

**bio.inspecta (mandated by q.inspecta)**

**Western Australian Sea Cucumber  
Fishery**

**MSC Surveillance Announcement**

**Audit date: 12 May 2021**

## 1 Marine Stewardship Council surveillance announcement

| Table 1 – Surveillance announcement |  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1                                   | Fishery name   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | Western Australian Sea Cucumber Fishery  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| 2                                   | Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Target Species</td> <td>Pilbara sandfish, <i>Holothuria scabra</i><br/>Pilbara redfish, <i>Actinopyga echinites</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Geographical Area</td> <td>North Coast of Western Australia,<br/>from 114° 50'E to 120°E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Method of Capture</td> <td>Hand collection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operators pursuing the stock</td> <td>Vessels operated by Tasmanian<br/>Seafoods Pty Ltd</td> </tr> </table> | Target Species | Pilbara sandfish, <i>Holothuria scabra</i><br>Pilbara redfish, <i>Actinopyga echinites</i> | Geographical Area | North Coast of Western Australia,<br>from 114° 50'E to 120°E | Method of Capture | Hand collection | Operators pursuing the stock | Vessels operated by Tasmanian<br>Seafoods Pty Ltd |
| Target Species                      | Pilbara sandfish, <i>Holothuria scabra</i><br>Pilbara redfish, <i>Actinopyga echinites</i>   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| Geographical Area                   | North Coast of Western Australia,<br>from 114° 50'E to 120°E   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| Method of Capture                   | Hand collection  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| Operators pursuing the stock        | Vessels operated by Tasmanian<br>Seafoods Pty Ltd  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| 3                                   | Date certified   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 9 December 2019  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | Date of expiry   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 8 June 2025  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| 4                                   | Surveillance level and type  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surveillance Level 4, on-site surveillance audit.</li> <li>The surveillance level 4 remains the same but the surveillance activity has changed from being off-site to on-site as both auditors will be at the fishery location.</li> </ul>  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| 5                                   | Surveillance number  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 1st Surveillance   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 2nd Surveillance   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 3rd Surveillance   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | 4th Surveillance   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
|                                     | Other (Expedited, etc.)  |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |
| 6                                   | Proposed team leader   |                |  |                   |  |                   |                 |                              |   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <p><b>Ms. Sascha Brand-Gardner, Lead Auditor and Principle 3 expert</b></p> <p>Ms. Sascha Brand-Gardner meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team leader as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She has an appropriate university degree and more than three years' experience in fisheries management of invertebrate species in Australia;</li> <li>• She has passed the 2020 MSC team leader training, including the traceability module;</li> <li>• She has the required competencies described in Table PC1, section 2;</li> <li>• She has undertaken more than two fishery assessments as a team member in the last five years, and</li> <li>• She has experience in applying different types of interviewing and facilitation techniques and can effectively communicate with clients and other stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p>bio.inspecta Pty Ltd confirms that Ms. Sascha Brand-Gardner has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery.</p> |
| 7 | Proposed team member   |
|   | <p><b>Dr. Klaas Hartmann, Principle 1 expert</b></p> <p>Dr. Klaas Hartmann meets the competency criteria in Annex PC for team member as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He has an appropriate university degree and more than three years' experience of applying stock assessment techniques to invertebrate species;</li> <li>• He has the required competencies described in Table PC2, section 2;</li> <li>• He has passed the MSC team member training, and</li> <li>• He has the appropriate skills and experience required to serve as a Principle 1 assessor as described in Annex PC table PC3.</li> </ul> <p>bio.inspecta Pty Ltd confirms that Dr. Hartmann has no conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment.</p> <p>*Together the team meets at least 3 of the Fishery Team qualifications and competency requirements laid out in Table PC3. See summaries of CVs in Appendix 1.</p>  |
| 8 | Audit/review time and location   |

|    |   |
|----|---|
|    | The audit will be conducted on Wednesday <b>12th May 2021</b> at 09:00 (AWST) at the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories in Hillarys WA.  |
| 9  | Assessment and review activities  |
|    | This audit will review any changes to the fishery and its management and progress against the open conditions. Traceability aspects of the fishery will be reviewed. Participants in this audit will include the fishery manager and scientists to gain a full understanding of the current state of the fishery.   |
| 10 | Stakeholder opportunities   |
|    | Please contact us at <a href="mailto:seafood@bio-inspecta.com">seafood@bio-inspecta.com</a> if you would like to arrange a private meeting with the assessment team via video or phone conference or submit written comments using the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Surveillance Audits by clicking the link <a href="#">here</a> . In order for your written submissions or meeting request to be considered as part of this audit you must submit it by <b>17:00 UTC on Monday 10th May 2021</b> . |

bio.inspecta encourages stakeholders not to withhold information and will not permit use of confidential information for reference within an assessment as basis for determination of an assessment outcome, or as basis for an objection to certification. Confidential information is restricted to defined exceptions listed in FCPv2.2 (4.3.3).

