

# GSA RFVS Transition Program

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## RFVS Development Program: Key Updates

- Revised Core Elements and Unit of Certification: **Completed**
  - Vessel Management System and Vessel Safety
  - Crew Rights, Safety and Wellbeing
  - Vessel owner and Vessel or Central Organization and Member Vessel
- More Defined Vessel Categories: **Agreed**
  - Single handed vessels exclusively worked by an owner
  - Crewed vessel at sea for less than 24 hours and Single-handed vessels operated by an employed skipper
  - Crewed vessels at sea for 24-71 hours
  - Crewed vessels at sea for 72 hours -30 Days
  - Crewed vessels at sea for more than 30 days
- New Audit Approach: **In Testing**
  - Prerequisite -**Eligibility Criteria** - Developed
  - Essential Clause Requirements- Agreed
  - Supplementary Clause Requirements- Agreed
  - Group/Fleet and/or Single Applicant Certification Models- Process Developed
  - Annual Surveillance Using Country/Region and Audit Risk Assessment- Developed
  - Social Auditor Competencies- APSCA- Agreed

## **Eligibility Criteria**

**Any single commercially licensed fishing vessel or fleet of vessels which:**

Operate legally within a legal fishery that they are entitled to fish;

Comply with the fishing vessel registration and licensing requirements of the flag State to which it is registered

Comply with the regulatory controls of the country or RFMO which controls the fishery, if operating in fisheries under the jurisdiction of countries where they are not registered;

If operated by a lone fisher, does not remain continually at sea for more than 24 hours without breaks from fishing activities

Comply with the legal requirements for vessel and crew safety for the fishery they fish in;

Do not use illegitimate methods of harvesting and predator control as defined within the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries;

Meet or exceed the human rights requirements of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Do not use forced labor, persons under 16 years old or prisoners as crew;

**RFVS: Pilots to Test and Refine Certification Model**



## **Agreed RFS to RFVS Transition of Certificates Plan**

- Where members had RFS certificates expiring before October 2020 all of their certificates have been extended until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020.
- All RFS members will be contacted by Seafish to advise of transition of ownership to GSA and also invited to formally “engage” with RFVS.
- Provided engaged (and where necessary) RFS certificates may be further extended to allow for assessment against RFVS once open for application once Certification Model finalized.
- No engagement no extension.



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- RFV Standard document
- Application materials
- RFVS certified vessel registry
- List of supporting endorsers and partners

## **Standard Oversight Committee**

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The GSA Standards Oversight Committee (SOC) will be comprised of members with broad stakeholder representation with the goal of one-fourth conservation, one-fourth academia, one-fourth industry and one-fourth production (harvesters).

### **GSA SOC Chair: Melanie Siggs**

#### **Current GSA SOC Members**

Prof David Foscett - Retired: London School of Hospitality and Tourism at the University of West London (Academia)

Nigel Edwards - Hilton Foods (Industry)

Mike Park - Scottish White Fish Producers Association (Harvester)

Estelle Brennan - Lyons Seafood (Industry)

Toby Middleton - MSC (Conservation)

Nick Kightley - Ethical Trade Initiative (Conservation)

Dick Jones - Ocean Outcomes (Conservation)

*Still seeking Harvester representation from the U.S.*



## RFVS Part of Best Fishery Practices

We work ABOVE the surface ensuring responsible fisheries practices through the entire supply chain.



Thank You

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