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# MRAG Americas, Inc.

## Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska Flatfish Fisheries

### MSC Surveillance Announcement

Table 1 – Surveillance announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska flatfish fisheries	
2	Surveillance level and type	
	Level 1 – onsite	
3	Surveillance number	
	1st Surveillance	
	2nd Surveillance	
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	X
	Other (expedited etc)	
4	Proposed team leader	
	<b>Ms. Erin Wilson</b> will serve as team leader for the assessment. Erin joined MRAG Americas Inc. in 2015, where she currently works as a Senior Fisheries Consultant. She has worked as a team member for several MSC assessments and conducts routine audits for the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF). Prior to joining MRAG Americas, she spent 2 years working at the Oregon Department of Fish and	

	<p>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. She received a M.Sc. in Marine Resource Management from Oregon State University and a B.S. in Zoology (with a marine emphasis) from Colorado State University, along with a Spanish minor.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Wilson meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leader as follows:</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> <li>• She has passed the MSC Traceability training module;</li> <li>• She meets ISO 19011 training requirements;</li> <li>• She has undertaken 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 Ms. Wilson has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
5	Proposed team members
	<p><b>Ms. Amanda Stern-Pirlot</b> 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 (now Director of the Fishery Certification Division) and is currently serving on several different assessment teams as team leader and team member. She has worked together with other scientists, conservationists, fisheries managers and producer groups on international fisheries sustainability issues for over 15 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> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Stern-Pirlot meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</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 undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years;</li> <li>• She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored;</li> <li>• She has passed the MSC Traceability training module.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, she has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as</p>

described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms she has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

**Dr. 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, now CNR-IRBIM). During the years of employment at CNR-ISMAR he has gained experience in benthic ecology, statistical analyses of fish assemblage 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).

MRAG Americas confirms that Dr. Scarcella meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:

- He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries;
- He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years;
- He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored.

In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 1 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

**Ms. Jodi Bostrom.** Ms. Jodi Bostrom joined MRAG Americas as a Senior Fisheries Consultant and MSC Fisheries Program Manager in mid-2015. Prior to joining MRAG Americas, she spent five years working at the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) in London as a Senior Fisheries Assessment Manager. Among many 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 National Academy of Sciences' Ocean Studies Board in Washington, DC. She received an M.Sc. in Environmental Science at American University in 2006 and a B.Sc. in Zoology at the University of Wisconsin in 1999. Jodi's main areas of work at MRAG Americas are serving on MRAG Americas' MSC fisheries assessment teams and reviewing MSC assessment reports for technical quality and compliance. She has particular experience in the Principle 2 components of the MSC Standard.

MRAG Americas confirms that Ms. Bostrom meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:

- She has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries;
- She has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years;
- She is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored;
- She has passed the MSC Traceability training module.

In addition, she has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 2 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms she has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.

	<p><b>Paul Knapman</b> is an independent consultant based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Paul began his career in fisheries nearly 30 years ago as a fisheries officer in the UK, responsible for the enforcement of UK and EU fisheries regulations. He then worked with the UK government's nature conservation advisors (1993-2001), as their Fisheries Programme Manager, responsible for establishing and developing an extensive programme of work with fisheries managers, scientists, the fishing industry and ENGOS, researching the effects of fishing and integrating nature conservation requirements into national and European fisheries policy and legislation. Between 2001-2004 he was 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 organisations responsibilities and roles included: stock assessments; setting and ensuring compliance with allowable catches; developing and applying regional fisheries regulations; the development and implementation of fisheries management plans; acting as 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 helped draft the management plan for one of Canada's first 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, with responsibility 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 in the MSC programme. He returned to fisheries consultancy in 2015.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Knapman meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</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>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>The whole assessment team collectively meets the requirements as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p>
6	Audit/review time and location
	June 17-19, 2019 in Seattle, WA. This site visit will be in conjunction with the reassessment of the BSAI and GOA flatfish fisheries.
7	Assessment and review activities
	The surveillance will review any changes in science and management.

MRAG Americas invites stakeholders to provide any information considered relevant, including knowledge and concerns about the fishery, to the surveillance and expedited assessments of the fisheries. Unless covered by FCP 4.4.1 any information that cannot be shared with other stakeholders even under a confidentiality agreement shall not be: referenced in the surveillance audit, used to determine the surveillance audit outcome or used as the basis for an objection to certification. The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment> and a template for stakeholder response available at [MSC program supporting documents](#). You must use the template to provide your response. 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 GMT on June 10, 2019.

More information on the fishery is available at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/>.

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

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Submitted by: Michealene Corlett

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