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President: Andrew A. Rosenberg, Ph.D.

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MRAG Americas, Inc. is currently undertaking the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) re-assessment of the Alaska groundfish fisheries for Pacific cod, flatfish, and Alaska pollock in the Bering Sea-Aleutian Islands and the Gulf of Alaska. MRAG Americas proposes to appoint the following scientists, listed in alphabetical order, to the assessment team; and seeks stakeholder feedback on these proposed members until 8 April 2014.

Dr. Don Bowen. William Don Bowen is a Ph.D. graduate of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. He has been a research scientist at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth and an Adjunct Professor of Biology at Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia for more than 25 years. He is best known for his research on the ecology, energetics and population dynamics of North Atlantic phocid seals, based largely on his collaborative studies at Sable Island. His interests also include mammalian life histories, population assessment, ecological interactions with fisheries, conservation and ecosystem change. Has published over 200 scientific papers, including 155 journal articles and book chapters and two books. He has served on the USA recovery team of the Hawaiian monk seal, and as chair of the UK Special Committee on Seals. He has broad national (Natural Science and Engineering Research Council, DFO) and international (National Academy, NSF, NRC, NMFS, NERC, NRPB) experience as a science advisor and served as member of the Board and Editor of Marine Mammal Science for five years. He has considerable experience as an MSC assessor having been involved with a number of groundfish fisheries certifications (e.g., pollock, Pacific cod) in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska.

Dr. Jake Rice. Dr. Jake Rice is Chief Scientist for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. He previously served as Director of Peer Review and Science Advice and held senior DFO Science positions in Pacific and Newfoundland Regions. He received BSc. from Cornell (1970 Conservation) and Ph. D. from University of Toronto (1974 - Ornithology). He has more than 270 publications in the scientific and technical literature, primarily on the ecosystem approach to integrated management. He is a member of the Group of Experts for the UN Regular Process for Global Marine Assessments, and a Lead Authors for the chapter on Drivers, Trends and Mitigation, for the next IPCC Assessment Report. He has been active as an expert or delegate to many UN meetings and agencies (FAO, CBD, GEF, UNEP, UNESCO-IOC, ICP, BBNJ etc.).

Dr. Robert J. Trumble joined MRAG Americas in 2000 as a senior research scientist and became Vice President in 2005. He has wide-ranging experience in marine fish science and management, fishery habitat protection, and oceanography. Dr. Trumble serves as Certification Manager for MRAG. He has overseen all MRAG pre-assessments and full assessments. He has received MSC training on two occasions, including the Risk-based Framework, and has led an RBF on three occasions. Previously, he served as Senior Biologist of the International Pacific Halibut Commission in Seattle, Washington, in various research and management positions at the Washington Department of Fisheries, and with the US Naval Oceanographic Office. Dr. Trumble has extensive experience working with government agencies, commercial and recreational fisheries groups, Indian tribes, and national and international advisory groups. He received appointments to the Scientific and Statistical

Committees of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the Pacific Fishery Management Council, the Groundfish Management Team of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, the affiliate faculty of Fisheries at the University of Washington, and the Advisory Committee of the Washington Sea Grant Program. Dr. Trumble received a Ph.D. in Fisheries from the College of Fisheries, University of Washington.

These individuals collectively have knowledge of the stock status and assessment, ecosystem impacts, and management systems applicable to this fishery. MRAG Americas seeks stakeholder comments on the suitability of the proposed team. Curriculum vitae for the proposed team are available upon request. Comments on the suitability of these scientists for the Southeast US North Atlantic Swordfish fishery assessment should be sent by 8 April 2014 to Bob Trumble, MRAG Americas. An announcement of the final team will be issued after the end of the comment period.

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