

Global Trust Certification

U.S. Gulf of Mexico shrimp

RFM Fishery Announcement

28 April 2023

1 Introduction

This Announcement marks the beginning of an RFM assessment during which the above fishery will be assessed for conformity to the requirements of the applicable Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) program(me)/scheme and documents outlined in Table 1 and details the information Global Trust Certification must provide when formally announcing this assessment.

Table 1. Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme and documents, including applicable versions and their usage.			
Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme	Certified Seafood Collaborative (CSC) Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Certification Program		
Relevant RFM program(me)/scheme documents	Document title	Version/Issue/Revision	Usage
	RFM Procedure 2: Application to Certification Procedures for the RFM Fishery Standard	Version 6.1	Process
	CSC Responsible Fisheries Management Certification Program Fisheries Standard	Version 2.1	Standard
	Responsible Fisheries Management Certification Program Guidance to Performance Evaluation for the Certification of Wild Capture and Enhanced Fisheries in North America	Version 2.1	Guidance to Standard

2 Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) fishery announcement

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

1 Fishery name	
U.S. Gulf of Mexico shrimp	
2 Certification cycle, assessment type and number	
Certification cycle	First (5-year) certification cycle
Assessment type and number	Initial assessment.
3 Statement that the fishery is within scope	
Global Trust confirms that the fishery under assessment (as defined by the Units of Assessment (UoAs) described below) is within scope of the relevant RFM Fisheries Standard.	
4 Unit(s) of Assessment – UoA(s)	
Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA(s)).	
UoA 1-36 Common to all UoAs (species and stocks)	
Species	Latin name: <i>Farfantepenaeus aztecus</i>
	Common names: Brown shrimp
	Latin name: <i>Litopenaeus setiferus</i>
	Common names: White shrimp
	Latin name: <i>Farfantepenaeus duorarum</i>
	Common names: Pink shrimp
Stocks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gulf of Mexico brown shrimp Gulf of Mexico white shrimp Gulf of Mexico pink shrimp
UoA 1-6 Specific to these UoA	
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Federal waters
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Otter trawl Skimmer net
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and two gear types in federal waters)	UoA 1. Federal waters, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 2. Federal waters, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 3. Federal waters, otter trawl pink shrimp UoA 4. Federal waters, skimmer net, brown shrimp UoA 5. Federal waters, skimmer net, white shrimp UoA 6. Federal waters, skimmer net, pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid federal permit are already eligible fishers.
UoA 7-15 Specific to these UoA	
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Louisiana state waters
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Otter trawl Skimmer net Butterfly wing net
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and three gear types in Louisiana state waters)	UoA 7. Louisiana, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 8. Louisiana, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 9. Louisiana, otter trawl pink shrimp UoA 10. Louisiana, skimmer, brown shrimp UoA 11. Louisiana, skimmer, white shrimp UoA 12. Louisiana, skimmer, pink shrimp UoA 13. Louisiana, butterfly, brown shrimp UoA 14. Louisiana, butterfly, white shrimp UoA 15. Louisiana, butterfly, pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid state permit are already eligible fishers.
UoA 16-18 Specific to these UoA	
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Texas state waters

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otter trawl
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and one gear type in Texas state waters)	UoA 16. Texas, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 17. Texas, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 18. Texas, otter trawl pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid state permit are already eligible fishers.
UoA 19-24	Specific to these UoA
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Florida state waters
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otter trawl • Skimmer net
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and two gear types in Florida state waters)	UoA 19. Florida, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 20. Florida, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 21. Florida, otter trawl pink shrimp UoA 22. Florida, skimmer, brown shrimp UoA 23. Florida, skimmer, white shrimp UoA 24. Florida, skimmer, pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid state permit are already eligible fishers.
UoA 25-30	Specific to these UoA
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Alabama state waters
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otter trawl • Skimmer net
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and two gear types in Alabama state waters)	UoA 25. Alabama, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 26. Alabama, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 27. Alabama, otter trawl pink shrimp UoA 28. Alabama, skimmer, brown shrimp UoA 29. Alabama, skimmer, white shrimp UoA 30. Alabama, skimmer, pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid state permit are already eligible fishers.
UoA 31-36	Specific to these UoA
Geographical area	FAO Fishing Area 31, Atlantic Western-Central, U.S. EEZ, Mississippi state waters
Fishing gear type(s) and, if relevant, vessel type(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Otter trawl • Skimmer net
Specific UoAs (resulting from combining the three species and two gear types in Mississippi state waters)	UoA 31. Mississippi, otter trawl, brown shrimp UoA 32. Mississippi, otter trawl, white shrimp UoA 33. Mississippi, otter trawl pink shrimp UoA 34. Mississippi, skimmer, brown shrimp UoA 35. Mississippi, skimmer, white shrimp UoA 36. Mississippi, skimmer, pink shrimp
Client group	American Shrimp Processors inc.
Other eligible fishers	None, all shrimp fishing vessels with a valid state permit are already eligible fishers.
5	Use of Data Deficient Framework (DDF)
	The Data Deficient Framework (DDF) will be used for clause 6.3
6	Name of proposed team leader
	<p>Dr. Ivan Mateo.</p> <p>Dr. Mateo meets all general requirements for an RFM Team Leader. He has extensive experience working with wide variety of crustaceans species including Spiny lobster and red swamp crawfish (10 years). He has Extensive experience in marine conservation advice as well as fisheries management advice (15 Years). He has Extensive experience in Marine Ecology, Conservation Legislation Fisheries Management, Strategic Planning/Risk Management (10 years). CV on file</p>

