Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management Certification Program

Notice of Peer Review Assessment Team Nomination

September 2016

Application submitted by: The Fishing Vessel Owners Association (FVOA) - Eat on the Wild Side

On Behalf of
the US Alaska Sablefish (Black cod) Commercial Fisheries

Based on the technical expertise required to carry out the above fishery assessment, Global Trust Certification Ltd., is pleased to confirm the Peer Review assessment team members for the fishery as follows.

Dr. Robert Leaf

Dr. Robert Leaf has ten years of experience working in the field of natural resource management of fin and shellfish. He specializes in the evaluation of management strategies of harvested species and the identification of environmental drivers that impact their population dynamics. Dr. Leaf received his Master’s Degree in Marine Science at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories and his PhD in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences from Virginia Polytechnic and State Institute. His last professional post was as a post-doc under Dr. Kevin Friedland at the Northeast Fishery Science Center’s Narragansett Laboratory. There, he worked on understanding the impact of environmental conditions on fish stock productivity and recruitment. He has worked in the Gulf of Mexico for the last three years working on fish stock assessment of commercially and recreationally important species in that area. Dr. Leaf is a member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council’s Red Drum working group and NOAA’s Marine Fisheries and Climate Taskforce. He currently supervises four masters level students working on various state and federally managed fish stocks.

Dr. Wes Toller

Wes received his doctorate in biological sciences from the University of Southern California. As owner and operator of his own consulting business since 2010, Wes has worked closely with a number of leading certification schemes including the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) to develop and improve processes for auditing and accreditation of sustainability standards. He previously worked as a program manager with Accreditation Services International (ASI) where he helped establish the company’s nascent MSC Program. Wes has an in-
depth knowledge of ISO requirements and international best practices that pertain to eco-labeling. Wes works across all subject areas within the field of sustainability, including sustainable use of natural resources – especially fisheries management and marine science. As a consequence, Wes had an extensive background in fisheries management and habitat conservation.