ASC（Aqu

Certificate Holder:

Scope of Assessment:

Certificate Code:

Certificate issue date:

Certificate expiry date:

aculture Stewardship Council）
Farm Certifiation
Audit Report

Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative
Shizugawa Branch

Oyster farms in Togura Area in Minamisanriku Town,
Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan

ASC-AMITA-F-1001

30th March 2019

29th March 2022

Form 3 - Public Disclosure Form

This form shall be submitted by the CAB no less than thirty (30) working days prior to any onsite audit. Any changes to this information shall be submitted to the ASC within five (5) days of the change and not later than 10 days before the planned audit. If later, a new announcement is submitted and another 30 days rule will apply.

The information on this form shall be public and should be posted on the ASC website within three (3) days of submission (except unannounced audits).
This form shall be written to be readable to the stakeholders and other interested parties.

This form should be translated into local languages when appropriate

PDF 1 Public Disclosure Form

PDF 1.1 Name of CAB	AMITA Corporation
PDF 1.2 Date of Submission	27th December 2019
PDF 1.3 CAB Contact Person	
PDF 1.3.1 Name of Contact Person	Hitofumi Yamanoshita
PDF 1.3.2 Position in the CAB's organisation	Scheme manager

PDF 1.3.3 Mailing address	3-2-4 Kudankita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-0073 Japan

PDF 1.3.4	Email address	ninsho@amita-net.co.jp
PDF 1.3.5	Phone number	+81-3-5215-8326
PDF 1.3.6	Other	-

PDF 1.4 ASC Name of Client

PDF 1.4.1	Name of the Client	Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative, Shizugawa Branch
PDF 1.4.1.a	Name of the unit of certification	Togura Fishery Area
PDF 1.4.2	Name of Contact Person	Mr. Fujio Abe
PDF 1.4.3	Position in the client's organisation	Manager of Shizugawa Branch, Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative
PDF 1.4.4	Mailing address	1 Tsunomiya, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi, 986-0781
PDF 1.4.5	Email address	fujio.a@jf-miyagi.com
PFD 1.4.6	Phone number	+81-226-46-9211
PDF 1.4.7	Other	-

PDF 1.5 Unit of Certification

PDF 1.5.1	Single Site	
PDF 1.5.2	Multi-site	x
PDF 1.5.2.a	Ownership status	
PDF 1.5.3	Group certification	

PDF 1.6 Sites to be audited

Site Name	GPS Coordinates	List all species per site and indicate if they are in the scope of the standard	Ownership status (owned/ subcontracted)	Date of planned audit and type of audit (Initial, SA1, SA2, recertification, etc.)	Status (new, in production/ fallowing /in harvest)
Demarcated Fishery Right No.1526 located in Togura fishery area	38° 39.16' N, 141° 26.82' E 38° 39.27' N, 141° 27.64' E 38° 39.03' N, 141° 27.74' E 38° 38.74' N, 141° 27.43' E 38° 38.76' N, 141° 27.08' E 38° 38.63' N, 141° 27.06' E 38° 38.63' N, 141° 26.72' E 38° 38.75' N, 141° 26.62' E	Crassostrea gigas, included	owned	19th Feb 2020 S1	in production/ in harvest
Demarcated Fishery Right No.1528 located in Togura fishery area	38° 39.16' N, 141° 27.80' E 38° 39.29' N, 141° 28.67' E 38° 38.89' N, 141° 28.70' E 38° 39.04' N, 141° 27.85' E	Crassostrea gigas, included	owned	19th Feb 2020 S1	in production/ in harvest

Demarcated Fishery Right No.1530 located in Togura fishery area	38° 39.40' N, 141° 28.74' E 38° 39.42' N, 141° 28.98' E 38° 39.40' N, 141° 29.46' E 38° 39.24' N, 141° 29.46' E 38° 39.25' N, 141° 29.16' E 38° 38.96' N, 141° 29.10' E 38° 39.01' N, 141° 28.82' E	Crassostrea gigas, included	owned	19th Feb 2020 S1	in production/ in harvest
Demarcated Fishery Right No.1534 located in Togura fishery area	38° 39.29' N, 141° 30.02' E 38° 39.25' N, 141° 30.20' E 38° 39.08' N, 141° 30.16' E 38° 38.81' N, 141° 30.18' E 38° 39.00' N, 141° 29.54' E	Crassostrea gigas, included	owned	19th Feb 2020 S1	in production/ in harvest)
Demarcated Fishery Right No.1535 located in Togura fishery area	38° 39.61' N, 141° 30.08' E 38° 39.63' N, 141° 30.29' E 38° 39.75' N, 141° 31.07' E 38° 39.46' N, 141° 31.07' E 38° 39.45' N, 141° 30.25' E 38° 39.49' N, 141° 30.09' E	Crassostrea gigas, included	owned	19th Feb 2020 S1	in production/ in harvest

PDF 1.7 Species and Standards

Standard	Species (scientific name) produced	Included in scope (Yes/No)	ASC endorsed standard to be used	Version Number
Abalone				
Bivalve	Crassostrea gigas	Yes	ASC Bivalve Standard	1.1
Freshwater Trout				
Pangasius				
Salmon				
Shrimp				
Talapia				
Seriola/Cobia				
Other				

PDF 1.8 Planned Stakeholder Consultation(s) and How Stakeholders can Become Involved

Name/organisation	Relevance for this audit	How to involve this stakeholder (in-person/phone interview/input submission)	When stakeholder may be contacted	How this stakeholder will be contacted
Names are closed due to privacy	Suppliers	in-person	19th Feb 2020 S1	in-person
	Staff	in-person	19th Feb 2020 S1	in-person
	Local people	in-person	19th Feb 2020 S1	in-person
	Local authorities	in-person	19th Feb 2020 S1	in-person

PDF 1.9 Proposed Timeline

PDF 1.9.1	Contract Signed:	19th October 2015
PDF 1.9.2	Start of audit:	19th February 2020
PDF 1.9.3	Onsite Audit(s):	19th February 2020
PDF 1.9.4	Determination/Decision:	31st March 2020

PDF 1.10 Audit Team

Column1	Name	ASC Registration

PDF 1.10.1	Lead Auditor	Naoya Ogawa
PDF 1.10.2	Auditor Support	Wataru Koketsu
PDF 1.10.3	Auditor Support	Chiko Tsukazaki

ASC Audit Report - Opening

General Requirements

C1 Audit reports shall be written in English and in the most common language spoken in the areas where the operation is located.

C2 Audit reports may contain confidential annexes for commercially sensitive information.

C2.1 The CAB shall agree the content of any commercially sensitive information with the applicant, which can still be accessible by the ASC and the appointed accreditation body upon request as stipulated in the certification contract.