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

	<p>Dr. Mateo does not have conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. Summary of CV to be provided in Appendix 1</p>
7	<p>Name(s) of proposed team members</p> <p>Mr. Robert Allain, primarily responsible for fisheries management. Mr. Allain meets all general requirements for an RFM Team Member. He is a Technical member of AKRFM Standard Committee. He has over 30 years Fisheries Management experience with DFO in policy, planning and operations at area, regional and national levels (17 years at Executive level). He has International MCS experience on behalf of UN FAO and World Bank. He has working knowledge of US federal and state management processes and systems. CV on file. Mr. Allain does not have conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. Summary of CV to be provided in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Dr. Jerry Ennis primarily responsible for stock assessment . Dr. Ennis meets all general requirements for an RFM Team Member. He has extensive experience working with invertebrate species including other crustaceans and mollusks (ie Lobster). Extensive experience on a range of functions and responsibilities such as scientific research and biological assessment of all species groups; habitat, ecosystem and by-catch assessment, management and control; overall fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance operations and implementation of Canada’s Oceans Policy with particular emphasis on ecosystem and precautionary management. Dr. Ennis does not have conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. Summary of CV to be provided in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Mr. Matthew Jew primarily responsible for fisheries impacts on the ecosystem. Matthew Jew has over 10 years’ experience in the field of marine research and over 6 years in the field of fisheries science. The primary focus of his work has been on ecosystem structure as it relates to the effects commercial fisheries. He has done research with NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center’s West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey studying life history and population dynamics of economically important fishes. Mr. Matthew Jew does not have conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment. Summary of CV to be provided in Appendix.</p>
8	<p>Site visit</p> <p>The site visit (which may take place remotely) will take on the proposed date(s) and at the following location(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>Site visit dates</u>: 17 July 2023 to 20 July 2023 – <u>Site visit location(s)</u>: United States of America, Gulf of Mexico States <p>Stakeholders wishing to consult directly with the assessment team during this period may contact Global Trust as outlined below requesting to do so:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact Global Trust Client Services: ClientServicesie@nsf.org. 2. The deadline for doing so is 17:00 UTC on Friday 14 July 2023. 3. Provide at least the following details when doing so: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Your name and contact details. – Your association with the fishery. – Your interest in the fishery/the issues you would like to discuss. <p>A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and to speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the Data Deficient Framework. See https://rfmcertification.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/AK-RFM-V2.1-GuidanceDraft-Jan-2021_Final.pdf and https://rfmcertification.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/AK-RFM-V2.0-Data-Deficient-Fisheries-Framework-Addendum-to-Scoring-Guidance-FINAL-DRAFT-Oct2016.pdf</p> <p>Please note we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative analysis during the site visit. To achieve a robust outcome from this consultative approach, we rely heavily on participation of a broad range of stakeholders with a balance of knowledge of the fishery. We encourage any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fishery to participate in these meetings.</p>
9	<p>Stakeholder comment opportunities</p>

Table 2. Fishery announcement.

As part of this assessment, previously registered stakeholders will be afforded an opportunity to provide input on a public draft of the assessment report which will be provided for comment when the defined 30-day period in which registered stakeholders may comment is reached.

As this stakeholder input opportunity is limited to previously registered stakeholders, interested stakeholders should ensure they register as outlined below.

1. Contact Global Trust Client Services as outlined above requesting to be registered as a stakeholder for this fishery.
 - The above deadline for requesting to consult with the assessment team and the details stakeholder shall apply when requesting to be registered as a stakeholder shall additionally apply here.

