



MARINE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL FISHERY ASSESSMENT

Surveillance Report

For The

Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF)-British Columbia
Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) North Pacific Fishery
CHMSF Certificate No: GTC-F-002

American Western Fishboat Owner Association (WFOA)
Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) North Pacific Fishery
WFOA Certificate No: GTC-F-001

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Client Name	The Western Fish-boat Owners Association (WFOA) USA	
Fishery Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Species</u>: Albacore tuna <i>Thunnus alalunga</i>; • <u>Geographical Area</u>: North Pacific Ocean; • <u>Method of Capture</u>: Troll & Jig • <u>Method of Capture</u>: Pole & Line 	
Client Name	The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF), Canada	
Fishery Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Species</u>: Albacore tuna <i>Thunnus alalunga</i>; • <u>Geographical Area</u>: North Pacific Ocean; • <u>Method of Capture</u>: Troll & Jig 	
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Assessment Team	Clare Murray, (Team Lead Auditor) Max Stocker, (Assessor)	
On-site audit	January 22 nd – 29 th 2012	
Surveillance Audit completion		Surveillance Audit 1: March 21st 2011
	X	Surveillance Audit 2: February 2012
		Surveillance Audit 3: March 2013
		Surveillance Audit 4: March 2014
		Re-certification Audit: March 2015
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Summary

This report contains the findings of the second surveillance audit in relation to two certificates of the North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery:

1. The American Western Fishboat Owners Association (WFOA) North Pacific Albacore tuna Troll & Jig and Pole & Line Fishery. (2 separate Units of Certification).
2. The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF) North Pacific Troll & Jig Albacore tuna Fishery. (One Unit of Certification).

The surveillance audit reports for each fishery client are combined into one single report due to the obvious connections between management systems under US/Canadian Treaty, the treatment of North Pacific Albacore Stock as a single stock by scientific and management bodies and their associated committee and working group arrangements. Additionally, the combination of surveillance audits has allowed a coordinated and effective assessment, supported by each client and resulting in cost savings and a reduction in resource requirements on the various management organizations and stakeholders included in the assessment.

Global Trust determines that in each case:

- **The American Western Fish Boat Owners Association (WFOA) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fisheries (Pole & Line and Troll & Jig) and;**
- **The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery (Troll & Jig)**

Continue to operate a well-managed and sustainable fishery and therefore, continued certification to the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing is awarded.

On behalf of the MSC clients, WFOA and CHMSF, Global Trust would like to extend thanks to the management organizations and stakeholders of the North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fisheries who took part in this surveillance audit.

- Lead Assessor: Dr Stocker is a scientist with 30 years of extensive experience in fisheries science providing conservation advice for management.
- Lead Auditor: Clare Murray is a lead IRCA approved auditor with Global Trust.

1. Introduction

This report sets out the results of the second annual surveillance assessment of:

- The American Western Fish Boat Owners Association (WFOA) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fisheries (Pole & Line and Troll & Jig) and;
- The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery (Troll & Jig).

To be awarded an MSC certificate for the fishery, the applicants agreed in a written contract to develop an action plan for meeting the required 'Conditions' against the performance indicators that scored below 80% in the initial assessment. Action Plans for each Condition were submitted by each fishery client and these were approved by GTC as the certification body of record.

The applicant also agreed in a written contract to be financially and technically responsible for surveillance visits by an MSC accredited certification body, which would occur at a minimum of once a year or at a frequency determined by the MSC CR (1.1) requirements, or more often at the discretion of the certification body (based on the applicant's action plan or by previous findings by the certification body from annual surveillance audits or other sources of information).

Announcement of Surveillance Audit

An announcement of the surveillance site visit was published on the MSC website on the 20th December 2011 to provide an opportunity to stakeholders to meet with or submit information on the fishery to the assessment team. Additionally, written notification was sent to the list of stakeholders representing the consultation plan during the initial assessment of this fishery and in many cases follow up mails and phone-calls were also made to ensure that stakeholders had been provided with sufficient opportunity to participate in consultation.

Table 1 provides a list of the stakeholders and management organizations engaged in the process either through meetings, conference call or submission of information. These consultations focused on the questions and evidence that demonstrates the status of the North Pacific albacore stock, the performance of the fishery throughout the year and measures that supported the fulfilment of the Conditions of Certification placed upon WFOA and CHMSF at the initial certification decision.

Meetings with the following management and scientific organizations of the US and Canadian Albacore tuna fishery that were held:

- **Pacific Fishery Management Council**
- **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**
- **IATTC**
- **NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center**
- **BC Dept. Of Environment**
- **Fisheries and Oceans, Canada**

A number of scientific and meeting reports were also examined by the surveillance team in producing this report, as detailed in the information sources section.

2. The Surveillance Process

The Surveillance Audit followed the current version of MSC procedures and methodologies and implemented by Global Trust accredited MSC Procedures (QP).

<http://www.msc.org/documents/scheme-documents/msc-scheme-requirements>

The determination of the Surveillance level based on Table 1 and 2 was a normal surveillance for 2011 and going forward for 2012. The score was calculated by adding scores from sections 1-4 in Table 1 below.

Default Assessment tree used?	
Yes	0
No	2
2. Number of conditions	
Zero conditions	0
Between 1-5 conditions	1
More than 5	2
3. Principle Level Scores	
≥85	0
<85	2
4. Conditions on outcome PIs?	
Yes	2
No	0

The surveillance score of 3 was used to identify the surveillance level appropriate to the fishery;

Table 2 : Surveillance Level Years after certification or recertification					
Surveillance score (from Table C3)	Surveillance level	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
2 or more	Normal Surveillance	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit

1	Remote Surveillance	Option 1	Off-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	Off-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit
		Option 2	On-site surveillance audit	Off-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit
0	Reduced Surveillance		Review of new information	On-site surveillance audit	Review of new information	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit

The surveillance audit was conducted as a normal on-site surveillance audit as based on the score of 3.

The Surveillance Audit was comprised in general of:

1. A review and evaluation of the fishery status, scientific evaluation and changes to the management regime and regulation since the initial assessment with respect to confirming that the fishery continues to meet the MSC Principles and Criteria for certification.
2. A review and evaluation of the client activities and evidence that supports the implementation of the Action Plans agreed at the original certification of each fishery.

The surveillance audit consisted of the announcement to stakeholders and interested parties as required through the MSC website and more direct stakeholder contact with the original stakeholders that took part in the initial assessment and management organizations that comprise the management system and regime for North Pacific Albacore tuna. Through this process, a stakeholder consultation plan was developed as part of the on-site assessment.

Individual letters were sent to stakeholders and management agencies, with follow up e-mails and information on the objectives of the surveillance audit. From this, a surveillance on-site meeting plan was organized and appointments for each individual meeting set. Due to the nature of the management of North Pacific Albacore, and the geographic location of the respective clients; Pacific coast Canada and Pacific coast USA, the on-site assessment proposed to cover a range of geographic locations with meetings held in Vancouver, British Columbia; Portland, Oregon and La Jolla, California. Final confirmation of meetings and dates resulted in meetings being held in Vancouver, British Columbia; and La Jolla, California.

Scheduled meetings were undertaken through one to one meetings and/or teleconference conversations due to logistical delays due to weather and time constraints of the stakeholders.

- On site Surveillance Audit dates were January 22nd to 29th 2012.
- On-site audits were performed by Max Stocker and Clare Murray, Team Leader.

Meetings generally consisted of a 90-180 minute discussion with pre-set generic agenda used in each case. The agenda was set out so as to allow specific stakeholder interests and concerns to be

covered through a structured approach. Client fishery meetings had their own specific Agendas and consisted of a more lengthy exchange and consultation.

Information and notes from the consultation phase of the assessment were combined with a review of formal documentation from science and management agencies, regulatory amendments and the direct evidence collected during each of the client consultation meetings.

Overall, the surveillance audit took place at various periods, both on-site and off-site from January 3rd to February 21st 2012.

3. Summary of stakeholder and client meetings

Arising out of the stakeholder consultation plan preparation a considerable number of stakeholders were contacted directly by surface mail and e-mail. Arising out of this process a final direct consultation plan for the audit was undertaken. Table 1 details the dates, meeting locations and organizations that were consulted through direct meetings or conference calls during the on-site surveillance assessment.

All meetings were conducted by the Surveillance Team Assessors; Max Stocker and Clare Murray.

Table 3 of Consultation Meetings during on Site Surveillance Assessment of the North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery

Name Organization	Present at Meetings	Location	Meeting Type	Date/Time
Pacific Fishery Management Council 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101 Portland, Oregon 97220-1384	Kit Dahl	Portland La Jolla	Teleconference call	25 th January 2012
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 2040 SE Marine Science Drive. Newport, Oregon 97365	Cyreis Schmitt	Hyatt Hotel Vancouver Oregon	Teleconference call	23 rd January 2012
WFOA P.O. Box 992723 Redding, California 96099	Wayne Heikkila, Executive Director,	La Jolla Hotel San Diego	Meeting	24 th January 2012
WFOA Client Representative Meeting International Law Offices of San Diego, 740 North Harbor CA.	Peter Flournoy,	La Jolla Hotel San Diego	Meeting	24 th January 2012
IATTC 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive La Jolla CA 92037-1508	Rick Deriso , Alexandre da Silva, Carl Compean	IATTC, 8860 NOAA Scripps Building, Shores Drive, San Diego	Meeting	25 th January 2012
NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center 3333 North Torrey Pines Court La Jolla, CA	Michele Zetao Craig Herberer Steve Stohs Steve Teo Suzanne Kohin	La Jolla Hotel San Diego	Meeting	24 th January 2012
CHMSF 4829 Maplegrove Street Victoria, BC CANADA V8Y 3B9	Lorne Clayton, Executive Director	Victoria, BC DFO Offices Burrard Street Vancouver Victoria	Teleconference	23 rd January 2012
BC Dept. Of Environment 3rd Floor 2975 Jutland Rd Victoria, BC	Sandy Argue; Consultant to BC Dept. Of Environment	La Jolla Hotel San Diego	Teleconference	25 th January 2012
Fisheries and Oceans, Canada Suite 200-401 Burrard St. Vancouver BC	Lisa Mijacika John Holmes Jordan Mah	DFO Offices Burrard Street Vancouver	Meeting	25 th January 2012

4. Fishery Observations

In 2010, the total all Nations catch of North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) reported by the ISC, was 69,327 tonnes (t), and was 12.7% lower than the 2009 catch. The 2010 catch is 10% below the long-term average catch (1971-2000) of 76,965 t. The Canadian and US troll vessel catch in 2010 was 16,627 t or 24% of the total all Nation North Pacific albacore catch.

