



RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT (RFM)

Chain of Custody Standard

Self-Assessment Checklist

Chain of Custody Standard Self-Assessment Requirements

This document details a set of requirements which permit a self-assessment to be conducted against the key criteria of the RFM Chain of Custody Standard. This allows applicants to ensure that a seafood product put on the market and bearing the RFM seal is genuinely a product of designated origin and originates from the certified fisheries concerned. These measures thus cover the tracking and traceability of the product from the harvester to the first point in the supply chain either inside or outside of the State of Alaska.¹

Please note- if an applicant cannot provide evidence that they source 100% of all their seafood from a RFM Certified Fishery(ies) they cannot use this self-assessment mechanism and shall need to have a full RFM CoC on site audit completed prior to them having the right to use the RFM Seal and certification claim.

Adapted RFM Clause	Clause Requirement	Self-Declared Evidence
1.0	The Applicant shall provide evidence that all the seafood handled, packed and distributed from their facility is 100% sourced from the certified fisheries within the RFM program	
CB assessment		
1.1	The Applicant shall commit to the principles of the Chain of Custody Standard by fully segregating any certified RFM Seafood from Non- Certified RFM Seafood which is not RFM certified	
CB assessment		
1.2	The Applicant shall commit to ensuring that only Seafood products that originate from a certified RFM fishery shall carry the official 'RFM certified' seal/certification claim	
CB assessment		
1.3	The Applicant shall commit to ensuring that all Seafood products carrying the official	

¹ FAO Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries, Rome 2005 +2009

	certified RFM seal/claim shall be readily identifiable at all times	
CB assessment		
1.4	The Applicant shall have a Traceability system in operation which is capable of identifying and tracing certified, labelled seafood products back to the certified RFM fishery	
CB assessment		
1.6	The Applicant shall demonstrate compliance with the applicable national/federal and/or regional/state regulations on labelling and traceability by the procurement and maintenance of any necessary license to operate	
CB assessment		
1.7	Where certified labelled product and non-certified product are either: a) transported together to and from the site or; b) in third party storage; The Applicant shall have a system in operation to ensure appropriate segregation is achieved by either physical or temporal separation	
CB assessment		
1.8	Where an Applicant utilizes the services of a subcontractor within the state of Alaska (to carry out processing, packing or labelling activities), the subcontractor shall be provided with a self-assessment checklist to ensure they operate in compliance with the requirements of the RFM Chain of Custody Standard	
CB assessment		

1.9	Where an Applicant utilizes the services of third party transport or storage/distribution companies, a contract or equivalent documentary evidence shall be in place demonstrating that product traceability is ensured during storage, distribution or transportation as appropriate	
CB assessment		
2.6	The applicant shall provide evidence that it has an effective product retrieval system in place, to be used in the event of non-compliant seafood being despatched into the supply chain	
CB assessment		
3.1	The Applicant shall provide evidence that they have tested their traceability system across the range of RFM Chain of Custody certified products. Tests should ensure traceability back to the certified fishery, and should be documented and the results retained for inspection	
CB assessment		
3.5	The applicant will supply a copy of the labels used for their despatched products to ensure they include the following (this is not an exhaustive list): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial species name; • Country of origin; • Fishing/catch area; • Product description; • Product code or production code number 	
CB assessment		

3.9	The applicant shall, on request, be able to produce accurate traceability records maintained for the duration of the shelf life of the product, or three years, whichever is the longer	
CB assessment		
3.12	The Applicant shall provide evidence of any customer complaints or feedback concerning the labelled certified product	
CB assessment		