C2.2 The public report shall contain a clear overview of the items which are in the confidential annexes.

C2.3 Except for the annexes that contain commercially sensitive information all audit reports will be public.

C3 The CAB is solely responsible for the content of all reports, including the content of any confidential annexes.

C4 Reporting Deadlines for certification and re-certification audit reports (in working day)

C4.1 Within thirty (30) days of the completing of the audit the CAB shall submit a draft report in English and the national or most common language spoken in the area where the operation is located.

C4.2 Within five (5) days the ASC should post the draft report to the ASC website.

C4.3 The CAB shall allow stakeholders and interested parties to comment on the report for fifteen (15) days.

C4.4 Within twenty (20) days of the close of comments, the CAB shall submit the final report to the ASC in English and the national or most common language spoken in the area where the operation is located.

C4.5 Within five (5) days the ASC should post the final report to the ASC website.

C4.6 Audit reports shall contain accurate and reproducable results.

C5 Reporting Deadlines* for surveillance audit reports

C5.1 Within ninety (90) days of the completing of the audit the CAB shall submit a final report in English and the national or most common language spoken in the area where the operation is located.

C5.2 Within five (5) days the ASC should post the final report to the ASC website.

C5.3 Audit reports shall contain accurate and reproducable results.

1 Title Page

1.1 Name of Applicant	Miyagi Prefecture Fiheries Cooperative, Shizugawa Branch

1.2	Report Title [e.g. Public Draft Certification Report/ Final certification report/Surveillance report]	Public Draft Certification Report
1.3	CAB name	AMITA Corporation
1.4	Name of Lead Auditor	Naoya Ogawa
1.5	Names and positions of report authors and reviewers	Report author - Naoya Ogawa, AMITA Corporation Report reviewer - Hitofumi Yamanoshita, AMITA Corporation
1.6	Client's Contact person: Name and Title	Mr. Fujio Abe, Manager of Shizugawa Branch, Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative
1.7	Date	24th June 2020

2 Table of Contents

3 Glossary

Terms and abbreviations that are specific to this audit report and that are not otherwise defined in the ASC glossary	None

4 Summary

A concise summary of the report and findings. The summary shall be written to be readable to the stakeholders and other interested parties.

4.1	A brief description of the scope of the audit (*including activities of the UoC being audited*)	The scope of the audit is oyster farms in Togura area of Minamisanriku Town, Miyagi Prefecture.
4.2	A brief description of the operations of the unit of certification	The farms are operated by 34 families. All of them are individual family business, and they are not common ownership, but they manage their farms under the common rules by Miyagi Prefecture Fiheries Cooperative, Shizugawa Branch. Some of them may ask part-time work of oyster peeling for relatives and/or acquaintances occasionally. The Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative is a cooperative of these farmers.
4.3	Type of unit of certification (*select only one type of unit of certification in the list)*	Muti-site (*option 1 - owned*)
4.4	Type of audit (*select all the types of audit that apply in the list)*	SA1

4.4.1 Number of sites included in the unit of certification

	Owned by client	Subcontracted by client
Initial audit - 02/2019	5	
Surveillance audit 1 - 02/ 2020	5	
Surveillance audit 2 -		
Recertification audit -		

4.5	A summary of the major findings	One Major non-conformity, three Minor non-conformity and one observation were pointed out. After audit, evidence of corrective action was submitted and the major nonconformity was closed.
4.6	The Audit determination	Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative, Shizugawa Branch is continually granted for the ASC bivalves certification for Crassostrea gigas.

5 CAB Contact Information

5.1	CAB Name	AMITA Corporation
5.2	CAB Mailing Address	3-2-4 Kudankita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-0073 Japan
5.3	Email Address	ninsho@amita-net.co.jp
5.4	Other Contact Information	Tel: +81-3-5215-8326

6 Background on the Applicant

6.1 Information on the Public Disclosure Form (Form 3) except 1.2-1.3. All information updated as necessary to reflect the audit as conducted.	See Public Desclosure Form
6.2 A description of the unit of certification (*for intial audit)* / changes, if any (*for surveillance and recertification audits)*	Minamisanriku Town is located at North-East of Miyagi Prefecture. The town stretches 18km from east to west and 18km from north to south and the total area of the town is 163.74km. The town is facing the Pacific Ocean on its east side and other sides are surrounded by mountains of 300m to 500m. All boundaries of the town are dividing ridges. All rivers in town runs into Shizugawa Bay so the town is located in one river basin where a rich nature of sea and mountain are integrating. Coastal area shows rich and unique features of ria coast so that the coastal area is designated as a National Park (named Sanriku Fukko National Park). Since the town is located on the Pacific coast, due to the ocean current, the climate is comparatively warm in Miyagi Prefecture. The town is cool is summer and warm in winter with only a little snow. With its rich nature, Marine Products Industry and Forestry have been main industries in Minamisanriku Town. Especially coastal areas have been one of the greatest aquacultural farms in Japan. In Shizugawa Bay, aquaculture of Seaweed (Pyropia spp.) oyster, Ascidiacea (Halocynthia spp.) have been traditionally aquacultured. Silver salmon aquaculture has started after 1975. In recent years, scallop aquaculture has been popular. Aquaculture of oyster in Miyagi Prefecture has a long history. The beginning is said to be about 300 years ago. In 1899, fisheries experiment station of Miyagi Prefecture was established to research the methodologies for aquacultures. During 1930s, "Raft culture" method was developed which enabled oyster aquaculture in deep Shizugawa bay. In 1952, "Longline suspended-culture" method was developed which exponentially promoted offshore aquaculture. One important aspect of history of Minamisanriku Town is the damages caused by earthquakes and subsequent Tsunami and the town's recovery from the damage. The town was heavily affected by the Tsunami due to its geological characteristics. There are historical records of damages by Tsunami in the town. Old records are from Heian Era (9th to 12th centuries). Recent records are from 1896 and 1933 when Sanriku Tsunami hit the town and from 1960 when Tsunami reached the town from Chile earthquake. The history of the town cannot be spoken without mentionning its destructive dameges from Tsunami and its recoveries. And then on 11th March 2011, there was the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent Tsunami of 20m in height. Minamisanriku Police reported that 566 people died and 212 are still not found. Almost all low land along coast was destroyed. Aquacultural facilities too were totally destroyed. So people had to recover everything from zero. Within Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Association Shizugawa Branch Togura Area Oyster Subcommittee, family-run aquaculture has been conventionally organised. Each farmer are allocated a certain sea surface and each farmer manages his/her own farm. Fisheries Cooperative Association functions as a coodinator. Each farmer is a family business without any employees. Before the Great East Japan Earthquake, farmers established farms competitively and so the farms were so packed that it was not easy to access by boats. As a consequence, poor development of oysters due to too-dense farming was observed. After the Earthquake, the Association made use of a subsidy of state govenment named "Support program of hard-working aquaculture" and managed farms as one cooperative management body rather than individual managers for approximately 3 years (from February 2012 to March 2015). During this period, number of farms were reduced dramatically so that there are much more spaces between farms now which aimed at improving the growing environmental quality which will lead to better quality of oyseters. The program ended in March 2015. After this program, the management structure returned to its original structure where each family manages their own farm. However, the system developed during the 3-year-period of the program has been retained. There is no change to the unit of certification at this SA1 audit.