There were a few isolated incidences of reports of North American trollers observing allegedly, illegal high seas gill net operations and that they have notified authorities of the incidences. In the summer of 2010 U.S. vessels notified authorities in Hawaii that resulted in an aircraft being deployed to the sighting area. However, the aircraft arrived on the scene too late to locate any vessel. There was no evidence of reported IUU activity from US or Canadian Albacore registered fishing vessels expressed during the assessment.

Canada

In 2010, the Canadian troll fleet of 157 vessels operated primarily within the coastal waters of the United States and Canada and in adjacent high seas areas east of 150° W. Total annual catch and effort reported by Canada in 2010 were 6,497 t and 7,532 vessel-days, respectively. The reported figures indicate a 15% increase in catch and effort compared to the 2009 figures. About 51% of the catch and 53% of the effort occurred in the US EEZ, whereas 36% of the catch and 39% of the effort occurred in Canadian waters and 14% of the catch and 8% of the effort occurred in high seas waters. The Canadian fleet caught 2,348 t of albacore in the coastal waters of Canada in 2010, which is the highest catch on record (1995-2010) (Holmes 2011).

The reported nominal CPUE was 863 kg/v-d in 2010, representing a 1% increase relative to 2009. Nominal CPUEs in the majority of 1° x 1° spatial blocks north of 48 °N and in offshore waters were above average in 2010. In contrast, CPUEs further south in the US EEZ were mostly below average relative to the 2000-2009 period.

Reported bycatch of other tuna or billfish species, sharks, sea turtles, and sea birds was negligible and they were released alive. It is a condition of license that harvesters return species other than albacore unharmed. Last year new ID photo identification cards were placed within the logbooks based on previous misidentification of by-catch information including short fin sharks and skipjack.

In 2010, thirty-four Canadian vessels participated in a size frequency sampling program. They recorded size frequency data in 2010 and turned in 9,772 fork length measurements, ranging in size from 51 cm (2.65 kg) to 90 cm (15.25 kg). The data indicated two modes present at 64-66 cm and 74-76 cm. These modes correspond to 2- and 3-yr old fish, respectively.

The 2010 fishery was marked by a northward shift in the distribution of albacore and resulting changes in the fishery. Evidence of this shift include the pronounced mode in the 2010 length-frequency data at 74-75 cm, corresponding to 3-yr old fish, and the absence of this mode in the 2009

data. The abundance of these larger and older fish is greatest south of 40 °N, which is further south than the Canadian fishery operates but is observable in length-frequency data reported for the US troll fleet, which is divisible into northern and southern areas on the basis of differences in length-frequency modes.

The preliminary catch information for 2011 indicates that the Canadian troll fleet of 176 vessels operated primarily within the coastal waters of the United States and Canada and in adjacent high seas areas east of 150° W. Preliminary total annual catch and effort reported by Canada in 2011 were 5,442 t and 8,346 vessel-days, respectively. At the time of writing 170 of 176 (96.5%) logbooks have been received.

USA

Catch figures for the United States albacore fisheries were reported at ISC 11. The biggest USA North Pacific albacore fishery is the troll/pole-and-line fishery. The troll/pole-and-line fishery has averaged 12,200 t over the last 5 years. The reported catch for 2010 was 12,004 t, representing a decrease of 6.2% compared to the 2009 catch. Other North Pacific albacore fisheries contribute small amounts to the total catch. In 2010, the sport fishery, and long-line catches were 689 t, and 409 t, respectively.

In 2010, the number of commercial vessels fishing with pole-and-line and troll gears was 653. Surface fisheries were sampled by port samplers which collected 46,577 fish with a mean fork-length of 72 cm.

The preliminary albacore landings to US ports for 2011 was 10,965 t.

California

The HMS FMP requires a federal permit with a surface hook-and-line gear endorsement for all U.S. commercial and recreational charter fishing vessels that fish for albacore within the West Coast EEZ. This endorsement is also required for U.S. vessels that fish albacore on the high seas and land their catch in California, Oregon, or Washington.

In California, commercial surface hook-and-line vessels landed 738 t of albacore in 2010 and 394 t in 2009. Preliminary albacore catch for 2011 was 637 t.

Oregon

In Oregon, commercial landings of North Pacific albacore tuna in 2010, predominantly troll caught fish, have totaled 4,854 t. This represents an increase of 5.5% over the 2009 figure of 4,599 t. In 2010, a total of 419 vessels made 1,303 landings of albacore. During the 2010 season Astoria received 41% of the albacore landings, followed by Newport with 39% and Charleston with 17% (Chappell 2011). Sampling of Oregon's commercial albacore fishery is a cooperative effort between the ODFW, NMFS, and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. Preliminary catch for 2011 was 4,315 t.

Oregon has a Limited Fish Seller (LFS) license. This license is required to sell fish from vessels directly to the public. The 2010 annual report (Chappell 2011) indicated that numbers of fishermen selling off docks is increasing. However, according to fish ticket information, there has actually been a decrease trend since 2009. Based on fish ticket information 2.6%, 2.2% and 1.6% of Oregon's albacore landings have been LFS landings in 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively (Cyreis Schmitt pers. comm.).

5. Stock Status Observations

2011 North Pacific albacore stock assessment

A new stock assessment for North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) was conducted in June 2011 by the ISC Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) in Shizuoka, Japan. The assessment was carried out using fishery data through 2009 and using the Stock Synthesis (SS3) modeling platform (Version 3.11b). The assessment assumes a single well mixed stock of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC 2011b).

We noted that prior to the stock assessment workshop, an intercessional workshop of the Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) was convened at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, USA, on 12-19 October 2010. The goal of this workshop was to explore and prepare the fisheries data for the June stock assessment workshop (ISC 2011c).

The SS3 model developed by the ALBWG is a seasonal, length-based, age-structured, forward-simulation population model with a focus on providing reliable estimates of population dynamics and stock abundance. Major changes to model inputs and structure in this assessment relative to the 2006 assessment include a new growth model, catch-at-length data rather than catch-at-age data, 16 age-aggregated fisheries defined by gear, location, season, and catch units (weight or number) rather than 17 age-specific fisheries, and use of conditional age-at-length data not previously available (ISC 2011a).

The ALBWG also conducted a comparison of a SS3 model run with a VPA model run to look at important estimated quantities for model-related changes. The reference run of the VPA model configured as in the 2006 assessment, but with updated catch-at-age and CPUE indices. Analyses were carried out to assess the sensitivity of the results to assumptions including data-weighting, biological parameters, and fishery selectivity patterns. In addition, stochastic future projections of the stock were conducted to estimate the probability that future SSB will fall below the average of the ten historically lowest estimated SSBs (SSB-ATHL) in at least one year of a 25-yr (2010-2035) projection period (ISC 2011a).

The findings of the 2011 ALBWG assessment were:

The base-case spawning stock biomass (SSB) estimates fluctuated between 300,000 and 500,000

between 1966 and 2009. The 2009 estimated SSB is near the historical median SSB of about 405,000 t. Annual recruitment has averaged 48 million fish during the same period. Fishing mortality (F-at-age) estimates indicate an increasing pattern to its highest level at age 3 and then declining to a much lower and stable level through ages 7-15. The 2011 estimate of current F (geometric mean 2006-08) is lower than the 2006 estimate of current F (geometric mean 2002-04). The projections indicated that future SSB is expected to fluctuate around the historical median SSB of around 400,000 t assuming F remains constant at the $F_{2006-2008}$ and recruitment remains at average historical levels (ISC 2011a).

The ALBWG concluded that the North Pacific albacore stock is considered to be healthy at average historical recruitment and $F_{2006-2008}$ (F current). The assessment indicates that the ratio of $F_{2006-2008}/F_{SSB-ATHL}$ is 0.71, meaning that current F is well below the F that would lead SSB to fall below the SSB-ATHL threshold. The future projections given average historical recruitment levels and constant fishing mortality at $F_{2006-2008}$, indicate that the stock is expected to fluctuate around the long-term median SSB (~405,000 t). Given these observations, the ALBWG concluded that overfishing is not occurring and that the stock is likely not in an overfished state. The ALBWG recognized that recruitment is a key driver of the dynamics in this stock and given a more pessimistic recruitment scenario the probability that the stock will not achieve the management objective of remaining above SSB-ATHL threshold with a probability of 50% is increasing. For example, if future recruitment were to decline by about 25% below average historical recruitment levels due either to environmental changes or other reasons, then the impact of $F_{2006-2008}$ on the stock is unlikely to be sustainable. Therefore, the ALBWG recommended which maintains the present management measures (ISC 2011a).

Biological Reference Points

At the NC4 meeting, an interim objective to maintain the spawning stock biomass (SSB) above the average level of its ten historically lowest estimates (ATHL) with a probability greater than 50% was adopted and at ISC9 the ALBWG estimated the associated F-based reference point (FSSB-ATHL) using a 25-yr projection period to be 0.75 yr⁻¹. These F-based minimum SSB reference points, including FSSB-ATHL, are implicitly consistent with a goal of maintaining albacore SSB at levels that historically supported the productive, large-scale fisheries conducted in the North Pacific for more than 50 years.

