

15 June 2009

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Marine Stewardship Council  
6-20 Elizabeth Street  
London SW1W 9RB  
UK

SUBJECT: Pacific hake mid-water trawl fishery objection

On 9 June 2009, in my capacity as Independent Adjudicator, I received a notice of objection to the determination by TAVEL Certification Inc. relating to the proposed certification of the U.S. and Canada Pacific hake fishery. The notice of objection has been submitted jointly by Oceana and the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

After reviewing the notice of objection, I have come to the conclusion that it satisfies the requirements of the revised MSC Objection Procedures and I have therefore decided to accept the notice of objection as valid.

In accordance with paragraph 4.4.5 of the Objection Procedure, the purpose of this letter is therefore to notify the certification body, the subject fishery and the objectors of the formal acceptance of the notice of objection and to advise all parties that I have requested the MSC Executive to post the notice on the MSC website as from 15 June 2009 (which date shall be the "date of publication" for the purposes of the Objections Procedure).

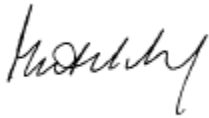
I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that, under the Objections Procedure, the next steps are as follows:

4.5.6. The subject fishery or any other stakeholder that participated in the fishery assessment process, may, within 15 days of the date of publication, submit written representations on the matters raised in the notice of objection. All such written representations shall be submitted through the Independent Adjudicator and shall be posted on the MSC website.

4.6.1. Where a notice of objection has been accepted, the certification body shall be required to reconsider its Final Report and Determination in light of the matters raised in the notice of objection. The certification body shall, within 20 days of the date of publication, provide a written response to the notice of objection. The response shall provide appropriate information indicating the extent to which the matters set forth in the notice of objection were considered in the fishery assessment and the impact thereof on the Determination. In formulating its response, the certification body shall also take into account any written representations received in accordance with Section 4.5.6. The certification body shall also indicate and give reasons for any proposed amendments to its Final Report and Determination in the light of the reconsideration.

For reasons of administrative convenience, correspondence to me, as well as all formal notices and submissions under the Objections Procedure, should be addressed to me at the following email address [hakeobjections@msc.org](mailto:hakeobjections@msc.org) for immediate forwarding to me. Please note however that, whilst MSC has kindly agreed to provide secretarial support to me, including receiving and transmitting correspondence on my behalf, I remain independent of the MSC Executive.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Lodge". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Lodge

Independent Adjudicator