Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0 Transition Policy

Fair Trade USA®
Version 1.0.0

Purpose

Fair Trade USA has updated its Capture Fisheries Standard that applies to all wild caught fisheries to sell Fair Trade Certified™ products. The purpose of this document is to outline the policy for transition from the Fair Trade USA Capture Fisheries Standard 1.1.0, to the new Capture Fisheries Standard version 2.0.0.

Scope and Applicability

This policy applies to all existing Certificate Holders and all applicants to be certified under the Capture Fisheries Standard (CFS) 2.0.0.

On January 1st, 2022, the CFS 2.0.0 becomes effective, after this date, the previous version of the Standard (CFS 1.1.0) becomes obsolete. All audits carried out between May 28th, 2021 and December 31st, 2021 will be against the CFS 1.1.0. All audits carried out after January 1st, 2022 will be against CFS 2.0.0.

For clarification on this policy, please contact Fair Trade USA’s Certification team at certification@fairtradeusa.org.

Related Documents

- Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0
- Requirements for Certificate Scope under the Capture Fisheries Standard
- Summary of Changes to the Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0
- Seafood Assurance Manual

1. Existing Certificate Holders

1.1. All audits will be conducted against the full requirements of the Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0 beginning on its effective date of January 1st, 2022.

1.2. Normal audit cycle requirements will apply for all audits after the publication of CFS. For example, any Certificate Holders on their Year 3 audit must comply with Year 3 requirements of the applicable CFS.
1.3. A transition period of one year from publication of the standard, May 28th, 2021 to May 28th, 2022, will be allowed for all criteria which represent “new” requirements¹.

1.3.1. For audits taking place after January 1st, 2022, flexibility is provided for any non-compliances (NCs) raised on “new” requirements. For these NCs, if the CAP due date falls before May 28th, a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) will be required, which describes the actions planned to be implemented in order to become compliant by May 28th, 2022. For NCs not categorized as “new”, the CAPs shall be implemented according to the normal process.

1.3.2. For audits conducted after May 28th, 2022, no requirement is considered “new” anymore and the normal CAP process applies.

2. New Certificate Holders

2.1. All audits will be conducted against the full requirements of the Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0 beginning on its effective date of January 1st, 2022.

2.2. For audits conducted after January 1st, 2022, no requirement is considered “new”.

2.3. Audits taking place after May 28th, 2021 and before the effective date on January 1st, 2022 are conducted against the CFS 1.1.0.

3. Capture Fisheries Standard Timeline Overview

¹ “New” requirements are those criteria which did not exist in the CFS 1.1.0, and criteria which underwent a significant modification through the revision. “New” requirements will be determined by Fair Trade USA based on the previous version of the CFS. Please refer to the Summary of Changes to the Capture Fisheries Standard 2.0.0 available on the revision website.