

MARINE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Policy Advisory

Policy Advisory 3: Content of the Public Comment Draft Report
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Documents Supplemented or Modified by this Advisory

MSC Scheme Document	Status Change
Policy Advisory 3 v1	Superseded

Background

The instructions contained in this advisory provide supporting guidance and interpretation relating to the Fisheries Certification Methodology (v6), and are considered particularly important for ensuring the transparency and credibility of the MSC programme.

MSC has requested that ASI interpret these instructions as 'Tier 3' documents as defined in FCM v6 (p7), and expects that CBs will implement these instructions as required by the FCM guidance on such documents.

Guidance to CBs

1. The intent of the Public Comment Draft Report is to allow open and transparent stakeholder input on all aspects of what will be contained within the final Public Certification Report. MSC therefore clarifies that the Public Comment Draft Report shall contain all of the contents defined in Appendix 1 of the Fisheries Certification Methodology with the obvious exception of 5.5 Stakeholder comments on the draft report and 5.6 Objections process.
2. Of particular importance is section 5.3 of the Report as defined in Appendix 1 of the FCM. FCM steps 3.4.7 to 3.4.10 set out the requirements for the CB to seek a detailed agreement from the client on addressing conditions and the need to consult with relevant entities before the Public Comment Draft Report stage. To allow transparent stakeholder review, MSC requires that the draft actions proposed by the client to address any conditions are fully documented in section 5.3 of the Public Comment Draft Report. As with the rest of the report, the proposed client actions shall be subject to revisions based on the stakeholder consultation process.

ENDS