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MRAG-MSC-108-v1

# Marine Stewardship Council Surveillance Announcement

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| **Name of Fishery** | Australian Northern Prawn Fishery | |
| **Surveillance level and type** | Level 4 Off-site Surveillance | |
| **Surveillance number (tick one)** | 1st Surveillance | |
| | 2nd Surveillance | |
| | 3rd Surveillance | *X* |
| | 4th Surveillance | |
| | Other (expedited etc.) | |
| **Proposed Team Leader** | Mr. Richard Banks will serve as lead assessor. Richard Banks has considerable MSC experience having served as the Lead Assessor for four prawn trawl fisheries in Australia and on the PNA free school skipjack full assessment. Richard has also designed several fishery improvement plans in South East Asia and the Pacific, and acted as external reviewer to a number of MSC assessments on behalf of WWF. Richard currently works as an advisor to FFA, MFMR, and PNA as an offshore tuna advisor. Richard is an economist and fisheries management and policy programming specialist having worked on similar issues for international agencies, Commonwealth and State Fisheries. Richard holds a bachelor degree in Fisheries Economics and a Masters in Agricultural Economics from the University of Portsmouth, and Imperial College, London, respectively.<br><br>• He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries;<br><br>• He has passed the MSC team leader training;<br><br>• He has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2<br><br>• He has undertaken one fishery assessment as a team member in the last five years<br><br>• He has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders.<br><br>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCR Annex PC table | |

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| | PC3.<br><br>• MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Richard Banks has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. |
| **Audit/review time and location** | **The surveillance will take place by remote means on October 19 - 24, 2015.** A remote surveillance is justified in this case as follows:<br><br>The ability to verify information remotely is high. There are ample opportunities and mechanisms to engage with clients and stakeholders including electronic forms of communication such as phone conferencing, video conferencing, and email. Fishery reports and other documented evidence that can be used to demonstrate progress against conditions and other issues relevant to the MSC Principles and criteria can be easily and transparently checked remotely.<br><br>There are no milestones that require investigation of physical aspects of the fishery. |
| **Assessment/ review activities** | The surveillance will review any changes in science and management, and will monitor progress in closing out conditions: initiating the process to develop control rules that have a more scientific basis; establishing a specific monitoring program for both habitats and the ecosystem; and explicitly incorporating the precautionary approach into the decision-making process. |

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 http://www.msc.org/documents/getcertified/stakeholders/template_for_stakeholder_input. 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 October 15, 2015

More information on the fishery is available at https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/australia_northern_prawn/assessment-downloads.

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

Amanda Stern-Pirlot

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