



Date: 7th December 2010
Ref: 82025

Daniel Suddaby
Marine Stewardship Council
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By email - cc Andy Hough

Dear Daniel

Re: BSAI / GOA Alaska Pollock, Flatfish and Pacific Cod Fisheries Annual Surveillance Audits

Moody Marine Ltd proposes to combine the annual surveillance audits for the above fisheries in order to avoid financial costs and avoid duplication requests for information from fisheries managers and scientists.

The clients have agreed to this approach. We are presently in discussion with them, staff from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and potential team members with respect to the best time to undertake a combined audit. Our annual audits for the pollock fisheries have taken place in April or May and have become routine events for the pollock client and NMFS staff. It is our intention to continue with this approach and include the flatfish and Pacific cod fisheries.

The BSAI and GOA Pacific cod fisheries were certified on 25th January 2010; the BSAI and GOA Alaskan flatfish fisheries were certified on 20th May; and, the GOA pollock fishery was certified on 30th September 2010. It is anticipated that following the final formalities associated with a resolved objection, the BSAI pollock fishery will be certified before 24th December 2010.

Taking into account the certification dates and the proposed period within which we are aiming to conduct our combined surveillance audits, we need to request a variation in relation to MSC scheme requirements 6.1 & 6.2, i.e. the reporting period for the first annual audit for the BSAI and GOA Pacific cod fisheries. At this stage we are not able to confirm when the surveillance audit will take place, however, we should be able to confirm when this will be by 17th January 2011.

If the MSC is in agreement to this approach I have provided for your review a notification to stakeholders explaining the situation. If this meets with approval I will have it uploaded for posting on to the MSC website.

Best regards

Paul

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