Any parties (individuals or organizations) interested in providing input during the audit or via email, and/or in being directly informed of future stakeholder announcements, please contact bio.inspecta at [seafood@bio-inspecta.com](mailto:seafood@bio-inspecta.com) with:

- a. your name and contact details;
- b. your association with the fishery; and
- c. the issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation).

Submitted by: Sascha Brand-Gardner

30th March 2021

## Appendix 1: Summary of CVs of team leader and team member

### **Team Leader and Principle 3 Expert:** Sascha Brand-Gardner

Ms. Brand-Gardner is the MSC Fisheries Program Manager and a Lead Auditor at bio.inspecta and has over 20 years of experience working in fisheries policy, ecosystem-based fishery management and marine research. She was a senior fishery manager at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development - Fisheries Division in Western Australia (WA) and managed several prawn and scallop trawl and large pelagic line fisheries as well as multi-species ornamental fisheries. Prior to this, she worked on several marine research projects related to endangered, threatened and protected species, fishery habitats, abalone and the environmental impacts of aquaculture.

Sascha has an Honours degree in Marine Zoology (The University of Queensland) and has been trained to use the most recent MSC standard and certification process and is a certified lead auditor under the ISO 9001:2015 standard. Sascha has been the Team Leader and Principle 3 expert for the MSC assessment and reassessment of two Australian blue grenadier fisheries and surveillance of the Lakes and Coorong pipi fishery and Principle 3 expert for the AFMA managed Heard and McDonald Islands and Macquarie Island toothfish re-assessments in 2016 and the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery in 2020. Sascha has been involved in many pre-assessments of various species and gear types.

### **Team Member and Principle 1 Expert:** Dr Klaas Hartmann

Dr Hartmann is a Senior Research Fellow and Mathematician at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) University of Tasmania whose research involves bio-economic modelling across a broad range of fisheries. Throughout his career he has worked on resource and conservation management from a mathematical ecology and ecological economics perspective. After working in fisheries at CSIRO for two years, Klaas focused on prioritising resources for biodiversity conservation, particularly using phylogenetic information.

Since commencing work at IMAS in 2009, Klaas has returned to his initial interest in fisheries modelling. At IMAS Dr Hartmann works on bio-economic models and developing/evaluating novel management strategies in collaboration with fisheries managers and industry. This work has helped support large changes in a number of fisheries that have substantially increased their profitability whilst improving environmental outcomes. Klaas is a committee member of the Tasmanian Crustacean Fisheries Advisory Committee and the Status of Key Australian Fish Stocks Advisory Committee. Dr Hartmann has been the P1 expert on several confidential pre-assessments and the recent annual surveillance audits of WA fisheries including the Peel Harvey Estuarine Fishery.

Klaas' primary stock assessment work on invertebrate target species has been *Octopus pallidus* for which he oversaw the development of the initial stock assessment in 2012/13 and has continued to lead or review the assessment since that time. Klaas has also been involved in the development and analysis components of several FRDC projects that support the Victorian *Octopus pallidus* fishery. Klaas has also been involved in several abalone projects including data analysis for several Tasmanian abalone projects and the MSC surveillance audits for the Western Australia abalone fishery.

## Appendix 2: Surveillance frequency

| Table 2 – Surveillance level justification |                       |                    |   |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| Year                                       | Surveillance activity | Number of auditors | Rationale   |
| 1  | On-site audit         | 2 On-site          | This certificate has been recently transferred, there are open conditions and the auditors will be on-site for another fishery. |

| Table 3 – Timing of surveillance audit |                                 |                                     |   |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Year                                   | Anniversary date of certificate | Proposed date of surveillance audit | Rationale   |
| 1                                      | 9 June 2021                     | 12 May 2021                         | As per FCP 7.28.8, the audit is within 30 days prior to the anniversary date of the certificate. Following an automatic 6 month extension to the fishery certificate under the MSC Covid-19 derogation. The anniversary date is now June. |

| Table 4 – Fishery surveillance program |         |          |          |   |
|--|---------|----------|----------|---|
| Surveillance level                     | Year 1  | Year 2   | Year 3   | Year 4                                    |
| Level 4                                | On-site | Off-site | Off-site | On-site audit and reassessment site visit |

