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MRAG-MSC-107a-v1

## **Notification of Confirmed Peer Reviewers**

AAFA/WFOA North Pacific Albacore Tuna Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery  
AAFA/WFOA South Pacific Albacore Tuna Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery

MRAG Americas received no comments on the proposed peer reviewers for the AAFA/WFOA North Pacific Albacore Tuna Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery and AAFA/WFOA South Pacific Albacore Tuna Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery, so confirms the peer reviewers as Jo Akroyd and Joseph E. Powers. Peer reviewers must be considered, at a minimum, the peers of the experts comprising the assessment team, and have expertise in one or more of the following: the fishery under assessment, stock assessment issues, relevant ecosystem interactions, and fishery management.

A brief biography of each reviewer is provided below.

**Jo Akroyd.** Jo is a fisheries management and marine ecosystem consultant with extensive international and Pacific experience. She has worked at senior levels in both the public and private sector as a fisheries manager and marine policy expert. Jo was with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in New Zealand for 20 years. Starting as a fisheries scientist, she was promoted to senior chief fisheries scientist, then Fisheries Management Officer, and the Assistant Director, Marine Research. She was awarded a Commemoration Medal in 1990 in recognition of her pioneering work in establishing New Zealand's fisheries quota management system. Among her current contracted activities, she is involved internationally in fishery certification of offshore, inshore and shellfish fisheries as Fisheries Management Specialist and Lead Assessor for the Intertek Fisheries Certification audit team. She has carried out the Marine Stewardship Councils' (MSC) certification assessment for sustainable fisheries. Examples include NZ (hoki, southern blue whiting, albacore, hake, scallops), Fiji (longline albacore) Japan (pole and line tuna, flatfish, snowcrab, scallops), China (scallops), Antarctica (Ross Sea toothfish fishery).

**Dr. Joseph E. Powers** has been involved in fisheries issues for more than 40 years, conducting stock assessments, coordinating international stock assessment research, communicating scientific advice to fishery management councils and commissions and also serving as the senior marine fisheries manager in the southeast US. His background includes: professor of marine resource assessment at Louisiana State University; Senior Stock Assessment Scientist of the US's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) southeast region, Laboratory Director of a NMFS facility; lead US scientist for Atlantic tuna, swordfish and billfish species for the International Commission for the conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); Chair of the Scientific Committee of ICCAT; Chair of the Stock Assessment Committee for Southern Bluefin Tuna; Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council and he has worked on numerous Marine Stewardship Council assessments of tunas, swordfish, hake and other fisheries resources in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.

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