3 Appendices

3.1 Appendix 1: Summaries of CVs of team leader and team members

The assessment team for this assessment consists of:

- Dr. Ivan Mateo (Lead Assessor and primary responsibility for Data Deficient Framework (DDF))
- Mr. Matthew Jew (Assessor and primary responsibility for fisheries impacts to the ecosystem)
- Dr. Jerry Ennis (Assessor and primary responsibility for stock assessment and fish biology)
- Mr. Robert Allain (Assessor and primary responsibility for fisheries management)

A brief bio for each assessment team member is presented below.

Team Leader: Ivan Mateo Primary Responsibility for Data Deficient Framework (DDF)

Dr. Ivan Mateo has over 25 years' experience working with natural resources population dynamic modeling. His specialization is in fish and crustacean population dynamics, stock assessment, evaluation of management strategies for exploited populations, bioenergetics, ecosystem-based assessment, and ecological statistical analysis. Dr. Mateo received a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences with Fisheries specialization from the University of Rhode Island. He has studied population dynamics of economically important species as well as candidate species for endangered species listing from many different regions of the world such as the Caribbean, the Northeast US Coast, Gulf of California, and Alaska. He has done research with NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center Ecosystem Based Fishery Management on bio-energetic modeling for Atlantic cod. He also has been working as environmental consultant in the Caribbean doing field work and looking at the effects of industrialization on essential fish habitats and for the Environmental Defense Fund developing population dynamics models for data poor stocks in the Gulf of California. Recently Dr. Mateo worked as National Research Council postdoc research associate at the NOAA National Marine Fisheries Services Ted Stevens Marine Research Institute on population dynamic modeling of Alaska sablefish.

Ivan will oversee coordinating the other Assessment Team members, participating in the assessment and be responsible for the completion of the assessment in accordance with Certification procedures. Ivan does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment and will be on-site during this assessment.

Team Member: Dr. Matthew Jew, Primary Responsibility for fisheries impacts to the ecosystem

Matthew Jew has over 10 years' experience in the field of marine research and over 6 years in the field of fisheries science. Matthew earned his M.S. in Marine Science from Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (California State University, Monterey Bay). He has worked at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories as Principle Investigator on numerous projects studying the trophic ecology of a wide range of species, species differentiation based on taxonomic classification and morphological characteristics, and statistical modeling. The primary focus of his work has been on ecosystem structure as it relates to the effects commercial fisheries. He has done research with NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center's West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey studying life history and population dynamics of economically important fishes. He has done work monitoring broad-scale ecosystem productivity from an ecosystem-based management approach. Matt will be the team's expert on Section D: Serious Impacts of the Fishery on the Ecosystem of the relevant Standard. Matt does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment and will be on-site during this assessment.

Team Member: Dr. Jerry Ennis, Primary Responsibility for stock assessment

Following undergraduate and graduate degrees at Memorial University of Newfoundland in the 1960s, Dr. Ennis completed a Ph.D. in marine biology at University of Liverpool in the early 1970s. He retired in 2005 following a 37-year research career with the Science Branch of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. His extensively published work has focused primarily on lobster fishery and population biology and on various aspects of larval, juvenile and adult lobster behavior and ecology in Newfoundland waters. Throughout his career, Dr. Ennis was heavily involved in the review and formulation of scientific advice for management of shellfish in Atlantic Canada as well as the advisory/consultative part of managing the Newfoundland lobster fishery.

Jerry will be the team's expert on Section B: Science & Stock Assessment Activities, and the Precautionary Approach. Jerry does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment and will be on-site during this assessment.

Team Member: Mr. Robert J Allain, Primary Responsibility for fisheries management

Mr. Allain is a graduate of Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia with undergraduate degrees in Commerce (Business Administration) and Science (Chemistry). In 1977, he joined the then Federal Department of Fisheries and Environment as a Fishery Officer (International Surveillance) and carried out inspections of foreign and domestic fishing vessels within and beyond Canada's EEZ. During his 32-year career with the now Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Mr. Allain served in a variety of fisheries management, strategic planning and policy positions in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, and at Departmental Headquarters in Ottawa. He served as a senior executive from 1991 to 2008.

Currently, he is the president of the consulting firm OceanIQ Management Services in Dieppe, New Brunswick. He is a Marine Stewardship Council-certified P3 assessor who has participated in approximately 25 assessments and surveillance audits in Canada and the U.S. in respect of demersal, pelagic, invertebrate and crustacean fisheries. He is also fully conversant with the Alaska Responsible Fisheries Management (AK RFM) model through his participation as a technical expert to the Fisheries Standard Committee that developed the certification scheme.

Mr. Allain will be the team's expert on Sections A The Fisheries Management System, D Management Measures, and o Sections E: Implementation, Monitoring and Control of the relevant Standard. He does not have any conflicts of interest in relation to the fishery under assessment and will be on-site during this assessment