Possible biological reference points for North Pacific albacore were reviewed during the Northern Committee, Sixth Regular Session, 'Workshop on Biological Reference Points'. The following observations were noted:

'The ALBWG has developed minimum spawning stock biomass (SSB) reference points that are F-based estimators (FSSB) to ensure that SSB will not decline below historically estimated SSB levels, including the average level of the ten historically lowest estimates of SSB (ATHL). The WG also identified a simulation framework based on the FSSB suite of reference points that illustrates the tradeoffs between uncertainty, risk, threshold levels, and reference point estimates. To use this framework, managers need to clearly specify management objectives for the stock, SSB threshold level, level of certainty concerning future SSB, their risk tolerance/avoidance, and the length of the

projection period since the results will differ under shorter or longer projection periods. The WG did not endorse any particular reference point(s) at this time. but noted the following: (1) SSB-min occurs at beginning of SSB time series and is not reliably estimated by the stock assessment model, (2) estimates of SSB-X%, where X = lower 10-50 percentiles, are more robust statistically than SSB-ATHL, and (3) the probability that future SSB will fall below a limit reference point threshold in one or more years should be less than 50% (e.g., 5%), i.e., greater certainty is needed considering the risk to the stock.'

The Northern Committee at its 6th meeting (NC6) in September 2010 confirmed that the interim management objective for North Pacific albacore is to maintain SSB above the average level of its 10 historically lowest observed points (ATHL). The fishing mortality rate that would likely cause SSB to fall below this level with a probability greater than 50% is referred to as the interim reference point (IRP) (WCPFC 2010).

The F-based reference point FSSB-ATHL is one of a group of simulation-based biological reference points (BRP) using spawning biomass thresholds proposed for north Pacific albacore. Unlike other BRPs used in fisheries management, FSSB is not an equilibrium concept and therefore does not assume that future SSB or yield will remain constant at some specified level (ISC 2011b).

The ALBWG estimated F2006-2008 (current F) relative to several F-based reference points used in contemporary fisheries management (Table 1). The estimates are expressed as the ratio of F2006-2008/Fref point, which means that when the ratio is less than 1.0, F2006-2008 is below the reference point estimate. The FMAX, FMED and F0.1 reference points are based on yield-per-recruit analysis while the F20-50% reference points are spawning biomass-based proxies of FMSY.

Table 1. Potential reference points and estimated F-ratio using F_{current} (F2006-2008) associated spawning biomass and equilibrium yield. FSSB-ATHL is not an equilibrium concept so SSB and yield are given as median levels (ISC 2011a).

Reference Point	F20062008/FRP	SSB (t)	Equilibrium Yield (t)
FSSB-ATHL	0.71	346,382	101,426
FMAX	0.14	11,186	185,913
F0.1	0.29	107,130	170,334
FMED	0.99	452,897	94,080
F20%	0.38	171,427	156,922
F30%	0.52	257,140	138,248
F40%	0.68	342,854	119,094
F50%	0.91	428,567	99,643

The ALBWG concluded that FSSB-ATHL and the resulting advice based on this reference point is probably robust to different plausible structural assumptions in the base-case model. Since F2006-2008 is close to FMED and well below the MSY proxy rates, the ALBWG concluded that overfishing of the north Pacific albacore stock is unlikely at present.

At the 7th Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC), Canada suggested that due to the favorable 2011 albacore assessment, it would be an opportune time to discuss a long term strategy for the stock that includes the development of precautionary management framework. The proposed framework would include biological reference points and pre-agreed decision rules that trigger management action. Establishing a precautionary approach based management framework for albacore is listed in the NC's work programme objectives for 2012-15 (WCPFC 2011).

Management Measures

Given the conclusions of the new stock assessment and the recommendation of the ALBWG to maintain the present management measure of no increase in effort beyond current levels, the IATTC and WCPFC resolutions remain in effect.

IATTC Resolution C-05-02:

- 1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean not be increased beyond current levels.*
- 2. The CPCs shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort by their vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore tuna is not increased;*
- 3. All CPCs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore tuna by gear type to the IATTC every six months.*
- 4. The Director shall, in coordination with other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore tuna and report on the status of the stock at each annual meeting;*
- 5. The CPCs shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore tuna as may be warranted based on the results of such future analysis.*
- 6. The CPCs call upon the members of the WCPFC to consider, at the earliest opportunity, taking such action as may be necessary to ensure the effective conservation and management of North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its range including, in particular, measures to ensure that fishing effort on the stock in the WCPFC area does not increase and, as necessary, measures to reduce fishing effort to levels commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the resource.*
- 7. The Commission through the Director shall communicate with the WCPFC and request them to take similar measures.*
- 8. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not prejudice the rights and obligations under international law of those coastal CPCs in the EPO whose current fishing activity for northern Pacific albacore tuna is limited, but that have a real interest in, and history of, fishing for the species, that may wish to develop their own fisheries for northern Pacific albacore tuna in the future.*

WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures CMM 05-03:

- 1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area north of the equator shall not be increased beyond current levels.*
- 2. The Members, Cooperating Non-Members and participating Territories (hereinafter referred to as CCMs) shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort by their vessels fishing*

- for North Pacific albacore in the WCPF Convention Area is not increased beyond current levels;*
- 3. All CCMs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore to the WCPFC every six months, except for small coastal fisheries which shall be reported on an annual basis. Such data shall be reported to the Commission as soon as possible and no later than one year after the end of the period covered.*
- 4. All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of albacore north of the equator and all fishing effort north of the equator in fisheries directed at albacore. The reports for both catch and fishing effort shall be made by gear type. Catches shall be reported in terms of weight. Fishing effort shall be reported in terms of the most relevant measures for a given gear type, including at a minimum for all gear types, the number of vessel-days fished.*
- 5. The Northern Committee shall, in coordination with International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean and other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, including the WCPFC Scientific Committee, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore and report to the Commission on the status of the stock at each annual meeting, and make such recommendations to the Commission as may be necessary for their effective conservation.*
- 6. The Commission shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore based on recommendations of the Northern Committee.*
- 7. The CCMs shall work to maintain, and as necessary reduce, the level of fishing effort on North Pacific albacore within the Convention Area commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the stock.*
- 8. The WCPFC Executive Director shall communicate this resolution to the IATTC and request that the two Commissions engage in consultations with a view to reaching agreement on a consistent set of conservation and management measures for North Pacific albacore, and specifically, to propose that both Commissions adopt as soon as practicable uniform conservation and management measures and any reporting or other measures needed to ensure compliance with agreed measures.*

6. Relevant changes to Legislation and Regulations

International

The IATTC “Antigua Convention” (IATTC 2003) was adopted in 2010 and came into force in 2011. The Convention has a more modern flavor and is more conservative compared to the original Convention. Specific functions of the Commission with regard to Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Precautionary Approach (PA) are articulated (IATTC 2003):

“adopt measures that are based on the best scientific evidence available to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by this Convention and to maintain or restore the population of harvested species at levels of abundance which can produce the maximum sustainable yield, inter alia, through the setting of the total allowable catch of such fish stocks as the Commission may decide and/or the total allowable level of fishing capacity and/or level of fishing effort for the Convention Area as a whole.”

“apply the precautionary approach in accordance with the provisions of Article IV of this convention. In cases where measures are adopted by the Commission pursuant to the precautionary approach in the absence of adequate scientific information as set out in Article IV, paragraph 2 of this

Convention, the Commission shall, as soon as possible, undertake to obtain the scientific information necessary or modify any such measures.”

United States

No relevant changes to legislation and regulations have been identified since the 1st surveillance audit (Global Trust 2011).

Canada

No relevant changes to legislation and regulations have been identified since the 1st surveillance audit (Global Trust 2011).

7. Relevant changes to Management Regime

International

The ALBWG completed the task of carrying out a full assessment of the current status and future trends of North Pacific albacore and developed recommendations for conservation. The ALBWG developed a consensus base-case assessment model using the SS3 platform, which included new age and growth data. The assessment was adopted by the ISC at their eleventh meeting in July 2011. The 2011 assessment was also submitted to external review of the methodology, results, interpretation, and conservation advice. The Assessment Team noted that the successful completion of the stock assessment was the result of substantial ongoing collaboration and cooperation of ALBWG members. The 2011 assessment is the culmination of a multiyear process that has produced a very much improved assessment in terms of quality and transparency

At the Northern Committee (NC) reference point workshop in 2009 Canada tabled a paper on developing a precautionary management framework for North Pacific albacore (WCPFC 2009). At the NC meeting in 2011, Canada followed up on the management framework proposal. The NC adopted the proposal and developed a workplan for the period 2012-15 to establish a Precautionary Approach based management framework, including: (1) recommend appropriate reference points; (2) agreeing in advance to actions that will be taken in the event each of the particular reference points is breached (decision rule); (3) recommend any changes to WCPFC resolution CMM 2005-3 (WCPFC 2011). This is an important development in addressing the condition set in issue 1 in PI 1.1.2

The 2011 North Pacific albacore stock assessment will be reviewed by the IATTC Scientific Committee at their 3rd meeting May 15-18, 2012. Results will be reported to the Annual meeting of the Commission to be held June 18-29, 2012. Management action (IATTC Resolution C-05-02) will probably be reviewed by the Commission in light of the new stock assessment and conservation advice provided by the ISC (ISC 2011).

On December 15, 2008, Canadian and American officials met and initialed most recent amendments to the *Canada-U.S. Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty*. The Treaty was renewed for a period of 3 years which will provide at least 3 fishing seasons (2009 to 2011) for Canadian vessels to harvest albacore tuna in the US EEZ as well as US vessels to harvest in the Canadian EEZ. The 110 Canadian vessels authorized to harvest in US waters are those vessels ranked from 1 to 110 within the existing licence

eligibility list of 179. A fixed list of Canadian vessels with a current USA 68 licence, which permits fishing in the US EEZ under the terms of the treaty, are required to be forwarded to US officials by June 1 of each season. The Canada-US Albacore treaty is a mutually beneficial agreement given the highly migratory nature of albacore tuna. The treaty builds on the cooperation that's essential to sustainable fisheries management for highly migratory species. Negotiations between the US and Canada are underway to extend the treaty beyond 2011. Fishing operations in 2012 may change drastically if no agreement is reached regarding the fishing regimes in Canada and USA.

In 2011, a Canada- United States Albacore Treaty Data Working Group (DWG) was formed. The inaugural meeting was held October 19, 2011 (via telephone). At the meeting the DWG adopted terms of reference for its operations. The objective of the DWG is to bring together a group of data collection experts to evaluate and resolve data gaps for both countries in how each collects and reports on their fishery operations in the fishing zone of the other Party at the annual data consultations.