6.3	Other certifications currently held by the unit of certification	None
6.4	Other certification(s) obtained by the UoC before this audit	None
6.5	Estimated annual production volumes of the unit of certification of the current year	130,000 kg (without shell)
6.6	Actual annual production volumes of the unit of certification of the previous year *(mandatory for surveillance and recertification*	Oyster wituout shell: 127,456kg Oyster with shell: 32,615kg (April 2018 - March 2019)
6.7	Production system(s) employed within the unit of certification *(select one or more in the list)*	raft
6.8	Number of employees working at the unit of certification (*see notes in comment to this cell*)	0
6.9	Size, and/or number of ponds, pens (if multi site, per site)	303 rafts in total (75 rafts in avarage per site）

7 Scope

7.1	The Standard(s) against which the audit was conducted, including version number	ASC Bivalve Standard Version 1.1 March 2019
7.2	The species produced at the applicant farm (*in English and Latin names)*	Oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*)

7.3	A description of the scope of the audit including a description of whether the unit of certification covers all production or harvest areas (i.e. ponds) managed by the operation or located at the included sites, or whether only a sub-set of these are included in the unit of certification. If only a sub-set of production or harvest areas are included in the unit of certification these shall be clearly named.	The scope of the audit is oyster farms located in the southern half of Shizugawa bay. All farmers of Togura area, Minamisanriku Town are included in the scope of the certificate. Northern half of Shizugawa bay is used by farmers of Shizaugawa area and is out of the scope.
7.4	The names and addresses of any storage, processing, or distribution sites included in the operation (including subcontracted operations) that will potentially be handling certified products, up until the point where product enters further chain of custody.	Tsunomiya Oyster Processing Plant - 106 Hara, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Hadenya Oyster Processing Plant - 197-1 Togura, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Goto Kaisan (Mr. Kiyohiro Goto) - 9-2 Wakamiya, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Marutoku Oyster Procesing Plant (Mr. Tokuji Abe) - 163-1 Fujihama, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Choshimizu Oyster Procesing Plant (Mr. Makoto Sasaki) - 40 Choshimizu, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi Asahigaura Suisan (Mr. Chizuo Goto) - 8-3 Togura, Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi
7.5	Description of the receiving water body(ies).	Southern half of Shizugawa bay

8 Audit Plan

8.1 The names of the auditors and the dates when each of the following were undertaken or completed: conducting the audit, writing of the report, reviewing the report, and taking the certification decision.

Naoya Ogawa - Lead auditor
Wataru Koketsu - Auditor Support
Chiko Tsukazaki - Auditor Support

Conducting the Audit - 19th February 2020
Writing of the report - Completed on 3rd June 2020
Reviewing the report - Completed on 10th June 2020
Taking the certification decision - on 24th June 2020

8.2 Previous Audits (if applicable):

	NC reference number	Standard clause reference	Closing deadline - status - closing date of each NC
8.2.1 Initial audit - 03/2019	2019.1	2.3.1	n/a - open -
	2019.2	5.1.3	n/a - open
	2019.3	5.2.1	2020/2/19 - closed - 2020/2/19
	2019.4	7.3.1	2020/2/19 - closed - 2020/2/19
	2019.5	7.4.2	2020/2/19 - closed - 2020/5/19
Surveillance audit 1 - 02/ 2020			
Surveillance audit 2 -			
Recertification audit -			
Unannounced audit - mm/ yyyy			
NC close-out audit - mm/ yyyyy			
Scope extention audit mm/ yyyy			

8.3 Audit plan as implemented including:

		Dates	Locations
8.3.1	Desk Reviews	01/02/2020	-
8.3.2	Onsite audits	19/02/2020	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Miyagi, Japan
8.3.3	Stakeholder interviews and Community meetings		
8.3.4	Draft report sent to client	06/06/2020	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Miyagi, Japan
8.3.5	Draft report sent to ASC	-	-
8.3.6	Final report sent to Client and ASC	02/07/2020	-

8.4 Names and affiliations of individuals consulted or otherwise involved in the audit including: representatives of the client, employees, contractors, stakeholders and any observers that participated in the audit.

Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Association
Mr. Fujio Abe, Economic Business Department Kesennuma General Branch Shizugawa Branch Manager.
Mr. Shotarou Suto, Togura Subbranch, Shizugawa Branch
Mr. Kiyohiro Goto, Shizugawa Branch Steering Committee Togura sub-branch Oyster Subcommittee Manager.

Farmers
Mr. Abe Tokuji
Mr. Sasaki Makoto
Mr. Chizuo Goto

8.5 Stakeholder submissions, including written or other documented information and CAB written responses to each submission at different stages of the certification process (audit notification, during on-sitt audit, public comment period)

Name of stakeholder (if permission given to make name public)	Relevance to be contacted	Date of contact	CAB responded Yes/No	Brief summary of points Raised	Use of comment by CAB	Response sent to stakeholder

8.6	E5.1.i List of sites exempted from the scope of an initial audit and how they meet conditions in E5.1.i	None
8.6.1	E5.1.ii Justification for auditing site(s) meeting conditions under E5.1.i	None
8.7	E5.1.1.i List of sites removed after the initial audit	None
8.7.1	E5.2.2 Reason for the removal of sites from the certificate.	None
8.8	E5.4 Map of sites included in the unit of certification has been attached	See Annex

8.9	E5.5 Site(s) in fallowing period included in the audit (*only for surveillance and re-certification audits)*	None

AUDIT MANUAL - ASC BIVALVE STANDARD
Created by the Bivalve Aquaculture Dialogue (BAD)

Scope: The requirements of the ASC Bivalve Standard apply globally to all locations and scales of filter-feeding bivalve aquaculture production systems. Bivalve aquaculture is defined by this Dialogue as active husbandry of bivalve shellfish from seed to harvest within a defined area and with defined ownership of the shellfish being cultured.

