

**MSC EVALUATION OF THE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA ROCK LOBSTER
ANNOUNCEMENT OF 4TH ANNUAL SURVEILLANCE AUDIT
of the 2nd MSC Certification**

The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) process for independently evaluating the Western Australia Rock Lobster (WARL) is moving forward in the Assessment Process. The WARL was MSC certified in March, 2000 by SCS. The fishery passed Re-Certification in 2006. The current audit will take into account recent developments and monitor progress on the conditions placed on the fishery in the Re-Assessment.

The assessment team from Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) will be conducting a meeting in Perth, Australia with a provisional date of December 7th, 2010. SCS invites all stakeholders to meet with the team and bring forth any issues or concerns about the certification of this fishery. The meeting will include participants such as fishermen, fishery managers, scientists and stakeholders to gain a full understanding of the current state of the fishery.

Unit of Certification	
Species	Rock Lobster (<i>Panulirus cygnus</i>)
Geographical Area	Western Australia—from Bunbury (34024'S) in the south to Shark bay (24044'S) in the north.
Management System	Western Australia Minister of Fisheries, Western Australia Department of Fisheries
Method of Capture	pots
Client Group	Western Rock Lobster Council

It is a requirement of the MSC program that all certification organizations allow for stakeholder participation in the assessment process. As a result, this notice is to advise any parties (individuals or organizations) interested in providing input, to contact SCS and provide

- a) your name and contact details;
- b) your association with the fishery; and
- c) the issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation).

As a reminder, information is most useful to the assessment team when it is specific and includes constructive suggestions for improving existing situations. Also, supporting documentary evidence for any issues of concern will be greatly appreciated by the assessment team.

Please contact SCS by 1700 GMT 29 October 2010. **Details on the Surveillance Team are on Page 2.**

Information on the MSC standard for well-managed and sustainable fisheries is available at www.msc.org

Contact Details:

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Conducting the 4th Annual Surveillance will be

Dr. Sabine Daume – Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) Team Leader, P2

Dr. Sabine Daume is responsible for leading SCS's Sustainable Seafood Certification program, which includes both fishery and chain of custody certification under the auspices of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), using the MSC methodology and standards. Dr. Daume has been involved and/ or lead numerous pre and full assessments, including the follow up to international review of the West Australia Rock Lobster fishery; Mexican Spiny Rock Lobster Fishery, Mexican Sardine fishery; Australian Icefish fishery; the Australian Lakes & Coroong fishery and the North Pacific Halibut fishery and the North Pacific Sablefish (Black Cod) fishery. In addition Dr. Daume has been trained by the MSC to use the Risk Based Framework (RBF) of the new Fisheries Assessment Methodology for data deficient fisheries as well as is a Lead Auditor under the ISO 9001:2001 standard. Dr. Daume is a marine biologist with special expertise in the biology and ecology of exploited marine resources. She has over 10 years experience working very closely with the fishing and aquaculture industry in Australia. In her role as the Senior Research Scientist at the Department of Fisheries in Western Australia, she lead research projects related to fishery and fisheries habitats of temperate and tropical invertebrate species.

Dr. Daume will be working alongside;

Dr. Tony Smith Senior Principle Research Scientist, CSIRO, P1 and P3

Dr. Tony Smith, a senior principle research scientist at CSIRO, has contributed widely to the assessment and modeling of fisheries and marine resources in Australia as well as globally. His expertise includes the development of methods for scientific evaluation of fishery harvest strategies. Dr. Smith was a team member on the original assessment and subsequent reassessments of the Western Rock Lobster fishery. Following up on the outcome and responses to the international review that was completed in May this year, as part of the conditions that were set during a partial reassessment of the fishery, as it pertains to Principle 1 – Stock Status and Harvest Strategy, will be crucial to the successful finish of the certification cycle.