



November 18, 2019

Shaun McLennan
Fisheries Assessment Manager
Marine Stewardship Council

Dr. Rohan Currey
Fisheries Standard Director
Marine Stewardship Council

Dear Mr. McLennan and Dr. Currey,

Re: Investors support for the inclusion of ghost gear in Marine Stewardship Council's (MSC) sustainable fisheries standards

We, the undersigned investors, are writing to encourage MSC to strengthen its fisheries standard as it pertains to abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear ('ALDFG', 'ghost gear' or 'derelict gear').

Ghost gear is an important oceans, fisheries and marine resource sustainability issue. It is a significant contributor to a marine debris and plastics issue of enormous proportions that must be addressed to help protect ocean life and secure the future of oceans as a productive and sustainable global food resource. We recognize that these problems are not fishery-specific, and that their scope of impact can be expected to contribute to cumulative impacts at regional and global scales.

We believe the inclusion of ghost gear in your certification standards is necessary to ensure that MSC's program is highly relevant to fundamental environmental, food security and safety needs, given that many commercial seafood partners rely on MSC as a 'one stop assurance' program for their sustainable procurement policies.

Should you require further information on this letter, please contact Ingrid Giskes (Director, Global Ghost Gear Initiative) at ingridgiskes@ghostgear.org.

Yours sincerely,



Achmea Investment Management