PRINCIPLE 1. OBEY THE LAW AND COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS WHERE FARMING OPERATION IS LOCATED

1.1 Criteria: All applicable legal requirements and regulations where farming operation is located

		Compliance Criteria (Use as guidance for audit only)	Audit evidence 1. Write down all audit evidence for each compliance criterion (CC). Audit evidence (including evidence of conformity and nonconformity) should be recorded so that the audit can be repeated by a different audit team. 2. Replace explanitory text in the 'Audit Evidence' column as appropriate. 3. If you see any Compliance Criteria which is not listed below, please describe below.	Evaluation (Per indicator, select one category in the drop-down menu)	Description of NC Provide an explanation of the reason(s) for the classification of any NCs or non-applicability	Value/ Metric Provide values - if applicable for the respective Indicator
	Indicator: Evidence of compliance with all applicable legal requirements and regulations where the farming	a. Obtain copies of applicable land and water use laws.	Based on Fishery Act (last amended on 2nd December 2016), a demarcated fishery right is established. Act on the Protection of Fishery Resources (last amended on 18th September 2015) and Sustainable Aquaculture Production Assurance Act (last amended on 13th June 2014) are also applied. No breach to any of the law are reported. The client kept a file containing all the latest applicable laws. The client make a list of all the applicable laws together with the latest amendment dates. Certified copy of register of Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Association Shizugawa Branch, obtained on 25th January 2019 was confirmed. Land of Togura Sub-branch was owned by a person before but the owner was changed to Minamisanriku Town. Therefore a land lease agreement with Minamisanriku Town was made. Agreement on 1st April 2017 for two years. It has a contract until March 2019, but plans to apply for renewal one month before due date. The rent is paid to the town. The land of temporary stock yard of oystershells is owned by the town, and lease agreement on 1st April 2018 for three years was confirmed. Two Oyster Cooperative Processing Centres are owned by Miyagi Prefecture Northern Facilities Owner Fisheries Cooperative Association. There are possession licenses of fishery harbour land. Tsunomiya Cooperative Processing Centre (Primary Fishery harbour, under town's management): From 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2020. Hadenya Cooperative Processing Centre (Secondary Fishery harbour, under prefectural management): From 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2021. There is no inspection by the state or prefecture unless there is any issue reported. Until now, there has been no case of reporting any issue. When granting a fishery right, there is an inspection by advisory committee. When fishery rights are renewed, there is an instruction by Miyagi Sea Coordinating committee which is managed by the prefecture and public consultative meeting is held. Information is also published on website of the prefecture and via public relations magazine issued by the prefecture. Record of public consultative meeting held on 12th April 2018 and all participants were confirmed. There is a record of participating in a seminar of the Coordinating			
		b. Obtain original lease agreements or land titles on file.				
		c. Keep records of inspections for compliance with national and local laws and regulations (only if such inspections are legally required in the country of operation).				

1.1.1	and regulations where the farming operation is located (e.g., permits, licenses, evidence of lease, concessions and rights to land and/or water use) **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability**: All	d. Obtain all necessary permits relating to land and water use as required by local and national authorities.	committee held on 9th May 2018. License under a demarcated fishery right dated from 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2023 was confirmed. Licensed demarcated units for Oyster culture are numbered 1526, 1528, 1530, 1534 and 1535. Latitudes and longitudes are specified in the license. Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Association Main Office is preparing a map based on these coordinates. Related documents such as Fishing rights exercise rules and application for Fishing rights exercise rules are also confirmed. From July 2020, the title of president of the union will be changed to the title of union president.	Compliant		
		e. Provide a detailed map of the farm with at least 4 GPS coordinates to show that farm location in relation to national preservation areas.	All Fisheries Cooperative Association members signed an agreement (with Chairperson of Shizugawa Branch Steering Committee) to demonstrate their commitment not to be involved with any illegal activities. It is basically to follow the Violation sanctions provisions of Fishing rights exercise rules. Latitudes and longitudes are specified in the license under a demarcated fishery right. Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Association Main Office is preparing a map based on these coordinates. Auditors confirmed that coordinates in the map being prepared matches with the coordinates in the license. During the site visit, GPS was used to check the farms are located according to the map. Also confirmed a map of GPS coodinates of each raft. Most of the demarcated units for Oyster culture are located in a area classified as ordinary zones of Sanriku Fukko National Park. There is no restriction in relation to fishery in this category. A part of the demarcated units for Oyster culture are located in a area designated as wildlife preserve. Hunting and capturing of wildlife is prohibited here but no restriction to aquaculture. Adjacent island named Tsubaki Shima (Ao Shima) is designated as a special protection zone of National Park as well as Special Natural Monument titled ""Tsubaki Shima Tropical plant communities"". However, oyster aquaculture does not affect the island so that there is no restriction to fishery. Almost all of Shimizawa bay has been designated as a registered area of the Ramsar Convention, but there is no restriction on aquaculture. There is a map of Ramsar Convention scope of registration. It coincides with the designated place in the National Park.			
		f. If the farm is sited within a national preservation area or marine protected area, maintain documents to show that the farm's activities are consistent with legal requirements and regulations of the protected area.				
		g. Others, please describe				
PRINCIPLE 2. AVOID, REMEDY OR MITIGATE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HABITATS, BIODIVERSITY, AND ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES						
2.1 Criteria: Benthic effects for off-bottom and suspended-culture methods [1]						
		a. <u>If the farm site is a non-depositional area:</u> Ensure that monitoring via video or seabed imaging transects is conducted prior to the first audit and at least once every five years thereafter (Proceed to 2.2.)	At the time of the initial audit, since there was no institution that could carry out the survey method prescribed by ASC, they entrusted to EAC Corporation (a private company) to measure the concentration of total sulphide in dry mud, which is a general investigation method in Japan. It was confirmed that there was no significant difference between inside and outside the farm. After the first audit, the system that can measure sulphide by the method specified by ASC			

