The Responsible Fishing Vessel Standard (RFVS) Development Process

Key Milestones

2018

Consultation Phase 1

Revised Terms of Reference developed by Oversight Board (OB) and approved by Seafish and Global Seafood Assurances (GSA) Boards.

2019

Phase 1 Develop Standard Criteria

Standard content developed by Technical Working Groups (TWG). New name, the Responsible Fishing Vessel Standard (RFVS), proposed to better reflect the scope of the Standard.

Proposed scope, structure and name approved by OB.

On-Vessel Testing Phase 1: Initial UK Vessel Pilots.
Draft Standard Criteria presented to OB for approval.

**Consultation Phase 2**
- 60-day RFVS Public Consultation.
- TWG reviews and finalises proposed Standard Criteria.

**On-Vessel Testing Phase 2**
- Further UK Vessel Consultation Pilots and Initial International Vessel Consultation Pilots to test auditability of proposed Standard Criteria.

Final proposed Standard Criteria presented to OB for approval.
- Agree proposed RFVS Certification Model for testing.
Phase 3
Finalise Certification Model and Complete Transition

Formal approval of the Standard Criteria by the Seafish and GSA Boards.
Establish auditor capacity for Certification Pilots.

RFVS released.

Certification Model finalised and signed off by OB and Seafish and GSA Boards.

Vessel Certification Pilots
UK and International Vessel Certification Pilots to finalise the Certification Model and inform the development of support documentation.

Standard ownership transitions to GSA by May 2020.

The RFVS becomes effective and opens for applications.

Ongoing activities include:
- Provision of support to current RFS members to facilitate member transition to the RFVS.
- Continuous development of support documents and auditor training to ensure adequate capacity is established.