United States

Perspective from the PPMC and NMFS is that there are no real changes to the management system since the 1st surveillance audit (Global Trust 2011).

In 2009, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) commissioned a study of potential management options for the U.S. West Coast North Pacific albacore fisheries. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and HMS Advisory Subpanel reviewed drafts of the report termed the "white paper" in 2009. A finalized version of the "white paper" was submitted to the Council at their April 2010 meeting. The Council considered the information in the paper and evaluated the necessity of establishing a license limitation or limited entry program for the West Coast albacore fishery. At the April 2009 meeting the Council decided not to proceed with development of a limited entry program at this time.

In 2011 the HMSMT has been tasked to begin developing a proactive management framework for North Pacific albacore. Discussion of the development of the framework has been scheduled on the March 2012 PPMC meeting agenda.

Last year WFOA initiated a west coast commercial albacore fishery economic study funded by NMFS to augment the information on which the PPMC has to make decisions on this matter. The report, aimed at informing regulators of the potential implications of adopting albacore management policy, has been published in 2011 (Lisa Wise Consulting 2011). The study included input from fishermen and industry stakeholders (processors, regulators, enforcement and port representatives).

Canada

Canada ratified the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Antigua Convention on June 9, 2009. Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced on October 8, 2010 that Canada rejoined the IATTC as a full member. Thus, Canada is now at the table to more effectively participate in decisions of the IATTC that will strengthen international tuna management measures in the Eastern Pacific.

The 2011 Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for albacore is essentially unchanged from 2010 (DFO 2011). Improvements have been made to the logbook in terms of bycatch reporting (see below). Requirements for the vessel master to report information on his fishing activities (hail requirements) are now more streamlined.

In 2011, new photo identification cards for sharks and tuna species have been placed in the logbooks to avoid misidentification of by-catch information. Last year, there was a misidentification of skip jack tuna for small albacore due to lack of training and a new crew (Global Trust 2011).

The HAIL system for the tuna fleet has been changed for 2011 to ensure domestic and international monitoring requirements are met. This change is meant to improve fleet compliance. New for 2011 is the change of zone report, which will be required should a vessel enter a different zone for a period exceeding 24 hours. A hail-in report is required by all tuna harvesters by November 30, 2011. A hail-in report or change of zone report is required by end of day November 1, 2011 for all vessels who are authorized to harvest in US waters. The condition of license to fish albacore and the licensing regime remains unchanged from previous years.

There are ongoing discussions in DFO and the Tuna Advisory Board to create a separate to license for the Canadian EEZ and high-seas. The process could take up to 3 years to implement.

8. The General Conditions of Certification

The general 'Conditions' set for each Certificate holder at initial full assessment were as follows:

- Both CHMSF and WFOA must recognize that MSC standards require regular monitoring inspections at least once a year, focusing on compliance with the 'Conditions' set forth in this report (as outlined below) and continued conformity with the standards of certification;
- Both CHMSF and WFOA must agree by contract to be responsible financially and technically for compliance with required surveillance audits by an accredited MSC certification body, and a contract must be signed and verified by GTC prior to certification being awarded;
- Both CHMSF and WFOA must recognize that MSC standards require a full re-evaluation for certification (as opposed to yearly monitoring for update purposes) every five years;
- Prior to receiving final certification, both CHMSF and WFOA shall develop, an 'Action Plan' (each of the client groups) for Meeting the Condition for Continued Certification' and have it approved by GTC.

An Action Plan was submitted and accepted prior to initial certification of both CHMSF and WFOA.

During the surveillance audit for both CHMSF and WFOA, both client fisheries were deemed to be in conformance with the general conditions of certification. Prior to the initial certification of each client fishery, Action Plans were developed and submitted to Global Trust by each client and

accepted by the assessment team. During the surveillance audit, the evaluation of any changes to the client group was also undertaken for each fishery.

8.1 WFOA Client Group

An up-date of the 2011 vessels that were included in the WFOA client group for MSC purposes was provided. In 2011, a total of 389 US registered vessels are included within the client group of which 214 were members of WFOA and 175 were non-member vessels. WFOA has exercised control over the entry requirements and commitment for participating in the MSC Certificate through a number of Agreements that must be made by vessel owners prior to access to the MSC Certificate being made available. Legal compliance and registration remain part of these requirements. A similar arrangement and agreement exists for processors and landing stations which are used to access albacore tuna under the Certificate. This agreement also specifies the requirement to obtain MSC Chain of Custody Certification. See below for a link to the full list of registered vessels within the client group.

<http://wfoa-tuna.org/msc/vessels2011.pdf>

8.2 CHMSF Client Group

An up-date of the 2011 vessels that were included in the CHMSF client group for MSC purposes was provided. In 2011, a total of 70 Canadian registered vessels were included within the client group of CHMSF. This list includes 10 additional member vessels compared to the client group at the commencement of certification. In addition a list of processors who are designated for accessing albacore tuna under the certificate was provided. Agreements and commitments are in place for vessels and processors for participation in the MSC Certificate. See below for a list of vessels in the client group and processors under the certificate.

<http://www.canadianalbacoretuna.com/sustainability.html>

The certificate previously itemized the point of entry of albacore tuna into the MSC Chain of Custody as at the point of landing by the vessel. Global Trust reviewed the wording of the certificate and also the direction provided in MSC TAB D-018 V1.1 (Surveillance Year 1) and considered that although this definition is accurate it was mis-leading with respect to the immediate activities at the point of landing. It is customary that at the point of landing, the off-loading of vessels is undertaken by contract workers on behalf of the entities that will take title of the product. Global Trust issued a clarification for chain of custody certification of North Pacific Albacore tuna under the CHMSF Certificate:

Whilst the requirement to include the off-loading activity within the scope of the audit should remain subject to risk assessment by certification bodies undertaking chain of custody certification and the outcome of this may require on-site inspection of off-loading activities, TAB D-018 v1.1

places the responsibility for the Chain of Custody certification with the entity taking title of the certified product and not with the contract services for unloading vessels for these entities. Therefore, the official point of the start of the chain of custody is at the point of chain of ownership of the product.

9. The Specific Conditions of Certification

During the initial assessment of the fishery, a conditional score was allocated for **PI 1.1.2** of the MSC Default Assessment Tree. The original context and rationale is presented in Appendix 3 in detail and in summary below at the time of full assessment.

The assessment team determined that the appropriateness of the target reference points used at present for the North Pacific albacore stock (Fishing Mortality = 0.75) is not known.

ISC conservation advice suggested that the stock maybe “either fully exploited or sustaining fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term”. Accordingly, management resolutions have been provided by IATTC/WCPFC for a cap in fishing effort.

The ISC advised that fishing rates were in excess of common benchmarks and recommend the need for developing an effort reduction strategy. In 2005, the ISC requested to the management authorities for guidance on the definition of biological reference points to determine the degree to which, when and how reduction should occur.

In 2008, The Northern Committee adopted an interim management objective at NC4 to maintain the spawning stock biomass (SSB) above the average level of its 10 historically lowest points (ATHL) with a probability of 50% until reference points are established. However, the request on guidance for the definition of biological reference points (limit and target referee points) was still in place at the ISC Plenary in 2009.

A conditional score was assigned for PI1.1.2 Reference Points:

Unit Of Certification ID	Fishery Name	Fishing Method	Score
1	CHMSF British Columbia North Pacific Albacore Tuna	Troll & Jig	75
2	American WFOA North Pacific Albacore Tuna	Troll & Jig	75
3	American WFOA North Pacific Albacore Tuna	Pole & Line	75

Table of Conditions, Action Plan and Observations from Evidence Collected during the Surveillance Audit

Issue 1 SG 80 in the Assessment Report stated:

“The Assessment Team determined that this issue **was not met** as the appropriateness of the Target Reference Point used is unknown based on evidence provided. The reason for this determination can be summarized as follows:

- Criteria for the adoption of explicit limit and target reference points for north Pacific albacore have not yet been adopted by the WCPFC and the IATTC (Preliminary report ISC 8, 2008)
- There is not yet an agreement among IATTC and WCPFC member parties of whether $F=0.75$ should be defined as limit or target, therefore;
- Conservation advice given by the ISC in years 2007-2009 states that with the projection based on the continued current high F , the fishing mortality rate will have to be reduced’ (Box 3) and;
- High priority has been given by the ISC to further developing limit and target reference points (ISC, 2007; ISC, 2008; ISC, 2009) for their definition for international management.

A score of less than 80 (75) has resulted in a condition set for each of the respective clients which must be agreed in order that the fishery remain eligible for certification(refer to Section 8). “

Conditions Set on the CHMSF

Item 5:	CHMSF Condition 1 (of 1)	
<i>Performance Indicator & Guidepost Issue</i>	PI 1.1.2: Reference Points Limit and Target reference points are appropriate for the stock	Guidepost 80 (Issue 1) Reference points are appropriate for the stock and can be estimated.
<i>Condition 1 Part 1</i>	<p>1. CHMSF to promote and support:</p> <p>a. The management actions put forward, notably limitation on effort. Communications supporting such management measures should be made to appropriate organisations. Records should be provided by CHMSF of communications and responses;</p> <p>b. ISC request to management authorities for guidance on the definition and application of biological reference points (BRPs) in order to facilitate response to requests for conservation advice. Communications supporting ISC request should be made to appropriate organisations. Records should be provided by CHMSF of communications and responses.</p>	
<i>Action Plan</i>	<p><i>CHMSF Board and Advisors continues its practice of keeping up to date, attending, and participating in the key discussions and meetings of the appropriate scientific, regulatory, and government bodies tasked with policy and management responsibilities for North Pacific albacore and the stock's troll/jig fisheries. These bodies include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>IATTC (Inter-American-Tropical-Tuna-Commission)</i> • <i>WCPFC (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission)</i> • <i>Northern Committee of the WCPFC</i> • <i>Chair of the ISC (International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean)</i> • <i>Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO);</i> • <i>Federal Ministry of Fisheries- International Trade;</i> • <i>Provincial Ministry of Environment (BCENV);</i> • <i>Tuna Advisory Board (TAB);</i> • <i>Department of Fisheries and Oceans Highly Migratory Species – Management Team;</i> • <i>Bi-lateral Treaty Group</i> <p><i>CHMSF's actions in accordance with this plan include:</i></p> <p>a. <i>Submission of a letter to the Chair of the IATTC (Inter-American-Tropical Tuna-Commission), copied to the Executive Director of the Secretariat expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science,</i></p>	

toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.