2.1.1	**Indicator:** Acceptable levels of total 'free' sulfides in surficial sediment (0-2 centimeters from the surface) measured beneath the farm in comparison to control sites[2] **Requirement:** ≤ 1500 µM, monitoring every five years is required, ≥ 1500 µM and ≤ 3000 µM, monitoring every year is required **Applicability:** Off-bottom and suspended methods over depositional substrate	b. <u>If the farm site is a depositional area of soft substrate:</u> An initial assessment of S concentration in sediments shall be conducted according to Appendix 1 & 2 of the Bivalve Standard. Direct measurement of S concentration may be replaced by an analysis of benthic community structure in areas where this biotic approach is preferred by the client or is already mandated by a regulatory body [3] (see 2.1.4.). The client shall present information detailing the sampling design used and results of the S assessment: - If S concentration is ≤ 1500 µM, monitoring shall be conducted every five years (Proceed to 2.2.). - If S concentration is ≥ 1500 µM and < 3000 µM, monitoring shall be conducted every year (Proceed to 2.2.). - If S concentration is ≥ 3000 µM (Proceed to 2.1.2.).	was prepared by Tohoku University, so they entrusted it to Tohoku University and measured the sulphide concentration of sediment again on 27th October 27 2016. Samples were taken at eleven points inside the farm and seven points outside the farm and measured. As a result, no sulphide concentration exceeding 1500 µM was found at any point inside or outside the farm. As a result, the next sulphite concentration measurement in the sediment can be done after 5 years, in 2020. The farm is continuing preparations with the Tohoku University professor.	Compliant		
		c. If the farm intends to conduct measurements of total 'free' sulfides using a method different from the one prescribed in Appendix IV & V of the Bivalve Standard (e.g. in order to comply with local regulations), the farm must first request a variation from ASC showing how the alternate method will meet the intent of the Standard in an equivalent way.				
		d. Others, please describe				
2.1.2	**Indicator:** Unacceptable levels of total 'free' sulfide in surficial sediment measured beneath the farm in comparison to control sites **Requirement:** ≥ 3000 µM **Applicability:** Off-bottom and suspended methods over depositional substrate	a. If initial assessment of S concentration is ≥ 3000 µM, the farm is not certifiable unless natural background S levels exceed 3000 µM (proceed to 2.1.3.). Management response is required to reduce S levels.	As above, no sulphide concentration exceeding 1500 µM was found at any point inside or outside the farm. It is scheduled to be measured in 2020, and the farm is continuing preparations with the Tohoku University professor.	Compliant		
		b. Others, please describe				

2.1.3	**Indicator:** In cases where natural background sulfide levels exceed 3000 µM, the annual S concentrations should not significantly[3] exceed levels measured at reference sites located outside the farm[4] **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** Off-bottom and suspended methods over depositional substrate	a. Provide results comparing sampled S culture area to reference sites outside the farm (see Appendices I & 2 for the comparison to control sites). If S concentrations beneath the farm structures are not found to be significantly higher ($p<0.05$) than reference sites , monitoring shall be conducted every year. (Proceed to 2.1.5.). b. Others, please describe	As above, no sulphide concentration exceeding 1500 µM was found at any point inside or outside the farm. It is scheduled to be measured in 2020, and the farm is continuing preparations with the Tohoku University professor.	Compliant		
2.1.4	**Indicator:** Sulfide analysis may be replaced by direct analysis of benthic community structure (i.e. infaunal surveys) in areas where this biotic approach is preferred by the applicant or is already mandated by a regulatory body[5] **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** Off-bottom and suspended methods over depositional substrate	a. Notify the CAB if the farm used the biotic approach and identify a source reference (i.e. a scientific publication) for the method used. b. Provide documentary evidence to show how the farm established equivalency of biotic indices with sulfide levels (e.g. reports from analysis of infaunal surveys). c. If S equivalency is < 3000 µM, proceed to 2.1.1. If S equivalency is > 3000 µM, proceed to 2.1.2. d. Others, please describe	Benthic community structure analysis has not been conducted.	N/A		
	Indicator: Allowance for bivalve aquaculture over areas that provide a particularly significant or essential biological or ecological function	a. Prepare results from video or seabed imaging survey of the farm.	Minamisanriku Town Seabed status survey was conducted during 15th to 18th May 2011. Video from this survey is kept. No ecologically important ocean area was confirmed near the farms. It was soon after the Earthquake so many rubbles were found but the amount of rubbles were less than expected. Seaweed bed is considered to be sensitive habitats. There is a map of seaweed bed in Shizugawa Bay. Comparison study of seaweed bed and aquaculture farms was conducted during November 2009 to March 2014. Aquaculture farms are located deeper than 10m and seaweed beds exist in areas of 5m depth or above. So they do not overlap. During the site visit, auditors confirmed that farms are not located near seaweed beds.			

2.1.5	within the broader ecosystem[6] **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** Off-bottom and suspended methods	b. Summarize information about sensitive habitats in proximity to farming operations (e.g. using a map of habitat distribution; see 1.1.1e) noting any areas where biogenic structures are located [8]). c. Others, please describe		Compliant		
2.2 Criteria: Pelagic effects						
2.2.1	**Indicator:** The ratio of clearance time[7] (CT) over retention time[8] (RT) **Requirement:** >1 **Applicability:** All* *If the area of all of the farms within a water body as defined in Appendix I of the Bivalve Standard, inclusive of the certification unit, is less than 10% of the total area of the water body, then requirements 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 need not apply.	a. Present a map showing the water body and all farm locations (including the unit of certification). Calculate the percent of the water body area covered by farms and present values used in the calculation. b. If combined area of all farms is < 10 % of total are of the water body, then 2.2.1 does not apply (Proceed to 2.3.1.). c. If the area of the farm is >= 10% of the water body, calculate clearance time (CT) of the dominant bivalve stocks (wild and cultured) for the water body. Provide all bivalve census information and published clearance rates[9] used in the calculation. d. If the area of the farm is >= 10% of the water body, calculate the retention time (RT) of the water body. Calculate CT / RT ratio. Provide all data used in the calculation, including references. e. Others, please describe	According to the enclosed coastal seas net of Ministry of Environment, area of Shizugawa Bay is calculated as 46.8km with a line connecting Udatsusaki and point of triangulation at Terahama in Togura area being one of the boundaries. http://www.env.go.jp/water/heisa/heisa_net/waters/sizugawawan.html There is also a clear map showing the area of the demarcated fishery right. Areas occupied by oyster rafts are compared with the area of Shizugawa Bay. Scallop (Patinopecten yessoensis) is also farmed in this bay and this Criterion should include total area of all bivalve farms, so areas occupied by scallop rafts are also calculated. In Shizugawa Bay, oyster aquaculture is taking place not only in Togura area but also in Shizugawa area and Utazu area. So all areas occupied by oyster raft and scallop raft of all these regions are added to compare with the area of Shizugawa Bay. When rafts are simulated as a surface, not lines, all rafts occupied 6.92% of the Shizugawa Bay. So it is sufficiently smaller than 10%. Because there was no significant change of the number of rafts, it continues to comply with the requirement. For SA1 2020; The number of rafts was initially 350, but it decreased to 280 in 2019. There is no change in the number of producers. In February and March 2019, a seaweed bed survey was conducted and a briefing session was held. At this time, the proper possible quantity was simulated. In conclusion, the current number of rafts should be kept at this level.	Compliant		
2.2.2	**Indicator:** Where clearance time is less than retention time, the ratio of clearance time over primary production time[9] (PPT)	a. Calculate the yearly averaged phytoplankton biomass (B) and primary production (PPP) for the entire water body. Provide all information regarding the sampling methods used and the locations and times of each sample. Provide all references used in the conversion of values into similar units.	2.2.1 is compliant.	N/A		

