

Aquaculture Stewardship Council

Farmed Fish and Seafood



Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certification demonstrates that farmed fish management is environmentally and socially responsible. Earning the ASC ecolabel assures buyers that your operation meets the world's leading standard for sustainable farm-raised seafood.

Obtaining certification from SCS demonstrates your commitment to the most responsible practices in the industry and minimizes impacts on marine and freshwater ecosystems.

Benefits of Sustainable Aquaculture Certification

Demand for sustainable seafood is increasing rapidly, which has motivated many retailers to require their suppliers to earn a trusted, third-party certificate. ASC certification can help you:

- Earn greater market share
- Gain access to new markets
- Meet market demand for certified and sustainable products
- Earn price premiums
- Manage resources to support long-term industry sustainability
- Distinguish your brand in a crowded field
- Steward a healthy and profitable resource for your children and grandchildren

Choose SCS Global Services

SCS has three decades of experience certifying environmental, social, health and safety claims, and is recognized worldwide for integrity, scientific rigor and true independence.

Expertise in the ASC standards. SCS participated in steering committees that developed the abalone, shrimp and freshwater trout standards. We also participate on the ASC's technical advisory board.

Personalized Attention. SCS offers one-on-one personalized service tailored to meet your needs.

Bundling Audits. SCS is accredited to perform GFSI-level food safety audits and a range of other related services.

Exceptional Value. SCS provides efficient audits at competitive prices.

Experienced. Our staff includes scientists experienced in the evaluation of molluscs, crustaceans and finfish aquaculture. Since 2000, we have certified fisheries around the globe, including finfish and crustaceans operations, ranging in size from small operations in developing countries to large industrial fisheries.



ASC Certification Process

Download Standard

- 1 Download the standards document from ASC Aquaculture Dialogue website: www.asc-aqua.org

Optional Pre-Assessment

- 2 Contact SCS for an optional pre-assessment. You will get a report that benchmarks your operation against existing standards, which will give you clear understanding of any reforms needed and support tools.

Audit Farms

- 3 SCS will conduct full farm assessments.

Report and Certification Decision

- 4 Our certification team will write a draft report, then issue a final report that includes the certification decision and any outstanding conditions of non-conformity that must be addressed. Upon certification, the farm is eligible to use the ASC and SCS Kingfisher ecolabels. The farm will receive a certificate from SCS for their business and marketing use.

Renewal

- 5 Certification is valid for a period of three years. The farm can then use the ASC ecolabel and will receive their ASC certificate from SCS Global Services. Surveillance audits will be required annually to ensure continued compliance.

About the ASC

The ASC was founded by the World Wildlife Fund and the Dutch Sustainable Trade Initiative. The standards are being developed through a global, multi-year stakeholder engagement process which will help create the most transparent certification in the market, encouraging stakeholder participation and providing public audit reports, available via the ASC website (with content modified to exclude issues bearing on competitive advantage).

Major players in the aquaculture industry have publicly supported the development of the ASC.



For more information contact:

Seafood Certification Team

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Start your certification journey with SCS today!