

June 2023

We are catching our breath over here at SFP, after a busy “events season” that saw us increasing our presence and activities at both [Seafood Expo North America](#) in Boston and [Seafood Expo Global](#) in Barcelona. Read on for the latest on our activities and the world of sustainable seafood.

*Jim Cannon
Chief Executive Officer*



U.S. Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery enters certification process: Culmination of 15 years of fishery improvement work

The American Shrimp Processors Association [has entered the U.S. Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery into sustainability assessments](#) under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and Certified Seafood Collaborative (CSC) Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) certification programs. This step demonstrates concrete progress in resolving challenges in the fishery, including high rates of bycatch and interaction with seafloor habitat, that began 15 years ago with fishery improvement projects (FIPs) initiated by SFP.



Beginning in 2014, SFP initiated transition of state-specific FIPs to industry leadership. SFP now facilitates the [U.S. Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Supply Chain Roundtable](#), to bring together leading shrimp processors and distributors in a pre-competitive environment to address overarching issues in the Gulf of Mexico.

[Learn more](#)

Peru empowers small-scale fishers by enabling fisher registration for cooperatives

The government of Peru [issued an historic decree to enable fisher registration by cooperatives](#) in the mahi-mahi and jumbo flying squid fisheries, two of the most globally significant artisanal fisheries in the world. This decree removes the barriers for more than 900 artisanal vessels in major fisher organizations to be able to operate legally in Peruvian waters.



[Learn more](#)

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2022 Reduction Report shows ups and downs in performance of key fisheries

The 13th edition of our [Reduction Fisheries Management and Stock Status Sustainability Review](#) highlights both good and bad news for reduction fisheries compared to 2021. The majority of fisheries assessed continue to be reasonably well-managed or better, but concerns remain that overall performance has been stalled since 2018. Part 2 of the report was released in April, while [Part 1](#) was released in October.



[Read Part I](#)

[Read Part II](#)

Five years of FishSource Aquaculture profiles demonstrate improvements in management



To mark the fifth anniversary of the FishSource Aquaculture profiles, SFP Aquaculture Information Manager Paul Bulcock [reviewed changes to the profile scores](#) to see where improvements are being made in major aquaculture-producing regions.

[Read Paul's blog](#)

Blake Lee-Harwood leaves SFP

Blake Lee-Harwood stepped down from his position as chief programs officer of SFP on May 31, to set up a new consultancy specializing in policy, communications, and advocacy for sustainable seafood, with a focus on environment and climate change. During his more than 10 years at SFP, Lee-Harwood served in a variety of senior management positions. In recent years, he pioneered a new approach to mitigating the impacts of the seafood industry on marine biodiversity through audits to identify the risks of bycatch in seafood supply chains, and developed new work streams around small-scale fisher registration.



“We are grateful to Blake for his substantial contributions to SFP over the past decade,” said Jean-Louis Meruic, chair of the SFP Board of Directors. “We will miss his energy and creativity, and wish him well with his new projects.”

New webpages highlight SFP initiatives

We have several new pages on the SFP website highlighting some of our recent work, including a deeper dive into our collaboration

with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization on [universal fishery IDs](#), and a focus on our work related to [co-management](#) and [legal fishing rights](#) for small-scale and artisanal fishers.



[Visit sustainablefish.org](#)

Thai Union is inaugural signer of Protecting Ocean Wildlife Pledge

Thai Union's Group Director for Sustainability Adam Brennan signed SFP's new [Protecting Ocean Wildlife Pledge](#) at Seafood Expo Global. As the first company to sign the Pledge, Thai Union commits to reduce bycatch of vulnerable marine wildlife in commercial fisheries.



[Protecting Ocean Wildlife Pledge](#)

Bycatch Solutions Hub is open for business

SFP and Purina Europe officially launched the new [Bycatch Solutions Hub](#) at Seafood Expo Global. The Hub is a web-based platform connecting retailers and businesses that want to financially support projects to reduce ocean wildlife bycatch with organizations capable of implementing in-the-water solutions.



[Visit the Bycatch Solutions Hub](#)

SFP and Aquaculture Stewardship Council join forces to enhance aquaculture production

SFP Chief Executive Officer Jim Cannon and [Aquaculture Stewardship Council](#) Chief Executive Officer Chris Ninnnes signed an agreement to collaborate on sustainable aquaculture production and practices around the world, beginning with a focus on

enhancing the scope and reach of aquaculture improvement projects (AIPs).



Mauritania octopus fishery stakeholders commit to fishery improvements

Stakeholders from the Mauritanian octopus fishery signed an MoU to establish a fishery improvement project (FIP) in the fishery. In the coming months, the stakeholders will meet to define a workplan and activate the FIP as soon as possible. SFP's [Global Octopus Supply Chain Roundtable](#) has been supporting the process of developing the new FIP.



[Learn more about the Global Octopus SR](#)

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