocks. The assessment document is too general for detailed answers to some of the MSC scoring criteria. It isn't that the assessment document lacks sufficient information about stock status and harvesting, it is just not broken out in ways that readily map only some of the MSC criteria. It will take face to face discussions with the NFMS assessment staff to be confident that we are interpreting the assessment document correctly in the context of the MSC certification criteria and standards. We will investigate in the intervening period whether the RBF will be needed.</p>