- b. *Submission of a letter to the Chair of the WCPFC, copied to the Executive Director of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Northern Committee, expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- c. *Submission of a letter to the Chair of the ISC, copied to the Chair of the ISC Albacore Working Group, expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- d. *Submission of a letter to the Chair of the WCPFC, copied to the Executive Director of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Northern Committee, expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- e. *Submission of a letter to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, copied to Regional Director General (Pacific) expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- f. *Submission of a letter to BC Ministry of Environment expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- g. *Submission of a letter to Tuna Advisory Board expressing CHMSF's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.*
- h. *Attendance and participation at Joint BCTFA, WFOA, NMFS, NOAA, meeting sessions to convey CHMSF's support for development and adoption of appropriate management measures and progress to ensure compliance with international resolutions regarding the North Pacific albacore stock.*
- i. *Supporting Canada's attendance and participation at IATTC/WCPFC and supporting ISC recommendations to those bodies international resolutions regarding the North Pacific albacore stock.*
- j. *Continued attendance, participation, and submission of communications to appropriate management bodies in accordance with current practice*
 - *Federal Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO);*
 - *Federal Ministry of Fisheries- International Trade;*
 - *Provincial Ministry of Environment (BCENV);*
 - *Tuna Advisory Board (TAB);*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Department of Fisheries and Oceans Highly Migratory Species – Management Team;</i> • <i>Bi-lateral Treaty Group</i>
<i>Evidence Year 1</i>	<p>CHMSF has written letters encouraging all levels of management that have responsibilities for the management of Albacore Tuna Stocks to develop appropriate Biological Reference Points (BPR's) for monitoring the state of the harvest relative to stock status.</p> <p>Letters have been sent to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IATTC – Dr G. Compeán • ISC – Dr. G DiNardo • WCPFC Northern Committee – Dr. M. Miyahara • WCPFC – Professor G. Hurry • B.C. Ministry of Agriculture – The Honorable B. Stewart • Fisheries and Oceans Canada – The Honorable G. Shea • Fisheries and Oceans Canada – S. Lapointe • Tuna Advisory Board – C. Johnston <p>CHMSF also indicates in the letters that they support the equitable, consistent and scientifically based establishment of Biological Reference Points by RFMO's that have input to the management of the Northern Pacific Albacore Stock.</p> <p>As a standing member of the Canadian Tuna Advisory Board (TAB), and as an invited participant at BCTFA, WFOA, NMFS, NOAA and Bi-lateral Treaty discussions, the CHMSF also supports the ongoing efforts by the ISC to undertake stock status determination directed towards the long term sustainability of stocks and with recent international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.</p> <p>During the 2009-2010 year the CHMSF and its Directors have participated in a number of international meetings and activities related to support and advocacy of Sustainable Fisheries. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 28-29, 2010 Participation in Canadian Tuna Advisory Board Meetings- British Columbia, Canada • March 28-31, 2010 Participation in the AGM WFOA - Rosedale, California • April 19-21, 2010 Host- Second International Albacore Tuna Convention- Victoria, BC, Canada. Invited guests: Ambassador Sullivan- Canada's Ambassador for Sustainable Fisheries; Dan Averil- MSC Americas; WFOA President and Executive Director. • April 27-29, 2010 Attendance and Sustainability Advocacy, European Seafood Show, Brussels, Belgium

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 18-20, 2010 Bilateral Treaty Talks- Vancouver • June 12-19, 2010 Participation in Agrifoods Canada -Chongqing and Shanghai Program on Canadian and Sustainable Fisheries, China. • July 12-26, 2010 Partial Sponsor of the - ISC Working Group, Victoria, BC, Canada • September 11-12, 2010 Participated and Sponsored- 2010 Canadian Chef Congress on Healthy Oceans, BC, Canada • September 28-30 Participated in Agri Canada- Annual Marketing Meeting- Presentation on Sustainable Fisheries • September 27- October 1, 2010 - Formal attendance by Commissioner Larry Teague at I-ATTC Meetings at Antigua, Guatemala. • October 8, 2010- Supporting Canada formally rejoining the IATTC • November 2010 - Seafood Promotion on Sustainable West Coast Seafood- Dubai, UAE. • November 24-25 Participated in Canadian Tuna Advisory Board Meetings. • February 2-3 Participated in Canadian Tuna Advisory Board Meetings
<i>Condition 1 Part 2, 3, 4</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. CHMSF to provide a summary to Global Trust on Canada's responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions, as provided by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Federal government of Canada, when such materials become available. 3. Should the existing resolution be withdrawn following the ISC conservation advice, then point 1.a would be considered closed. 4. Should ISC existing request (1.b) be withdrawn then 1.b would be considered closed.
<i>Action Plan</i>	<p><i>The North Pacific albacore stock assessment is presently being conducted by the ISC and its Albacore Working Group and the initially scheduled March, 2011 with the results release by approximately May 2012. CHMSF anticipates receiving the updated ISC stock assessment by approximately May 2010, and will provide Global Trust Certification with copies in a timely manner. Responsive documents and updates of North Pacific albacore stock assessments will be forwarded to Global Trust Certification in a timely manner following receipt.</i></p> <p><i>CHMSF will provide Global Trust a summary of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Federal government of Canada responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions within 6 months of certification, or immediately after a DFO/GOC response, should it occur 6 months after certification.</i></p>
<i>Evidence</i>	<p>Global Trust has received 'Canadian Fishery Statistics for North Pacific albacore from the 2009 fishery' (ISC/10/ALBWG-2/05) and qualitative stock status updates from the 'Report of the Albacore Working Group Workshop' (Plenary ISC10/Annex 9) in a timely fashion.</p> <p>The ISC Albacore Working Group Workshop on stock assessment using data through</p>

	2009 at National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries, Shimizu, Japan will be held 19-26 March 2011 . Presentation of stock assessment results and conclusions at ISC11 (US hosts) July 2011 .
<i>Condition 1 Part 3, 4 & 5</i>	5. If additional resolutions are proposed, then these should be supported as in 1 above.
<i>Action Plan</i>	<i>CHMSF plans to continue its practice of keeping up to date, attending, and participating in the key discussions and meetings of the appropriate scientific, regulatory, and government bodies tasked with policy and management responsibilities for North Pacific albacore and the stock's pole & line and troll/jig fisheries as set forth in ACTION PLAN related to Condition PI 1.1.2 point 1, above. Significant developments and/or additional resolutions will be forwarded to Global Trust Certification in a timely manner following receipt, and CHMSF would continue with its efforts in support of responsible management.</i>
<i>Evidence</i>	During the 2009-2010 year the CHMSF and its Directors have participated in a number of national and international meetings and activities related to support and advocacy of Sustainable Fisheries as listed in the preceding table.
<i>Condition 1 Part 6</i>	6. If additional guidance, related to the definition of biological reference points, is requested from the ISC, then these should be supported as in 1.b above.
<i>Action Plan</i>	<i>CHMSF, is collecting data used towards the definition of biological reference points and supports the North Pacific Albacore Working Group charged with establishing BPRs. As such we are actively engaged through our association with Federal Scientists and TAB in the ISC process and will continue to assist in the effort to develop control rules beneficial to long term sustainability and the economic health of the North American albacore fishery.</i>
<i>Evidence</i>	CHMSF members are actively collecting samples on behalf of DFO /International scientists to establish length frequency distributions of the albacore catch as well as providing samples to determine fecundity and maturity of North Pacific albacore. In 2009 members measured fork lengths of 11,717 albacore.
<i>Conclusion and Outcome on Condition 1 from 1st Surveillance Audit.</i>	<p><i>The evidence presented during the surveillance audit demonstrates that the CHMSF has fulfilled the requirements of the Action Plan for Condition 1 of 1. However, whilst the requirements of the Action Plan are met, the Condition set at initial certification is not deemed to be closed out since the original rationale and the score (75%) for this conditions remains unchanged.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criteria for the adoption of explicit limit and target reference points for north Pacific albacore have not yet been adopted by the WCPFC and the IATTC

	<p>(Preliminary report ISC 8, 2008)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not yet an agreement among IATTC and WCFPC member parties of whether $F=0.75$ should be defined as limit or target, therefore; • Conservation advice given by the ISC in years 2007-2009 states that with the projection based on the continued current high F, the fishing mortality rate will have to be reduced' and; • High priority has been given by the ISC to further developing limit and target reference points (ISC, 2007; ISC, 2008; ISC, 2009) for their definition for international management.
<p><i>Conclusion and Outcome on Condition 1 from 2nd Surveillance Audit.</i></p>	<p>The overall management of the fishery continues to meet the standard observed during the full assessment.</p> <p>A new stock assessment for North Pacific albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) was conducted in June 2011 by the ISC Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) in Shizuoka, Japan. The assessment was carried out using fishery data through 2009 and using the Stock Synthesis (SS3) modeling platform (Version 3.11b). The assessment assumes a single well mixed stock of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC 2011b).</p> <p>We noted that prior to the stock assessment workshop, an intercessional workshop of the Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) was convened at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, USA, on 12-19 October 2010. The goal of this workshop was to explore and prepare the fisheries data for the June stock assessment workshop (ISC 2011c). The North Pacific albacore stock is currently not overfished nor is overfishing occurring, and current biomass levels are sufficient to support current levels of catch. The absence of reference points and a control rule must, though, be a continuing focus for CHMSF, and the Global trust assessment team can confirm that the lack of such decision tools would mean that Conditions of certification would be required in a new certificate if the fishery was recertified. As such, the assessment team is pleased to note that the CHMSF has confirmed its intent to continue to participate in management and advisory forums and to advocate the development of formalised and documented decision-making management processes on the North Pacific albacore stock.</p> <p>The client group has proven to have demonstrated significant effort and progress regarding Conditions placed on the certification of the fishery, and considerable progress is being made towards the development of reference points and an associated sustainable fishery management regime.</p> <p>MSC Certification should therefore continue for the second year of this existing certificate, as the fishery moves forward through reassessment.</p> <p>However, the Condition from initial assessment on the fishery remains in place and cannot be closed out as result of this surveillance audit.</p>

