

Marine Stewardship Council Surveillance Announcement

PNG Fishing Industry Association's purse seine Skipjack & Yellowfin Tuna Fishery April 7, 2022

Table 1 – Surveillance announcement

1	Fishery name			
	PNG Fishing Industry Association’s purse seine Skipjack & Yellowfin Tuna Fishery			
2	Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)			
		<div>Stock/Species (FCR V2.0 7.4.7.1)</div>	<div>Method of Capture (FCR V2.0 7.4.7.2)</div>	<div>Fishing fleet (FCR V2.0 7.4.7.3)</div>
	1	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Purse seine fishing; free school ¹ sets	Select vessels (see <i>revised</i> Addendum) fishing in the North coast of Papua New Guinea’s Economic Exclusive Zone and Archipelagic Waters flagged to either Papua New Guinea (PNG), or the Philippines (PH), and <i>Federated States of Micronesia (FM) Nauru (NA), Taiwan (TW) and Vanuatu (VU)</i> operating under a PNG domestic purse seine licenses and <i>bilateral agreements within PNG’s EEZ.</i>
	2	Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)		
	3	Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)		
	4	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Purse seine fishing FAD sets (drifting FADs and anchored FADs) ²	
	5	Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)		
	6	Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)		
3	Date certified		Date of expiry	
	11 May 2020		10 Nov 2025	
4	Surveillance level and type			
	Level 6, onsite surveillance (Covid Derogation 3: Remote auditing)			
5	Surveillance number			

¹ Free School sets, according to WCPFC, including unassociated sets and sets associated with baitfish.

² The FAD sets in this assessment include those classified by the WCPFC Regional Observer Program (ROP) for the purse seine school association as: 1) drifting log/debris or dead animal, 2) drifting, raft, FAD or payao, and 3) anchored raft FAD or payao.

	1st Surveillance	X
	2nd Surveillance	
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	
	Other (Expedited, etc.)	
6	Proposed team leader	
	<p><u>Dr. Holly Rolls, Team leader and Principle 2</u></p> <p>Dr. Holly Rolls has over 15 years of experience in fisheries research and sustainability, with a background focused on the prioritization and effective management of marine habitats. Dr. Rolls earned her Ph.D. in Marine Resource Assessment from the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science (2014). Her doctoral work focused on quantifying the suitability of coastal fish habitats as nursery grounds for ecologically and economically important species. Dr. Rolls has worked extensively across private and public sectors and has led numerous coastal sustainability initiatives with diverse stakeholders, including fishers, government, private industry, and NGOs. She has substantial field experience and has conducted fisheries monitoring (dependent and independent) of coastal and offshore environments.</p> <p>Dr. Rolls is an ISO 9001 lead auditor and MSC Team Leader (V2.2). In her role at SCS, she is currently leading, coordinating and/or participating as a team member on MSC pre-assessments, surveillance audits, and full assessments of fisheries worldwide, including multiple U.S. fisheries.</p> <p>The proposed team leader meets the MSC Team leader qualifications in that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Completed training meeting requirements in Table 1 of GCRV2.4, as evidenced by the certificate of passing auditor training for the ISO course 19011 (2021). ✓ Relevant degree and/or equivalent experience in the fisheries sector related to tasks under responsibility of a team leader (Evidence: Ph.D. in Marine Resource Assessment, Research published in scientific journal). ✓ Completed of the latest MSC training modules applicable to this assessment (V2.2 Team Leader MSC modules) within the past five years (2021). ✓ Has undertaken 2 MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last 5 years, including: pre-assessments for the WWF Japan Skipjack and Yellowfin fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean; initial full assessment of the SI WCPO Skipjack and Yellowfin Tuna Purse Seine Fishery; initial full assessment of US Atlantic Scup Trawl Fishery; 4th surveillance and reassessment of the US Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fishery. ✓ Has demonstrated experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques, as verified by witness audit (2021). ✓ Is competent in the MSC Standard and current Certification Requirements, auditing techniques, and communication and stakeholder facilitation techniques, as verified by completion of ISO 19011 auditor training (2021). ✓ Has affirmed she holds no conflict of interest. 	

All Team Members meet the following Team Member requirements:

Sandy (Alexander) Morison, Consultant at Morison Aquatic Sciences, Responsible for Principle 1

Mr. Morison is a consultant specializing in fisheries and aquatic sciences. He has over 30 years' experience in fishery science and assessment at state, national and international levels and has held senior research positions for state and national organizations in Australia. He is currently chair of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) and has been engaged in the Kobe process for harmonisation of measures across the tuna RFMOs. Mr. Morison has considerable experience with issues of tuna and other pelagic species through various positions in addition to his current role with CCSBT. He was Australia's representative on the Science Working Group during the establishment of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation and was the inaugural chair of the Jack Mackerel Working Group during that time. He has particular expertise with fish age and growth and has been involved in the development and implementation of harvest strategies for several fisheries. Mr. Morison has participated as part of a team undertaking MSC pre-assessments for several fisheries and is also trained as a lead auditor for MSC assessments.

Sandy (Alexander) Morison's experience satisfies the MSC requirements for a Team Member as described in PC2 (FCP v2.2):

- ✓ With relevant degree (Honours Degree in Zoology) and over 5 years of research experience in management or research experience in a marine conservation biology, fisheries, natural resources or environmental management position.
- ✓ Has passed the MSC compulsory training modules for Team Members within the last 5 years (2019).
- ✓ Affirms they have no conflict of interest in conducting this assessment.

