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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) full assessment of the Southeast US North Atlantic Swordfish fishery. 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 11 May 2012.

Dr. Rebecca Mitchell. Dr. Mitchell will have responsibility for Principle 2. She is a fisheries ecologist with 11 years professional experience, including 5 years post-doctoral experience working at MRAG. Much of her work with MRAG has concerned by-catch assessment and mitigation (e.g. of birds, turtles and various fish and elasmobranch species). She has managed studies testing methods to reduce by-catch of turtles in the Mediterranean and southeast Atlantic, and of deep sea fish species in the South Atlantic toothfish fisheries. Since 2007, she has taken a leading role in coordinating and developing research aspects of the South Georgia Fisheries Management Project (which includes toothfish, icefish and krill fisheries), with particular focus on research required to meet conditions associated with MSC certification for the toothfish fishery. She has also acted as a scientific advisor to a number of clients for other CCAMLR fisheries undergoing MSC certification. Rebecca has represented the UK at the CCAMLR working group meeting on Fish Stock Assessment (WG-FSA) for the last 3 years, playing an integral role in sub-group discussions on by-catch, observers, and impacts of bottom fishing. She is currently project anchor for an EU study assessing mitigation of bird by-catch in European gill net and longline fisheries. Prior to working at MRAG, she explored ecosystem effects of subsistence fisheries, specifically of trophic cascades in reef communities.

Dr. Graeme Parkes. Dr Parkes will serve as assessment team leader with a responsibility for Principle 3. He is a fisheries scientist with 21 years' experience. He joined MRAG following completion of his PhD on Antarctic fisheries in 1993. In 1997 he re-located to the US to establish MRAG's US base of operations, MRAG Americas. In 2004 he returned to the UK to take the position of Technical Director and in 2008 became Deputy Managing Director. He has a wide range of professional experience: evaluation and mitigation of environmental impacts of fisheries, including interactions with habitats and protected species; fisheries evaluation and certification under third party certification schemes, including the MSC; certification of small scale and data deficient fisheries; EU fisheries management; survey, assessment and management of Antarctic fisheries; design and planning of observer programmes; scientific support arrangements for Regional Fisheries Management Organisations; and review of the science and management of US fisheries.

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 11 May 2012 to Jodie Campbell, MRAG Americas. An announcement of the final team will be issued after the end of the comment period.

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