

**Alaska  
Responsible Fisheries  
Management (RFM) Certification**



## Alaska RFM Fisheries Standard Version 2.0 Now Available

In the spirit of continuous improvement, the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute (ASMI) has issued [Version 2.0 of the RFM Fisheries Standard](#).



### What's New in Version 2.0

The new version includes many substantial changes, adding depth and robustness to the Alaska RFM Certification program. Revisions are based on a combination of factors including needs for improvements recognized by ASMI and the RFM Fisheries Standard Committee; [stakeholder input](#) collected over a two-year process, and required components of the [Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative \(GSSI\)](#) global benchmark tool.

"We have conducted a rigorous and transparent process for developing Version 2.0 and a large part of this included the hard work of our [Fisheries Standard Committee](#). The Alaska RFM Certification program remains committed to adapting in the evolving field of fisheries certifications," states Susan Marks, Sustainability Director for ASMI.

In summary, the changes and improvements to [Alaska RFM Fisheries Standard V 2.0](#) include:

- Rewording of complex clauses;
- General housekeeping and restructuring;
- Fusion of clauses with overlapping requirements;
- Arranging 6 Key Principles for evaluating fisheries into 4 Key Sections;
- Inclusion of specific metrics and indicators;
- Improved specificity of some clauses (e.g. stock status, ecosystem components, etc.)
- Review of additional FAO documentation and related inclusion of some clauses;
- Scoring and Guidance document improvements;
- Development of an addendum and framework for Data Deficient Fisheries assessments;
- Modification of the scoring matrix from a descriptive to a numerical system;
- The Alaska RFM Fishery Standard is not applicable to deep-sea fisheries.

### When to Use Version 2.0

Version 2.0 will be used for all new fisheries that wish to be certified and for fisheries seeking re-certification to the Alaska RFM program from May 1, 2018. Surveillance audits for existing certified

fisheries will continue to be against RFM V1.3 Standard until May 2021 unless the Fishery client specifically requests an assessment against the new RFM V2.0 Standard.



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We welcome any feedback or questions you may have at [rfm@alaskaseafood.org](mailto:rfm@alaskaseafood.org).

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