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BSAI and GOA Pacific Cod MSC-F-31493

Stakeholder Announcement

January 22, 2021

MRAG Americas is pleased to announce that the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod unit of certification has been reinstated effective January 01, 2021. The decision to lift the suspension comes as a result of an expedited audit that was announced on December 22, 2020. The audit was based on new information on the stock status provided by NOAA fisheries and decisions of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council in November 2020.

On January 4, 2021 MRAG submitted a variation request to the Marine Stewardship Council requesting the ability to back date the lifting of suspension date to January 1, 2021. On January 14, 2021 the MSC approved the request based on the following factors:

- New information shows that the biomass is projected to be above B20%, and this information was available on January 1, 2021.
- The fishery client has confirmed with outreach that the fishing season for the federal Pacific cod fishery started on January 1.

More information about the fishery can be found here: <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/bsai-and-go-pacific-cod/@@view>. The expedited audit report will be available for download from this website from January 23rd, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding the change in certification status please contact:

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