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Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Announcement

Name of Fishery	Exmouth Gulf Prawn trawl fishery to include blue endeavour prawn as a target (Principle 1) species – expedited assessment										
Assessment number	This is an initial assessment of the Blue Endeavour prawn as a P1 species. It is currently assessed under Principle 2 as a “main retained” species in the certified Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery.										
Reduced re-assessment (Y/N)	No. This is an expedited scope extension assessment										
Statement that the fishery is within scope	The fishery entering assessment meets the scope requirements (FCR 7.4) for MSC fishery assessments.										
Certificate sharing statement	N/A										
Estimated Length of Full Assessment & Timeline	Activity	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
	MSC Announcement, including team confirmation, notification of assessment site visit										
	Stakeholder consultation (ongoing)										
	Assessment visit, stakeholder meetings										
	Examination of evidence, scoring, report preparation										
	Report review and finalization										
	Client review of draft report										
	Peer review of draft report										
	Stakeholder review of draft report										
	Final report/certification determination/objections period										

	<div>Certification decision</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Name of proposed Team Leader	<p>Richard Banks. 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 the Exmouth 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 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 Richard 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 the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2; • He has undertaken one fishery assessment as a team member in the last five years, and a variation request has been accepted by the MSC to substitute her experience with MSC assessments in other capacities for the requirement to serve on two MSC fishery assessments as a team member; 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 FCR Annex PC table PC3.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Richard Banks has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>
Name(s) of proposed assessors	<p>Kevin McLoughlin. Dr. Kevin McLoughlin works as a fisheries consultant. His recent work includes Marine Stewardship Council assessment and peer review. In addition, he has undertaken review of fisheries assessed under the World Wildlife Fund Common Wild Capture Fishery Methodology. Previously as a Senior Fisheries Scientist with the Bureau of Rural Sciences he has engaged in a wide range of international and domestic fisheries management and policy. Kevin represented BRS on many committees and groups such as Australian Fishery Management Authority fishery assessment groups (including for the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the Northern Prawn Fishery, the Bass Strait Scallop Fishery, and the Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery),</p>

	<p>DAFF's Shark Implementation Group for implementation of the National Plan of Action for Sharks, and others. He represented Australia on scientific issues at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and was Chair of the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch for its first 3 meetings. In 2006 he chaired the meeting of the Working Party on Billfish led Australia's delegation during 2 weeks of scientific meetings of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna in Tokyo. In 2008, he represented Australia at a meeting to progress the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in Bangkok and presented Australia's cooperative approaches with Indonesia to research and manage shared snapper stocks in the Arafura/Timor Seas. These responsibilities required a high level of interaction with policy and industry clients, and with international organizations. An important aspect of his work is to be able to translate complex fisheries information to a range of audiences.</p> <p>MRAG Americas confirms that Kevin McLoughlin 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 Principle 1 and a Principle 2 assessor as described in FCR 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 FCR Annex PC table PC3.</p>
Assessment tree to be used	The default assessment tree contained within MSC Certification Requirements version 1.3 will be used for this assessment.
Site visit	The assessment team will meet in Perth, Australia on 20 – 22 nd , February, 2018.

MRAG Americas, Inc. is pleased to announce that a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) scope extension of the Blue Endeavour prawn to the certified Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery has begun. The assessment will evaluate the fishery for continued compliance with the MSC's Standard for well-managed and sustainable fisheries. MRAG Americas has determined that the fishery is in scope.

This fishery assessment will be undertaken by way of an expedited scope extension to the certified Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery. As part of the assessment, MRAG Americas announces that stakeholder meetings and assessment of relevant documentation will be undertaken with a visit to the fishery in February, 2018. **The assessment team will meet in Perth, Australia on the 20th – 22nd of February, in conjunction with the 2nd surveillance**

MRAG Americas announcement—Exmouth Gulf blue endeavour scope extension

of the Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery. The purpose of these meetings is for a fishery assessment and stakeholder consultation to receive information from fishery representatives, government management agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other interested stakeholders.

Because this is an expedited scope extension assessment, the assessment will examine components of the Blue Endeavour prawn not held in common with the Exmouth Gulf prawn fishery. The components to be assessed for the Blue Endeavour prawn scope extension are:

- Principle 1 Outcome
- Principle 1 Harvest Strategy

MRAG invites stakeholders to provide any information considered relevant to the expedited assessments of the fishery. 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

Stakeholders may provide input at any time. We ask stakeholders who wish to meet with the team to make the request for a meeting by 5pm PST on 2 February, 2018.

The MSC has developed a guide for stakeholder input, available at <http://www.msc.org/documents/get-certified/stakeholders> and a template for stakeholder response available at <https://www.msc.org/documents/scheme-documents/forms-and-templates/template-for-stakeholder-input-into-fishery-assessments-v2.0/view>. You may use the template or provide your response in any other format.

More information on the fishery is available at <https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/exmouth-gulf-prawns/@@assessments>.

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

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9 January, 2018

Appendix 1: Client certificate sharing statement

N/A-please see certificate sharing arrangements already in place for this fishery

Appendix 2: CVs of team leader and team

CVs provided as separate PDF documents downloadable from the MSC website