2.2.2	**Requirement:** >3 **Applicability:** All farms not compliant with 2.2.1.	b. Calculate primary production time (PPT) and CT / PPT ratio. Provide all data used in the calculation, including references.		N/A		
		c. Others, please describe				
2.2.3	**Indicator:** Equivalency with requirements 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 may be demonstrated, if a farm or group of farms is able to prove, through more comprehensive carrying capacity modeling that, in aggregate, they do not exceed the ecological carrying capacity of the applicable water body in which they are located **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** -	a. Provide the published peer-reviewed publication describing the model as applied to the present state of the water body and all associated aquaculture.	2.2.1 is compliant.	N/A		
		b. Provide the model estimates of CT, RT, and PPT. If these were not directly presented in the publication, provide additional information as to how these parameters were calculated.				
		c. Others, please describe				
			2.3 Criteria: Critical habitat and species interactions			
		a. Provide a list of threatened or endangered species as identified by national law or the IUCN Red List. To obtain the IUCN Red List designated species, perform the above search and record all IUCN Red List species and farm-related threats.	WWF Japan consulted existing materials and experts and has developed a list of threatened/endangered species listed in IUCN red list, Red list of Ministry of Environment and Red list of Miyagi Prefecture that exist or were found in the past in the region. 8 bird species and 2 mammals were listed at the time of the initial assessment, and 1 reptile was added from consultation after the initial assessment. Oyster aquaculture never seems to have any direct negative impact on any of the species listed. Birds use the area as resting and feeding site but the oyster aquaculture is unlikely to be putting any pressure on their habitats nor any case of death of the birds caused by farm reported. Regarding the possibilities of water quality change affecting the organisms in intertidal zone or physically preventing the movement of marine mammals, there is no research on these. Regarding fish species, Leucopsarion petersii which is designated endangered species by the Ministry of Environment is considered to live in this region. But this fish lay eggs in river and stays in seaweed bed so the farms are unlikely to be causing any impact on them. The association presented which rivers this fish runs in order to understand their habitats.		[Observation] They have not confirmed the contents of the new red list yet. Although there is no addition of red lists in the sea, it is desirable to check the contents of the red list updated just in case.	

2.3.1	**Indicator:** Allowance for harm to threatened/endangered species[10] or the habitat on which they depend **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	b. Provide a map showing location of the farm (see Indicator 1.1.1e) relative to the known distribution of endangered species or critical habitats in the area.	There are 5 species of Eelgrass. One of which is endangered but the habitat does not overlap with farms. For seaweeds, one of endangered species designated by the Ministry of the Environment has been newly confirmed, but habitats also do not overlap with farms. Since farms are managed for many decades, there is no data on status of threatened/endangered species in the absence of farms. There is a map of seaweed beds in Shizugawa Bay. Aquaculture farms are located deeper than 10m and seaweed beds exist in areas of 5m depth or above. So they do not overlap. During the site visit, auditors confirmed that farms are not located near seaweed beds. Currently there is no case where farms are considered to be affecting the threatened/endangered species. Hence no measure is needed. Several farmers who are also local community members were consulted but no information about threatened/endangered species or their habitats were obtained. MInamisanriku Town is preparing to apply for the Ramsar Convention with seaweed bed as a candidate area, and explained it to committee members and producers. There was no disagreement.	Compliant		
		c. If a threatened or endangered species is identified in region of the farm (including receiving and source waters), document the specific actions the farm takes to minimize impacts.	Almost all of Shizugawa bay was designated as the registration site of the Ramsar Convention. At that time the collection of biological information was done. In March 2018, the report "Shizugawa Bay Ramsar Convention wetland information form" was prepared by the Ministry of the Environment (not disclosed). An explanatory meeting of the Ramsar Convention was held at Shizugawa branch steering committee on 22nd June 2017. Endangered species such as Brent goose, Golden eagle and Steller's sea eagle have been confirmed to exist, but there are no reports that the farms are harming them. Red list of Miyagi Prefecture was revised in 2016. Species in intertidal zone are added in this list. Data related to marine benthic organism is not sufficient and there is no red list. They have not confirmed the contents of the new red list yet. Although there is no addition of red lists in the sea, it is desirable to check the contents of the red list updated just in case.			
		-				
		e. Others, please describe				
2.4 Criteria: Environmental awareness						

2.4.1	**Indicator:** Evidence of environmental training, compliance to regional codes of practices or implementation of environmental management plans. **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Provide documentation of environmental training/education of staff (e.g. certificates, evidence of workshops attended etc.) (OR)	Annual meeting of Togura Oyster Subcommittee is held in September. Board's meeting is held monthly. Annual reporting seminar of Miyagi Prefecture Kesennuma Fisheries Experiment Station and Fishery Technques General Centre in Ishinomaki is held. They participate it when possible. Last year they didn't. Farm improvement plan based on Sustainable Aquaculture Production Assurance Act is established. The duration of this plan is the same as the application of fishery right. The contents of the plan is explained in the meetings of Oyster Subcommittee. Progress report based on the plan is submitted to the prefecture twice a year. The report dated 16th April 2018 was confirmed. Above mentioned plan includes environmental regulations such as number of rafts, fish disease control and chemicals. On 31st July 2018, a meeting to consider the future marine environment of Shizugawa Bay 5th was held and participated. Next time it is scheduled to be held on 12th March 2019, the final round schedule. The KODOMO (Kids) Ramsar Executive Committee was held and participated, receiving the registration of the Ramsar Convention. (Example: 2nd: 2nd July 2018, 3rd: 23th July) KODOMO Ramsar was held on 9th, 10th, 11th February 2019, 33 children in the country came to the town. The fisheries cooperative provided explanations and guidance on fishing grounds. Also on 11th December 2018, Minamisanriku Town hosted the Ramsar Convention Study Group for general town residents. For SA1, 2020; On 12th March 2019, a meeting to consider the future marine environment of Shizugawa Bay was held and participated. The chairman of the department has been asked to give a lecture and introduces the aquaculture efforts after the earthquake.	Compliant		
		b. Provide documentation of regional codes of practice and actions taken to ensure compliance, including staff training (OR)				
		c. Provide evidence for implementation of an environmental management plan.				
		d. Others, please describe				
PRINCIPLE 3. AVOID ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE HEALTH AND GENETIC DIVERSITY OF WILD POPULATIONS						
3.1 Criteria: Introduced pests and pathogens						