Dr. Michael Harte, Professor at Oregon State University, Responsible for Principle 3

Dr Michael Harte is a Professor in the College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University in the USA, having trained in physical geography and economics in New Zealand and Canada. He is recognized internationally as a fisheries and marine policy adviser, researcher, educator and program leader. He has held senior positions in the private, public, academic and NGO sectors in Australia, the US, the Falkland Islands, Canada and New Zealand.

Dr Harte has extensive policy and economic analysis experience working with commercial and small-scale fisheries, ecosystem-based fisheries management, bio-economic analysis of fisheries, climate impacts on fisheries, eco-labelling, cost recovery and resource rents in fisheries, and the development of policies and regulations associated with the monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries, as well as work on seafood markets and traceability. His work spans both academic and practical fishery management domains.

Dr. Michael Harte's experience satisfies the MSC requirements for a Team Member as described in PC2 (FCP v2.2):

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ With relevant degree a PhD in Geography from University of Victoria, and over 5 years of research experience in management or research experience in a marine conservation biology, fisheries, and natural resources ✓ Has passed the MSC compulsory training modules for Team Members (FCP v2.2 within the last 5 years (September 2020). ✓ Affirms they have no conflict of interest in conducting this assessment. <p>The team collectively meets at least three of the MSC Table PC3 team qualification and competency criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Mr. Sandy (Alexander) Morison meets the qualifications for fish stock assessment with: 3 years' or more experience of applying relevant stock assessment techniques being used by the fishery under assessment, as evidenced by over 25 years' experience with a wide variety of fishery assessment models including the types of integrated assessments that are used for the key tuna species in the WCPFC. ✓ Mr. Sandy (Alexander) Morison meets the qualifications for 'Fish stock biology/ecology' with 3 years' or more experience working with the biology and population dynamics of the target or species with similar biology), as evidenced by decades of experience working with the biology and population dynamics of tuna species and other species with similar biology in his career as a fisheries scientist, including as a senior scientist on State, National and International scientific groups. ✓ Dr. Holly Rolls meets the qualifications for 'Fishing impacts on aquatic ecosystems' with 3 years' or more experience in research into, policy analysis for, or management of, the impact of fisheries on aquatic ecosystems including at least two of the following topics: i. Bycatch. ii. Endangered, threatened, or protected (ETP) species. iii. Habitats. iv. Ecosystem interactions. As evidenced by multiple publications and abstracts on the role of fish habitats and ecosystem services in sustaining fish populations. ✓ Dr. Harte meets the qualifications for 'Fishery management and operations 'with 3 years' or more experience as a practising fishery manager and/or fishery/policy analyst/consultant. As evidenced by Prof. Harte's efforts on the Science and Statistical Committee of the US Pacific Fisheries Management Council since 2016. He serves on the Social and Economics, Highly Migratory Species, Ecosystem, and Salmon subcommittee where he reviews a wide range of technical analysis that is provided to the US Pacific Fisheries Management Council. He has provided Fisheries Advice since 1998 working for Industry, Govt and academia. ✓ Understanding of the CoC Standard and CoC Certification Requirements. As evidenced by Team Member, Dr. Holly Rolls, completing the MSC's Traceability training module (2021). ✓ Use of the RBF as evidenced by Team Member, Sandy (Alexander) Morison, completing the MSC's RBF training course (2019).
8	Audit/review time and location
	SCS invites participants to attend the remote site visit tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2022. All members of the team are available to meet with stakeholders remotely. If the site visit date changes, registered stakeholders will be informed.
9	Assessment and review activities

	<p>The surveillance audit will be conducted in accordance with MSC FCP v2.2 7.28.4-7.28.7 and will include review of updated documentation on the fishery and interviews with key management and stakeholders, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Changes to the fishery and its management; including: ii. Any potential or actual changes in management systems. iii. Any changes or additions/deletions to regulations. iv. Any personnel changes in science, management or industry and their impact on the management of the fishery. v. Any potential changes to the scientific base of information, including stock assessments. vi. Any changes affecting traceability vii. Performance in relation to any relevant conditions of certification; viii. Any developments or changes within the fishery which impact traceability and the ability to segregate MSC from non-MSC products; and ix. d. Any other significant changes in the fishery.
10	Stakeholder opportunities
	<p>Stakeholders are encouraged to submit comments using the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Surveillance Audits. During the surveillance audit, all members of the team are available to meet with stakeholders remotely (FCP v2.2 7.28.15.b).</p>

SCS encourages stakeholders not to withhold information, and SCS will not permit use of confidential information for reference within an assessment as basis for determination of an assessment outcome, or as basis for an objection to certification. Confidential information is restricted to defined exceptions listed in FCP v2.2 (4.3.3).

The stakeholder consultation period ends on **May 8, 2022 at 1700 UTC**.

Any parties (individuals or organizations) interested in providing input at the on-site meetings or via email, and/or in being directly informed of future stakeholder announcements, please contact SCS at MSCstakeholders@scsglobalservices.com with:

- your name and contact details;
- your association with the fishery; and
- 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.

Submitted by: Gabriela Anhalzer

Date: April 7, 2022