<p>Summary of evidence Submitted by Clients Specific to MSC Conditions since 1st Surveillance Audit</p>	<p><u>Evidence submitted by CHMSF with reference to specific Condition of Certification</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHMSF is a member of the Association of Sustainable Fisheries <p><u>Log of activities undertaken by CHMSF representatives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 27-March 4th, 2011. Vancouver, BC - International Negotiations on establishing new management arrangement for currently unregulated high seas fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean • April 28-May 6, 2011. Brussels, Belgium - ESE including meet up with Dave Garforth-MSC. • July 4-8, 2011. La Jolla, California. Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) – Larry Teague attending. • September 6-8, 2011. Asian Seafood Exhibition- Hong Kong and presenting MSC albacore to chefs. • September 26-30, 2011. Agri-Canada AGM in Ottawa. • November 1-3, 2011. Qingdao, China - China Fish and Seafood Expo • November 24-27, 2011. Singapore - Canadian Agri-Meetings in Singapore- Sustainable Fisheries Presentations • November 28-30, 2011. Nanaimo, BC - State Holder Meetings – US/Canada Treaty • November 30 – December 1, 2011. Vancouver, BC – US Canadian Treaty Negotiations.
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Conditions set on WFOA

Item 4:	WFOA Condition 1 (of 1)	
<i>Performance Indicator & Guidepost Issue</i>	PI 1.1.2: Reference Points Limit and Target reference points are appropriate for the stock	Guidepost 80 (Issue 1) Reference points are appropriate for the stock and can be estimated.
<i>Condition 1 Part 1</i>	1. WFOA to promote and support: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The management actions put forward, notably limitation on effort. Communications supporting such management measures should be made to appropriate organisations. Appropriate Organisations shall include: PFMC, NMFS, IATTC; and WCPFC (Northern Committee). Records should be provided by WFOA of communications and responses; 	
<i>Action Plan</i>	<p><i>WFOA, immediately upon certification, if still appropriate, will correspond with all levels of management on the need to bring harvest in line with the estimated long-term productivity of the stock. WFOA is on record showing that the U.S. troll fishery has already reduced its effort considerably through fleet attrition and negotiating a lower cap on the number of Canadian vessels permitted to fish in the U.S. EEZ under the U.S – Canada Albacore Treaty. WFOA is very supportive of international efforts to control harvesting capacity, both legal and illegal, in order to achieve a reasonable degree of confidence of long term sustainable production.</i></p> <p><i>WFOA proposes to achieve the desired condition through correspondence with State, National and International regulatory bodies. WFOA attends all of the forums involved with North Pacific albacore and supports establishment of a limits that can be both monitored and enforced. To that end WFOA also supports establishment of scientifically based biological reference points that are appropriate to albacore management.</i></p> <p><i>WFOA will produce documents to be distributed to the US management authorities and to the International RFMOs. These will address items 1a and 1b. Also, WFOA representatives will be present to provide oral testimony and requests for action at the various fora involved with NP albacore management. Additionally, WFOA through its science arm AFRF, will continue to support the attendance of a stock assessment scientist to the Scientific stock assessment working group. Our scientist is instructed to work with the other scientists to develop scientifically supportable fishing levels and biological reference points.</i></p>	

Evidence	<p>WFOA has written letters encouraging all levels of management that have responsibilities for the management of Albacore Tuna Stocks to develop appropriate Biological Reference Points (BPR's) for monitoring the state of the harvest relative to stock status. Letters have been sent to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PFMC – D. Ortman <p>WCPFC copied to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IATTC – Dr G. Compeán • IATTC – B. Hallman • PFMC – D. McLissacc • WPFMC – K. Simonds • NOAA/NMFS/SW Regional Office – R. McInnis • NOAA/NMFS/SW Regional Office – M. Helvey • NOAA/NMFS/Pacific Islands Regional Office – C. Carnella • California Dept. of Fish and Game – M. Voikovich • Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife – S. Williams • Washington dept. of Fish and Wildlife – M. Culver <p>WFOA also indicates in the letters that they support the equitable, consistent and scientifically based establishment of Biological Reference Points by RFMO's that have input to the management of the Northern Pacific Albacore Stock.</p> <p>WFOA through the American Fisherman's Research Foundation (AFRF) also supports the ongoing efforts by the ISC to undertake stock status determination directed towards the long term sustainability of stocks and with recent international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased. Dr. Wespestad representing AFRF is a member of the ISC ALBWG.</p> <p>WFOA provides evidence for achieving the desired condition by attending domestic and international fora both as participants and in leading roles. Notable organizations include PFMC, NMFS, IATTC, and WCPFC (Northern Committee). During 2010, WFOA and its Directors have participated in a number of domestic and international meetings and activities related to support and advocacy of Sustainable Fisheries. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2010 Participation in the PMFC Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) • April 19-22, 2010 WFOA Executive Director attended BC Tuna Fisherman's Association and the CHMSF events in Victoria B.C. • May 12, 2010 WFOA participated in the newly formed Ocean Protection Council Sustainability Advisory Panel meeting in Costa Mesa, CA. • May 22, 2010 WFOA attended the U.S./Canada treaty bi-lateral meeting in San Francisco • June 10-11, 2010 WFOA members participated in HMS Management team and Advisory Subpanel meetings. • July 12-13, 2010 V. Wespestad participated in the ISC ALBWG meeting in Victoria, B.C.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 30-September 3, 2010 AFRF on behalf of WFOA attended the IATTC Science Advisory Committee meeting. • September 6, 2010 P. Flournoy, representing WFOA participated in U.S. delegation conference call in preparation for the WCPFC-NC meeting. • September 7-10, 2010 P. Flournoy, representing WFOA attended the sixth Regular Session of the WCPFC Northern Committee and Workshop on BRPs in Fukuoka, Japan. • September 17, 2010 At the meeting of U.S. General Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the IATTC P. Flournoy was re-elected as its chair. • September 27-October 1, 2010 Peter Flournoy attended on behalf of AFRF at the Annual meeting of the IATTC in Antigua, Guatemala as a qualified observer. • November 22, 2010 Peter Flournoty attended on behalf of AFRF in the U.S. WCPFC Delegation conference call. • December 6-10, 2010 WFOA Executive Director and P. Flournoy on behalf of AFRF attended the 7th Regular Session of the WCPFC in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. • January 19-20, 2011 P. Flornoy attended the PFMC HMSMT meeting in Carlsbad, CA.
<i>Condition 1 Part 2</i>	2. WFOA to provide a summary to Global Trust on US's responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions, as provided by NMFS and/or Pacific Fishery Management Council.
<i>Action Plan</i>	<i>WFOA will provide Global Trust a summary of PFMC/NMFS responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions within 6 months of certification, or immediately after a PFMC/NMFS response, should it occur 6 months after certification.</i>
<i>Evidence</i>	<p>WFOA has provided Global Trust with a 'Summary of MSC Albacore Certification Procedures – 2010' and an 'Executive Director Summary of Management Activities Concerning Albacore'. These reports detail activities by WFOA and AFRF in domestic and international highly migratory species fora.</p> <p>The ISC Albacore Working Group Workshop on stock assessment using data through 2009 at National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries, Shimizu, Japan will be held 19-26 March 2011. Presentation of stock assessment results and conclusions at ISC11 (US hosts) July 2011.</p>
<i>Condition 1 Part 3, 4 & 5</i>	<p>3. Should the existing resolution be withdrawn following the ISC conservation advice, then point 1.a would be considered closed.</p> <p>4. Should ISC existing request (1.b) be withdrawn then 1.b would be considered closed</p> <p>5. If additional resolutions are proposed, then these should be supported as in 1 above.</p>
<i>Action Plan</i>	<i>WFOA supports the principle of long-term sustainable yield and stable harvest. On this basis WFOA will support and effort by RFMO to achieve these goals by proposed BRPs and sustainable harvest levels. Should further resolutions be passed by IATTC/WCPFC in this regard, WFOA will support all management measures that are equability applied to</i>

	<i>all parties in the fishery and are shown to be a requirement to achieve an economically sustainable North American albacore fishery.</i>
<i>Evidence</i>	During 2010 WFOA and AFRF members have participated in a number of national and international meetings and activities related to support and advocacy of Sustainable Fisheries. Refer to the preceding list in this table.
<i>Condition 1 Part 6</i>	6. If additional guidance, related to the definition of biological reference points, is requested from the ISC, then these should be supported as in 1.b above
<i>Action Plan</i>	<i>WFOA, through its science arm, AFRF, is engaged in the definition of biological reference points and funds the attendance of an independent scientist to the North Pacific Albacore Working Group charged with establishing BPRs. As such we are actively engaged in the ISC process and will continue to assist in the effort to develop control rules beneficial to long term sustainability and the economic health of the North American albacore fishery.</i>
<i>Evidence</i>	WFOA, through its science arm AFRF, is actively engaged in the definition of BRPs for North Pacific albacore. Dr. Wespestad as a member of the ISC ALBWG has attended meetings in 2010 and will be an active participant in the March 2011 stock assessment workshop. P. Flornoy has been advocating BRP work in the WCPFC Northern Committee. WFOA members are collecting samples on behalf of NMFS/International scientists to establish length frequency distributions of the albacore catch as well as providing samples to determine fecundity and maturity of North Pacific albacore. AFRF is also actively engaged in the SWFSC albacore tagging program.
<i>Conclusion and Outcome on Condition 1 from 1st Surveillance Audit.</i>	<p><i>The evidence presented during the surveillance audit demonstrates that the WFOA has fulfilled the requirements of the Action Plan for Condition 1 of 1. However, whilst the requirements of the Action Plan are met, the Condition set at initial certification is not deemed to be closed out since the original rationale and the score (75%) for this conditions remains unchanged.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criteria for the adoption of explicit limit and target reference points for north Pacific albacore have not yet been adopted by the WCPFC and the IATTC (Preliminary report ISC 8, 2008) • There is not yet an agreement among IATTC and WCPFC member parties of whether $F=0.75$ should be defined as limit or target, therefore; • Conservation advice given by the ISC in years 2007-2009 states that with the projection based on the continued current high F, the fishing mortality rate will have to be reduced' and; • High priority has been given by the ISC to further developing limit and target reference points (ISC, 2007; ISC, 2008; ISC, 2009) for their definition for international management.
<i>Conclusion and Outcome on Condition</i>	The overall management of the fishery continues to meet the standard observed during the full assessment.

