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MRAG Americas, Inc.

Australia Silver-lipped Pearl Oyster

MSC Surveillance Announcement

Table 1 – Surveillance announcement

1	Fishery name	
	Australia Silver-lipped Pearl Oyster	
2	Surveillance level and type	
	Level 5 – on-site surveillance audit	
3	Surveillance number	
	1st Surveillance	X
	2nd Surveillance	
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	
	Other (expedited etc)	
4	Proposed team leader	
	<p>Mr. Richard Banks will serve as lead assessor. Richard Banks has considerable MSC experience having served as the Lead Assessor for four Australian prawn trawl assessments, including Spencer Gulf, and on the PNA free school skipjack full assessment. Richard has also designed several fishery improvement plans in South East Asia and the Pacific, and acted as external reviewer to a number of MSC assessments on behalf of WWF. Richard currently works as an advisor to FFA, MFMR, and PNA as an offshore tuna advisor. Richard is an economist and fisheries management and policy programming specialist having worked on</p>	

	<p>similar issues for international agencies, Commonwealth and State Fisheries. Richard holds a bachelor degree in Fisheries Economics and a Masters in Agricultural Economics from the University of Portsmouth, and Imperial College, London, respectively.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Banks meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leader as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries; • He has passed the MSC team leader training; • He has passed the MSC Traceability training module; • He has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2; • He has undertaken two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years, and • He has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and is able to effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders. <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 3 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Mr. Banks has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
5	<p>Proposed team members <i>[remove if not applicable]</i></p> <p>Dr. Cameron Dixon. Cameron Dixon has 20 years of experience in fisheries science and stock assessment in Australia, with particular expertise in trawl fisheries and ecosystem-based fisheries management. He has managed multiple research grants (FRDC, CRC and NRM) and core stock assessment programs concurrently across prawn, blue crab and abalone fisheries, and has spent the past 18 months with WWF Australia providing technical advice to market partners (Coles, John West, Tassal and Blackmores) on sustainability of >500 seafood products sourced from Australia and overseas. This includes developing Scoping Documents and Action Plans for fisheries entering into Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs), explicitly assessed against MSC criteria. He recently signed the Commonwealth Trawl Fishery into a FIP, with the Scoping Document and Action Plan reviewed against the MSC standards by MRAG Asia Pacific. Dr. Dixon holds a PhD from Melbourne University.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Dr. Dixon meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team members as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has an appropriate university degree and more than five years' experience in management and research in fisheries; • He has undertaken at least two MSC fishery assessments or surveillance site visits in the last five years; • He is able to score a fishery using the default assessment tree and describe how conditions are set and monitored. <p>In addition, he has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principles 1 & 2 assessor as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3, and MRAG Americas confirms he has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>The whole assessment team collectively meets the requirements as described in FCP Annex PC table PC3.</p>
6	<p>Audit/review time and location</p> <p>A site visit will occur 4-6 April 2019 in Freemantle, Australia</p>

7	Assessment and review activities
	The surveillance will review any changes in science and management, and will monitor progress in closing out conditions.

MRAG Americas invites stakeholders to provide any information considered relevant, including knowledge and concerns about the fishery, to the surveillance and expedited assessments of the fisheries. Unless covered by FCP 4.4.1, any information that cannot be shared with other stakeholders even under a confidentiality agreement shall not be referenced in the surveillance audit, used to determine the surveillance audit outcome or used as the basis for an objection to certification. The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment> and a template for stakeholder response available at [MSC program supporting documents](#).

You must use the template to provide your response. All comments and inquiries should be directed to MRAG Americas. MRAG will schedule meetings with stakeholders if requested. To schedule a meeting please provide:

- your name and contact details
- your association with the fishery
- the issues you would like to discuss
- where and when you would like to meet

We request that stakeholders provide written information or request a meeting by 5pm GMT on 28 March 2019.

More information on the fishery is available at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/australia-silver-lipped-pearl-oyster/@@view>.

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

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Submitted by: Michealene Corlett

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