3.1.1	**Indicator:** Allowance for the illegal introduction of a non-native species, pest or pathogen attributable to the farm within 10 years prior to assessment. **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Maintain documentation showing the origin of culture stock including names, addresses, contact person(s) and delivery dates when applicable. - c. Others, please describe	There is no evidence of introducing illegal culture stock in the past 10 years. All culture stocks are purchased from companies in the prefecture. Locally collected young shells of local oyster is also used as necessary. In Miyagi Prefecture, even after the Earthquake when all culture stocks were lost, no culture stocks were brought from other prefectures in order to avoid the risk of pathogens. From 2012 to 2014, farmers in Togura sub-branch cooperatively purchased culture stocks under the ""Support program for hard-working aquaculture"" and all purchase records are kept. Records before the Earthquake were all washed away and so lost. The support program ended in 2015 and farmers purchase culture stocks individually. So a ""Report Form"" was newly developed in order to annually report stock purchase information, fuel (petrol, diesel, and heavy oil) consumption record and oil change record to the Association. The association asked each farmer to submit the seedling purchase and collection record from Jan to Dec 2017, and compiled it into a list. They also have a copy of invoices at the time of purchase. Invoices such as on 8th April 2017 were confirmed. The record of 2018 is being requested to each farmer. The percentage of locally-collected young shells is increasing. Several farmers who are also local community members were consulted but no information about introduction of illegal culture stock in the past was obtained. For SA1, 2020; The seedling purchase and collection record from January to December 2018 were submitted by each producer to the fishery cooperative. The list compiled by the fishery cooperative was confirmed in this audit. The origin of seed has not changed, The percentage of locally-collected young shells is increasing.	Compliant		
	Indicator: Documentation of compliance with established protocol or evidence of following appropriate	a. Provide documentation of established protocol or best management practices used in preventing and managing disease and pest introductions.	No pathogen has occurred with culture stock in the prefecture in the past. So the best practice is consider to used only the culture stock in the prefecture. On 2nd February 2011, the state government notified each prefecture about the risk of Oyster Herpes Virus. In response to this, Miyagi Prefecture Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Department General Manager ordered not to purchase culture stocks from other prefectures. In case if falling dead oyster or pathogen is found to be occurring, the Association immediately report to the prefecture and investigation will begin. Officers on the Association are explained about the pest management system in the training seminar. The system is informed to farmers too. In the annual report, purchase invoice and delivery note of culture stocks are checked so that origin can be confirmed. Farmers are motivated to use local stocks. Voluntary self-check of oyster norovirus is conducted once a month. Notice letter issued by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to Miyagi			

3.1.2	best management practices for preventing and managing disease and pest introductions with seed and/or farm equipment. **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	b. Provide evidence that the farm has implemented established protocols or best management practices for preventing and managing disease and pest introductions with seed and/or farm equipment. c. Others, please describe	Prefecture, Fishery Associations and other companies in Miyagi Prefecture about regulations about bringing culture stocks from outside the prefecture and pest management were confirmed. Past available purchase records of culture stock proves that there has been no introduction of culture stock from outside the prefecture. For SA1, 2020; Voluntary inspection of pathogens has been conducted and no disease has occurred. When a disease occurs in seedlings and oyster larvae, the information is shared with the Fisheries Technology Center in Miyagi Prefecture and the information is shared. Norovirus tests are conducted weekly and radioactive substances are measured monthly. Other tests include shellfish poison and E. coli.	Compliant		
			3.2 Criteria: Sustainable wild seed procurement			
3.2.1	**Indicator:** Excluding larval collection, evidence that purchased or collected wild seed is not harvested from an open-access, unregulated source **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Maintain documentation showing the origin of culture stock with names, addresses, contact person(s) and delivery dates of each purchase. b. Provide documentation that wild seed has not been collected from an open-access, unregulated source.	Purchase invoices and delivery notes of culture stocks since 2012 were confirmed. E.g. Invoice dated 13th February 2015. Amount of self collected larval are recorded by each farmer and reported to the Association annually. Because local seeds of home use occurs evenly in the bay now, each producer with farming rights is collecting seeds at his raft. Fishery rights are separately set for seeds to be sold. There are many private individual right holders. They also belong to the Fishery Cooperative Association. There is no upper limit of amount to be collected by each right holders but the total collection capacity in the prefecture as a whole is only about 1.2 million hanging wires. During June to August when larva occurs, the Prefecture issues Coastal Aquaculture News (Seed Oyster News) every week. It is uploaded to the website of Fisheries Technology Research Center. Confirmed the storage of the aquaculture news in FY 2018. Each producer confirmed the aquaculture news by the fishery cooperative and judged the timing of the time of sampling. Farmers collect necessary amount of naturally occurring larva and purchases from companies in the prefecture if the amount collected is not sufficient. Larva occurs naturally in abundance and only a little portion is considered to be used. The statistics shows that past 50-year-use of larva has not affected the natural population. There are data about amount of larva occurrence and collected amount within the prefecture. It is considered that only a very small percentage of larva occurred is collected. Among the rest, a few more percent naturally grows on quay side and most larva dies naturally. Estimate shows that at maximum 1.1% of larva and 1.7% of larva are collected in Ishinomaki/Matsushima Bay and Shizugawa Bay respectively. For SA1, 2020; Larva occurs locally in abundance so it is possible to collect seed oysters over a wide area within Shizugawa Bay. The timing at which seed oysters can be collected depends on the water temperature, but is not depleted. Information	Compliant		