<p>1 from 2nd Surveillance Audit.</p>	<p>A new stock assessment for North Pacific albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) was conducted in June 2011 by the ISC Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) in Shizuoka, Japan. The assessment was carried out using fishery data through 2009 and using the Stock Synthesis (SS3) modeling platform (Version 3.11b). The assessment assumes a single well mixed stock of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC 2011b).</p> <p>We noted that prior to the stock assessment workshop, an intercessional workshop of the Albacore Working Group (ALBWG) was convened at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, USA, on 12-19 October 2010. The goal of this workshop was to explore and prepare the fisheries data for the June stock assessment workshop (ISC 2011c). The North Pacific albacore stock is currently not overfished nor is overfishing occurring, and current biomass levels are sufficient to support current levels of catch. The absence of reference points and a control rule must, though, be a continuing focus for WFOA, and the Global trust assessment team can confirm that the lack of such decision tools would mean that Conditions of certification would be required in a new certificate if the fishery was recertified. As such, the assessment team is pleased to note that the WFOA has confirmed its intent to continue to participate in management and advisory forums and to advocate the development of formalised and documented decision-making management processes on the North Pacific albacore stock.</p> <p>The client group has proven to have demonstrated significant effort and progress regarding Conditions placed on the certification of the fishery, and considerable progress is being made towards the development of reference points and an associated sustainable fishery management regime.</p> <p>MSC Certification should therefore continue for the second year of this existing certificate, as the fishery moves forward through reassessment.</p> <p><i>However, the Condition from initial assessment on the fishery remains in place and cannot be closed out as result of this surveillance audit.</i></p>
<p>Summary of evidence Submitted by Clients Specific to MSC Conditions since 1st Surveillance Audit</p>	<p>The following documents were provided by each client prior to, at or immediately post the on-site surveillance audit.</p> <p><u>Evidence submitted by WFOA with reference to specific Condition of Certification</u></p> <p>Log of activities undertaken by WFOA representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Fish-boat Owners Association; Executive Director Summary of management Activities Concerning Albacore 2011 • American Fishermen's Research Foundation Management Activities Overview; Background to WCPFC and IATTC albacore management and conservation resolutions; summary report of meetings attended by P. Flournoy • Activities of V. Westpestad American Fishermans Research Foundation Science

	<p>Consultant</p> <p><u>List of meetings attended</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 19-20, 2011 P. Flournoy attended the PFMC HMSMT • March 2011, W. Heikila attended PFMC Vancouver, Washington • April 9-10, 2011, W. Heikila attended PMFC HMSMT and HMS Advisory Subpanel, San Mateo, California • June 4-11, 2011, V. Wespestad attended ISC ALBWG Stock Assessment Workshop, Shizuoka, Japan • July 4-11, 2011, WFOA participated in the 10th Annual Meeting of the IATTC, La Jolla, California • July 11-15, 2011, RFMO (Kobe III) attended by P. Fournoy • July 20-25, 2011, V. Wespestad attended ISC 11th Annual meeting, San Francisco, California • September 6-9, 2011, P. Flournoy attended WCPFC Northern Committee 7th Regular Session, Sapporo, Japan • October 25-27, 2011, P. Flournoy attended Permanent Advisory Committee to US Section of WCPFC meeting, Honolulu Hawaii
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10. Harmonization of Certificates

The MSC wishes to discourage overlapping assessments to avoid potential financial, consistency and credibility costs, including:

- fisheries managers, scientists and stakeholders receiving duplicate requests for information
- duplication of costs for a fishery's certification, including that expense incurred by fishery management agencies pre- and post-certification; and
- the possibility of different assessments placing different conditions upon the same fisheries managers and upon different fishery clients.

For the respective clients included in this audit, the harmonization of outcomes is supported by the dual approach in coordination and conducting the surveillance audits of the certificate holders, WFOA and CHMSF. This follows the original approach to the initial assessment of these fisheries. Prior to the full assessments for WFOA and CHMSF, an existing certificate holder, American Albacore Fishing Association for Albacore Tuna (AAFA) had been awarded MSC certification for North Pacific Albacore Tuna, August 24th 2007 with Certification Body, Moody Marine Ltd. A recent annual surveillance (4th) audit was also released January 2011 (Report date November 2011) on the MSC website.

MSC expects that the outcome of the assessment report, particularly the overall result that is achieved (whether a pass or a fail) and the setting of conditions, will be consistent between overlapping fisheries in assessment and certified fisheries.

To this effect, the surveillance assessment team has considered the outcome of the recent 4th Surveillance Audit for AAFA and the North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery undertaken by Moody Marine with the objective of confirming that the outcome of these surveillance audits for CHMSF and WFOA are consistent with that of the former certificate holder. This procedure was also followed during the initial assessment and certification of CHMSF and WFOA to ensure consistency in outcome of performance indicators and conditions set on the fishery.

The following items were addressed with respect to harmonized outcomes of this:

Area of Assessment Considered	Outcome of Harmonization
Assessment trees	<p>The initial assessment for WFOA and CHMSF followed MSC procedure and utilized the Default Assessment Tree as described in MSC FAM and according to TAB D0-15. In their assessment of AAFA, pre-dates the release of the MSC Default Assessment Tree, using MSC Certification Methodology Version 6. However, there is consistency in the general outcome of both initial assessments with respect to the award of certification and the areas where the fishery is performing below the required 80% pass requirement. MSC Policy Advisory 12v1 also provides further guidance for Principle 1 (PI 1.1.2) for both fisheries scored pre-and post FAM implementation which also further supports the harmonization of outcomes, in this case specifically covering the PI that achieved a conditional score.</p>
Conditional scores	<p>In the initial assessment of WFOA and CHMSF client fisheries, Global Trust considered the outcome of performance indicators specific to the Condition (score 75) raised for PI 1.1.2 Limit and Target reference points are appropriate for the stock based on rationale presented in Section 9. As required by MSC Policy, this included a review of the conditions set by Moody Marine on the AAFA Certificate for this fishery.</p> <p>In continuance of this requirement, Global Trust has reviewed the conditions described in the more recent AAFA surveillance audit (Nov 2010): (Extract from AAFA Report)</p> <p><i>Condition of Certification</i></p> <p><i>PI 1.1.4.1 The Stock is at an appropriate level to maintain long term productivity.</i></p> <p><i>100 scoring guidepost</i> <i>The stock is highly likely to be consistently above precautionary reference levels.</i></p> <p><i>80 scoring guidepost</i> <i>The stock is likely to be above precautionary reference levels.</i></p> <p><i>60 scoring guidepost</i> <i>The stock is likely to be above the limit reference levels and trends in the stock are positive.</i></p>

	<p><i>In that circumstance a score 75 was achieved with the following Condition</i></p> <p><i>‘The present stock assessment suggests that the stock may be “either fully exploited or sustaining fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term”.’</i></p> <p>Although the inference on the Condition of the separate assessments are expressed differently (former focused upon the stock status and latter focused on the appropriateness of reference points) both are linked to the same issue in that ISC conservation advice suggested that the stock maybe “either fully exploited or sustaining fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term”. The ISC advised that fishing rates were in excess of common benchmarks and recommend the need for developing an effort reduction strategy. In 2005, the ISC requested to the management authorities for guidance on the definition of biological reference points to determine the degree to which, when and how reduction should occur.</p>
Conditions set	
	<p>Global Trust Ltd. considered the Conditions set by Moody Marine Ltd. in their Certification Report of AAFA and in subsequent surveillance audits, most specifically the Report dated Nov 2010.</p> <p>The AAFA North Pacific albacore fishery was originally certified in 2007 with one condition. This stated: <i>"It is recognised that maintaining the stock at or above a precautionary reference limit is not under the control of AAFA and therefore actions required of AAFA in this regard are:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. AAFA to promote and support the management actions put forward, notably limitations on effort. Communications supporting such management measures should be made to appropriate organisations. Records should be provided by AAFA of communications and responses.</i> <i>2. AAFA to provide a summary to Moody Marine on US’s responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions, as provided by NMFS and/or Pacific Fishery Management Council.</i> <i>3. Should the existing resolution be withdrawn following the ISC report, then this condition would be considered closed.</i> <i>4. If additional resolutions are proposed, then these should be supported as in 1 above."</i> <p><i>Timescale:</i></p> <p><i>Point 1. If still appropriate, should be pursued immediately upon certification.</i></p> <p><i>Point 2. AAFA should provide this information within 6 months of certification.</i></p> <p><i>Point 4. Should further resolutions be passed by IATTC/WCPFC in this regard, supportive actions should be initiated at the earliest possible opportunity thereafter.</i></p>

