

Marine Stewardship Council Surveillance Announcement (Review of information)

Name of Fishery	Ben Tre Vietnam hand-raked clam fishery	
Surveillance level and type	Surveillance, Review of information	
Surveillance number (tick one)	1st Surveillance	
	2nd Surveillance	
	3rd Surveillance	
	4th Surveillance	
	Other (expedited etc)	Surveillance, Review of information
Justification for surveillance	<p>Due to unforeseen circumstance outlined in a Variation Request submitted to the MSC's website (See here for details:- https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/vietnam-ben-tre-clam-hand-gathered/re-assessment-downloads-1), an assessment interval of up to two years (between the last Year 4 Surveillance Report and the Public Certification Report for the announced reassessment) is probable. Due to this gap, MEC is proposing to conduct an additional surveillance (review of information) to ensure the integrity of the MSC assessment process and the confidence of all concerned stakeholders in the eligibility of this fishery.</p>	
Proposed Team Leader	It is proposed that Kat Collinson will act as team leader with overall responsibility and guidance role for the surveillance (review of information).	
Proposed team members	<p>It is proposed the remaining team members will be Dr Joanna Gascoigne and Tuong Phi Lai.</p> <p>Further details of all of the team members can be seen on the MSC's website including full CVs. https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/vietnam-ben-tre-clam-hand-gathered/re-assessment-downloads-1</p> <p>MEC can confirm that all members of the proposed team have no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p>	
Audit/review time and location	<p>The site visit will take place in on the 31st August 2015 at Ben Tre city, Ben Tre province, Vietnam. MEC welcomes anyone who would like to participate. It is proposed the on-site team member for this site visit will be Tuong Phi Lai. It is proposed that the other team members will be off-site but available for contact during the site visit.</p> <p>MEC proposes to publish the surveillance (review of information) assessment report on the MSC's website 60 days after the completion of the site visit.</p>	
Assessment/ review activities	A Surveillance 'Review of Information' report will be prepared and will outline any issues identified with regard to:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The fishery• Issues relevant to the MSC fisheries standard• Any developments or changes within the fishery which impact traceability and the ability to segregate MSC from non-MSC products. <p>The report shall also include a statement confirming the status of the certification (e.g. certified, suspended etc.)</p>
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MEC would like to welcome anyone who would like to participate or contribute towards this surveillance (review of information). All interested stakeholders are encouraged to contact Gavin Fitzgerald (gavin.fitzgerald@me-cert.com) or Kat Collinson (kat.collinson@macalister-elliott.com) at MEC by email, telephone or post at the below number and address:

ME Certification
56 High Street
Lymington
SO41 9AH
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)1590 613007
Fax: +44 (0)1590 671573

Should any stakeholder wish to meet the team in person, this can be arranged. Remote meetings can also be arranged via telephone conferencing or Skype, or written submissions made to the above mentioned email addresses.

Please note that comments should be factual and should be supported by data or other evidence. Comments may remain unattributed. Furthermore, information that cannot be shared with any other stakeholder will not be referenced in the assessment and cannot be used in determining the outcome of the fishery's assessment nor used as a basis for an objection. Information can be kept confidential if it is restricted to financial transactions about certification, the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being known, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the assessed fishery's country.

Submitted by: Gavin Fitzgerald, MSC Fisheries Officer

Date: 19/08/2015