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President: Andrew A. Rosenberg, Ph.D.  
MRAG-MS-108-v1

## Marine Stewardship Council Surveillance Announcement

<b>Name of Fishery</b>	AAFA and WFOA North and South Pacific albacore tuna	
<b>Surveillance level and type</b>	Level 5	
<b>Surveillance number (tick one)</b>	1st Surveillance	
	2nd Surveillance	
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	X
	Other (expedited etc.)	
<b>Proposed Team Leader</b>	<p><b>Ms. Amanda Stern-Pirlot</b> would serve as team leader for the assessment. She is an M.Sc graduate of the University of Bremen, Center for Marine Tropical Ecology (ZMT) in marine ecology and fisheries biology. Ms. Stern-Pirlot joined MRAG Americas in mid-June, 2014 as MSC Certification Manager, and is currently serving on the assessment team for New Zealand Orange Roughy and leading on assessment teams for Washington and California pink shrimp, and Danish plaice, fishmeal, and herring. She has worked together with other scientists, conservationists, fisheries managers and producer groups on international fisheries sustainability issues for the past 10 years. With the Institute for Marine Research (IFM-GEOMAR) in Kiel, Germany, she led a work package on simple indicators for sustainable within the EU-funded international cooperation project INCOFISH, followed by five years within the Standards Department at the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in London, developing standards, policies and assessment methods informed by best practices in fisheries management around the globe. Most recently she has worked with the Alaska pollock industry as a resources analyst, within the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council process, focusing on bycatch and ecosystem-based management issues, and managing the day-to-day operations of the offshore pollock cooperative. She has co-authored a dozen publications on fisheries sustainability in the developing world and the functioning of the MSC as an instrument for transforming fisheries to a sustainable basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries;</li> <li>• She has passed the MSC team leader training;</li> <li>• She has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She has undertaken at least two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years,; and</li> <li>• She has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Amanda Stern-Pirlot has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
<b>Proposed team members [remove if not applicable]</b>	<p><b>Max Stocker.</b> Dr. Stocker is a scientist with over 38 years of extensive experience in fisheries science. He is currently proprietor of Stocker &amp; Associates Consultants conducting Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification projects. Since 2009 he has worked as a team member for both principles 1 and 3 on a number of tuna and groundfish MSC assessments in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Dr. Stocker has conducted many surveillance audits, several MSC peer reviews, and has also been involved in the development and evaluation of new MSC P1 assessment methodology. He is an MSC certified Fishery Team Member. Dr. Stocker acted as marine fisheries consultant under contract with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to provide scientific advice on highly migratory species in the Pacific Ocean. He was the lead Canadian scientist for highly migratory species for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). He served as co-chair of the Stock Assessment Working Group of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC and chaired the ISC Albacore Working Group. From 1978-2006 Dr. Stocker held the position of research scientist with DFO at the Pacific biological Station conducting population dynamic studies, conducting peer reviewed stock assessments of many marine species, and communicating results to fisheries managers and stakeholders. He authored and co-authored over 90 scientific papers and reports, and made over 50 presentations in national and international scientific meetings. Dr. Stocker chaired the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee (PSARC) for many years and edited and published over 30 advisory documents on the stock status of marine species and the implications of harvest management on these stocks. Additionally, Dr. Stocker served as in-house stock assessment consultant to the New Zealand Fishing Industry Board in the early 1990s conducting peer reviewed stock assessments, participating in the peer review process, and advising the Board on inshore and Deepwater fisheries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries,</li> <li>• He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years</li> <li>• He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored.</li> </ul> <p>MRAG Americas confirms Dr. Stocker has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p><b>Ms. Erin Wilson.</b> Erin Wilson joined MRAG Americas, Inc. as a Fisheries Consultant in February 2015. Prior to joining MRAG Americas, she spent 2 years</p>

	<p>working at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) as a Natural Resource Specialist and Biological Technician for the Oregon Marine Reserves. She has collaborated on a multitude of projects that focus on marine science and conservation in both a biological and social science aspect. Relevant skills and experience include research with the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) at Oregon State University, Dive Operations at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota Florida, aquarist/biologist at the Texas State Aquarium, and conducting socioeconomic profiles on coastal communities. She received a M.Sc. in Marine Resource Management from Oregon State University and a B.S. in Zoology from Colorado State University, along with a Spanish minor. Her primary research areas involve sustainability for coastal communities and the commercial fishing industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries;</li> <li>• She has passed the MSC team leader training;</li> <li>• She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored.</li> </ul> <p>MRAG Americas confirms Ms. Wilson has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
<b>Audit/review time and location</b>	The surveillance will take place August 9 – 11, 2017 in La Jolla, CA. This surveillance will be in conjunction with the reassessment for AAFA and WFOA North and South Pacific albacore pole & line and troll/jig fisheries.
<b>Assessment/review activities</b>	The surveillance will review any changes in science and management, and will monitor progress in closing out conditions.

MRAG Americas invites stakeholders to provide any information considered relevant to the surveillance and expedited assessments of the fisheries. The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <http://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders> and a template for stakeholder response available at <https://www.msc.org/documents/scheme-documents/forms-and-templates/template-for-stakeholder-input-into-fishery-assessments-v2.0/view>.

You may use the template or provide your response in any other format. All comments and inquiries should be directed to MRAG Americas. MRAG will schedule meetings with stakeholders if requested. To schedule a meeting please provide:

- your name and contact details
- your association with the fishery
- the issues you would like to discuss
- where and when you would like to meet

We request that stakeholders provide written information or request a meeting by 5pm PST on 26 July 2017.

More information on the fishery is available at [https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/aafa-and-wfoa-north-pacific-albacore-tuna/@ @view](https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/aafa-and-wfoa-north-pacific-albacore-tuna/@@view) and [https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/aafa-and-wfoa-south-pacific-albacore-tuna/@ @view](https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/aafa-and-wfoa-south-pacific-albacore-tuna/@@view).

Please send any documentation, requests for meetings, or inquiries to:

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