	<p>Conditions set by Global Trust were harmonized during the initial assessment process (pages 149-152; http://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/certified/pacific/CHMSF-British-Columbia-North-Pacific-Albacore-Tuna/assessment-downloads-1/26.02.2010-chmsf-albacore-final-report.pdf) and were reviewed again using the most recent surveillance report published by Moody Marine (Nov 2010) for harmonization purposes.</p>
Action Plans	<p>In the initial assessment, Global Trust undertook harmonization of the Action Plans set out for WFOA and CHMSF with that set out by Moody Marine for the AAFA Certificate.</p> <p><u>Action Plan set out by AAFA:</u></p> <p>1. AAFA seeks to promote and support the responsible management actions being put forward, including international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased. Attendance and participation in the discussions and meetings of the appropriate scientific and regulatory bodies afford AAFA opportunities to present its position and views in support of such actions.</p> <p><u>Action:</u></p> <p>1. AAFA continues its practice of keeping up to date, attending, and participating in the key discussions and meetings of the appropriate scientific, regulatory, and government bodies tasked with policy and management responsibilities for North Pacific albacore and the stock's pole & line and troll/jig fisheries. These bodies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC); • PFMC's Highly Migratory Species – Management Team (HMS-MT); • PFMC's Highly Migratory Species – Advisory Subpanel (HMS-AS); • General Advisory Committee (GAC) to the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC); • National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS); • National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); • Department of Commerce; • Department of State; <p>AAFA's actions in accordance with this plan, include:</p> <p>a. Submission of a letter to PFMC expressing AAFA's continued support for ongoing efforts, based on best available science, toward the long term sustainability of the stock, and compliance with international resolutions calling for fishing effort not to be increased.</p> <p>b. Submission of a letter (via e-mail) to NMFS & NOAA expressing (among others) AAFA's support for provisions of the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act of 2006 (MSA) for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the stock.</p>

- c. Attendance and participation at PFMC sessions (including ancillary HMS-MT and HMS-AS meetings) to convey AAFA's support for development and adoption of appropriate management measures and progress to ensure compliance with international resolutions regarding the North Pacific albacore stock.
 - d. Attendance and participation at HMS-MT and HMS-AS meetings to express AAFA's support and assistance in the development of appropriate characterization of "*current effort*" in response to international resolutions regarding the North Pacific albacore stock.
 - e. Attendance and participation at GAC meetings to convey AAFA's support for development and adoption of appropriate management measures for the North Pacific albacore stock
 - f. Continued attendance, participation, and submission of communications to appropriate management bodies in accordance with current practice.
2. AAFA will provide to Moody Marine a summary on U.S. responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions, as provided by NMFS and/or PFMC, when such materials become available. The North Pacific albacore stock assessment is presently being conducted by the ISC and its Albacore Working Group and the initially scheduled March, 2007 release has been pushed back to late July, 2007.
3. AAFA anticipates receiving the updated ISC stock assessment in late July, 2007, and will provide Moody Marine with copies in a timely manner. Responsive documents and updates of North Pacific albacore stock assessments will be forwarded to Moody Marine in a timely manner following receipt.
4. If additional resolutions are proposed, then these should be supported as in **Action Plan 1.**, above.
5. AAFA plans to continue its practice of keeping up to date, attending, and participating in the key discussions and meetings of the appropriate scientific, regulatory, and government bodies tasked with policy and management responsibilities for North Pacific albacore and the stock's pole & line and troll/jig fisheries as set forth in **Action Plan 1.**, above.. Significant developments and/or additional resolutions will be forwarded to Moody Marine in a timely manner following receipt, and AAFA would continue with its efforts in support of responsible management.

To the extent possible (given that for CHMSF, the fishery is under the jurisdiction and governance of a Canadian based management system under DFO), Global Trust has intentionally agreed respective Action Plans for WFOA and CHMSF that are closely harmonized with regard to the activities and intended outcome of those activities with those set out in the Action Plan of AAFA. Please refer to

	<p>pages 153-155; http://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/certified/pacific/CHMSF-British-Columbia-North-Pacific-Albacore-Tuna/assessment-downloads-1/26.02.2010-chmsf-albacore-final-report.pdf) and refer to pages 156-157; http://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/certified/pacific/WFOA-North-Pacific-Albacore-Tuna/assessment-downloads-1/22.03.2010-chmsf-wfao-pcr.pdf</p>
Conclusion	<p>In evaluating the Conditions, Action Plans and outcome of the surveillance audit for AAFA undertaken by Moody Marine (publ. Nov 2010) and those of Global Trust in the surveillance audits for CHMSF and WFOA, Global Trust concludes that there are no significant differences in the Conditions, Action Plans and outcomes that has or will result in a material difference in the scores of PI 1.1.2 (Global Trust) and 1.1.4.1 (Moody Marine) with respect to the close out of these respective conditions. In their surveillance report (Nov 2010), Moody noted that ‘the Global Trust assessment of the WFOA and CHMSF fisheries were generally consistent with the earlier AAFA certification. The conditions of certification are near identical, and the action plans are somewhat similar, although the AAFA action plan appears to be more focused on taking a precautionary approach to management issues and uncertainty.’</p> <p>On review, Global Trust notes that the focus on precautionary approach PI prescribed in the Moody Marine initial assessment (PI 1.1.4.1 The Stock is at an appropriate level to maintain long term productivity) and the guidepost to achieve an 80% unconditional pass score ‘The stock is likely to be above precautionary reference levels’ when compared to the guidepost scoring elements of PI 1.1.2 FAM,</p> <p><i>Reference points are appropriate for the stock and can be estimated.</i></p> <p><i>The limit reference point is set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing Reproductive capacity.</i></p> <p><i>The target reference point is such that the stock is maintained at a level consistent with</i></p> <p><i>BMSY or some measure or surrogate with similar intent or outcome.</i></p> <p>may help explain the variation in language used in each case and hence a comment on ‘action plan of AAFA appears to be more focused on taking a precautionary approach to management issues and uncertainty’. Again, Global Trust considers that both set of languages are appropriate and consistent for achieving their intended outcomes.</p> <p>Overall Global Trust considers that there is sufficient consistency in outcomes of this Surveillance Audit undertaken on CHMSF and WFOA in comparison with that undertaken by Moody Marine for the 3rd Surveillance Audit of AAFA.</p>

11. Conclusions and Recommendations.

The assessment team conducting this 2nd surveillance audit confirms that both CHMSF and WFOA have met the general requirements for continued certification to the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing.

The assessment team also concludes that there is sufficient evidence and information provided by the two respective clients and substantiated through the course of consultation meetings during the surveillance audit to confirm that commitment to continue meeting the specific conditions of certification have been met. Therefore, the assessment team recommends that continued certification be awarded to the respective client fisheries:

- The American Western Fish Boat Owners Association (WFOA) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fisheries (Pole & Line and Troll & Jig) and;
- The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery (Troll & Jig).

The assessment team also notes that whilst in each case, the intent of the conditions have been met the conditions remains unchanged since they as yet, have not resulted in a material change to score related to PI 1.1.2 which will result in an unconditional pass.

Global Trust determines that the timelines and related Action Plans for the Condition placed on the client fisheries remain unchanged from the original conditions set and that these will be subject to annual surveillance audit, next scheduled in January 2013. In the interim period, the client fisheries are obliged to provide up-dates as per the general conditions of certification to changes in the client group and also with respect to:

- *CHMSF will provide Global Trust a summary of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Federal government of Canada responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions within 6 months of surveillance audit, or immediately after a DFO/GOC response, should it occur 6 months after certification.*
- *WFOA will provide Global Trust a summary of PFMF/NMFS responses to IATTC/WCPFC management resolutions within 6 months of surveillance audit, or immediately after a PFMF/NMFS response, should it occur 6 months after certification*

12. Outcome of Global Trust Certification Decision

Global Trust determines that in each case:

- The American Western Fish Boat Owners Association (WFOA) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fisheries (Pole & Line and Troll & Jig) and;

- The Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation (CHMSF) North Pacific Albacore Tuna Fishery (Troll & Jig)

Continue to operate a well-managed and sustainable fishery and therefore, continued certification to the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing is awarded.

Information Sources

Meetings:

Refer to table of meetings itemized in Section 3 (Table 3).

Reports & publications:

Chappell, A.C. 2011. Annual Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) Report, 2010. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Newport, Oregon. 22 p.

DFO. 2011. Pacific Region Integrated Fisheries management Plan Albacore Tuna April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Pacific Region, Vancouver, B.C. 70 p.

Global Trust. 2011. WFOA and CHMSF Albacore Tuna North Pacific Fishery MSC Surveillance Report 1. Global Trust Certification Ltd., Dundalk, Ireland. 39 p.

Holmes, J.A. 2011. The Canadian Troll Fishery for Albacore Tuna in 2010. ISC Albacore Working Group Stock Assessment Workshop, 19-26 March 2011, National Research Institute of Far Sea Seas Fisheries, Fisheries Research Agency, Shimizu, Japan. ISC/11/ALBWG/10. 13 p.

IATTC. 2003. Antigua Convention. Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. La Jolla, California, U.S.A. 21 p.

Intertek Moody Marine. 2011. AAFA North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery MSC Surveillance Report 4. Intertek Moody Marine Ltd., Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. 18 p.

ISC. 2011a. Report of the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean. Plenary Session, 20-25 July 2011, San Francisco, CA, USA. 51 p.

ISC. 2011b. Annex 9. Report of the Albacore Working Group Stock Assessment Workshop, 4-11 June 2011, Shizuoka, Japan. *In*: Report of the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean. Plenary Session, 20-25 July 2011, San Francisco, CA, USA. 143 p.

ISC. 2011c. Annex 4. Report of the Albacore Working Group Workshop, 12-19 October 2010, La Jolla, California, USA. *In*: Report of the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean. Plenary Session, 20-25 July 2011, San Francisco, CA, USA. 37 p.

Lisa Wise Consulting. 2011. West Coast U.S. Commercial Albacore Fishery Economic Analysis. Lisa Wise Consulting Inc. 50 p.

WCPFC. 2011. Northern Committee Seventh Regular Session. Summary Report. 6-7 September 2011, Sapporo, Japan. 33 p.

WCPFC. 2010. Northern Committee Sixth Regular Session. Summary Report. 7-10 September 2010, Fukuoka, Japan. 37 p.

WCPFC. 2009. Northern Committee Sixth Regular Session. Workshop on Biological Reference Points.. 6 September 2009, Fukuoka, Japan. 30 p.

APPENDIX 1: Stakeholder Comments

There were no written verbal submissions received during surveillance site visits pertaining to issues of concern material to the outcome of the assessment regarding the specific assessment.