		c. Others, please describe	on the appearance of floating oyster larvae is transmitted by fax from the Kesennuma Fisheries Experimental Station as a "breaking seed oyster report."			
			3.3 Criteria: Introduced non-native cultivated species			
3.3.1	**Indicator:** Evidence of responsible[11] introduction of non-native cultivated species **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. If the farm works with the culture of newly-introduced non-native bivalve species, obtain permit(s) substantiating compliance with ICES guidelines for introduction of exotic species and certification to ICES requirements regarding parasites and pathogens.[11]. b. Others, please describe	There is no use of non-native oyster culture stock. The state government, Prefecture and the Association all try to prevent the use of non-native species. Purchasing from abroad is costly so no one is interested in buying from abroad. The percentage of locally-collected young shells is increasing.	Compliant		
			3.4 Criteria: Native species cultivation			
3.4.1	**Indicator:** For hatchery produced seed, documentation of efforts made to address genetic concerns specific to species and geographic region where the seed will be out-planted **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All farms producing seed	a. Provide documentation of the use of local, wild broodstock to address genetic concerns specific to species and the geographic region where the seed will be out-planted (OR) b. Provide documentation of the scale of farming activities and the reproductive potential of crops (e.g., whether diploid or triploid, or considering age at harvest and age at first maturation) are well-below the size and reproductive potential of the natural population within a reasonable “dispersal kernel” from the farm. (OR) c. Provide documentation on the production of sterile seed for out-planting from breeding programs that intentionally alter wild stocks for improved culture traits, such as growth, yield, survival and morphology (OR) d. Provide documentation of cooperation with restoration efforts in the geographic region using out-planting that involves the intentional divergence from wild stocks to produce disease resistant wild populations e. Others, please describe	Farmers are using the natural culture stock of Miyagi Prefecture so that there is no genetic concern. Farms are purchased young shells directly from seedling suppliers in Ishinomaki and Matsushima of Miyagi Prefecture. Fisheries Agency notified each Prefecture to investigate and report when triploid is planned to be used. In Miyagi Prefecture there was a research of triploid in the past. However, it was decided that the prefecture is not going to allow the use of triploid so that there is no use of triploid in the prefecture now. They have plenty of naturally occurring larva. So no hatchery produced seed is used. There is no use of transgenic individuals.	Compliant		
			3.5 Criteria: Transgenic animals			
3.5.1	**Indicator:** Allowance for farming of transgenic[12] animals **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Maintain documentation showing the origin of culture stock with names, addresses, contact person(s) and delivery dates of each purchase (see 3.2.1a). b. Prepare a declaration stating that the farm does not culture transgenic bivalves. -	In Miyagi Prefecture there was a research of triploid in the past. However, it was decided that the prefecture is not going to allow the use of triploid so that there is no use of triploid in the prefecture now. They have plenty of naturally occurring larva. So no hatchery produced seed is used. Chairperson of Oyster Subcommittee has signed a commitment on 4th November 2015 mentioning that the subcommittee is not to use triploid, genetically modified shellfish, species from abroad and non-native species.	Compliant		

		d. Others, please describe	There is no evidence of use of transgenic bivalves.			
PRINCIPLE 4. MANAGE DISEASE AND PESTS IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER						
4.1 Criteria: Disease and pest management practices						
4.1.1	**Indicator:** Allowance for the application of mutagenic, carcinogenic or teratogenic pesticides on the farm or farmed animals **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Maintain a record of all chemicals (any substance that is added by the producer to farm or farmed animals) used for prior 12 month period by farm and/or contractors. If the farm is located in an integrated facility, all chemicals used in hatcheries and processing plants must be recorded, in addition to those used in grow-out. Supply technical information on all chemicals used on the farm. b. Provide chemical supplier name and contact information. - d. Others, please describe	No chemical such as pesticides is used in farm or oyster processing centre. Ship bottom coating paints used are only those designated as appropriate.	Compliant		
4.1.2	**Indicator:** Allowance for the application of chemicals that persist as toxins in the marine environment or on the farm or farmed animals **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Same as 4.1.1.a. b. Same as 4.1.1.b. - d. Others, please describe	No chemical substances are used in either the farm or the oyster treatment plant. No chemicals such as pesticides are used.	Compliant		
4.1.3	**Indicator:** Only non-lethal management (e.g., exclusion, deterrents and removal) of critical species[13] that are pests or predators **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Provide a list of all predator and pest control devices used at the site and their locations. b. Provide a description of all procedures used for managing pests and explain how the farm ensures that no harms is done to critical species (identified in 2.3.1.). c. Others, please describe	Warm water treatment against organisms attached to oysters is conducted. Once a year during late July to early August, oysters are treated with warm water of 60 to 70 degrees C. Organisms other than oyster die because of high temperature. Boilers and hot-water pot are used. Oyster Subcommittee owns 24 boilers and there is a list of all boilers. In June 2015, organisms treated with the warm water were investigated. Among 4 samples tested, there was no red list species. It was confirmed that the working conditions of the warm water treatment would not affect RTE species. Habitat of sea animals such as seals has not been reported. In addition, no bird has been confirmed to eat oysters.	Compliant		
4.1.4	**Indicator:** Allowance for the use of leadline or lead sinkers on predator netting	a. Ensure that no leadline or sinkers are located on the farm or used on predator netting.	Predator netting is not used. No use of lead.	Compliant		

4.1.4	**Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	b. Others, please describe		Compliant		
4.1.5	**Indicator:** Allowance for the use of explosives **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that no explosives are used on the farm. b. Others, please describe	No explosive is used.	Compliant		
PRINCIPLE 5. USE RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY						
5.1 Criteria: Waste management/pollution control						
5.1.1	**Indicator:** Evidence of waste reduction (e.g. reuse and recycling) programs **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Provide a description of the most common production waste materials and indicate which waste materials are recycled. b. Others, please describe	The most common waste is the oyster shells. Oyster shells are temporarily stored in a stock yard located in the forest in Togura area. Stored shells are then handed over to local company named Endo Gumi Co., Ltd. and recycled there to become a lime fertilizer. Confirmed pamphlet of the fertilizer "Minamisanriku No.1." Before the Earthquake, Endo Gumi had a processing facility near the stock yard to process the shell to make fertilizer. But the processing facility was washed away by Tsunami. So the company was bringing the shells to another company in Tome City to process. Endo gumi set up a processing plant near the stock yard and started operation. In the past, there was a trial to make shell reef block named "Shell Nurse". Styrofoam is not used for the floating barrel. Engine oil and general waste are collected by a company that has a license from Miyagi Prefecture.	Compliant		
5.1.2	**Indicator:** Evidence of appropriate storage and/or disposal of biological waste **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Prepare a plan that details how the farm ensures proper disposal of all biological waste including separation and segregation of biological waste from non-biological waste. b. Maintain records to show how the farm disposes of dead bivalves and other forms of biological waste.	Biological waste is processed as described above. A procedure named "Biological Waste Processing" was developed which include flow diagrams and photos. Oystershells were transported by the local company. The company collect shells periodically by visiting each oyster processing plant. The amount of shells is calculated from the volume of oyster produced. Temporary stock yard of oystershells is a town owned land where the Fishery Cooperative Association makes a lease contract with the town. The validity of the contract was confirmed as from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2021. As an annex to this contract, agreement was made between the Association and Endo Gumi on 1st July 2014 and the payment of the leased land is made by Endo Gumi according to the agreement. There is a minute of meeting with the president of Endo Gumi on 5th November 2015. The minute was counter signed by the president of Endo Gumi. Before the Earthquake, there were some dead bivalves due to lack of oxygen in the sea. When they are dead, their tissues naturally decay and only the shells are left attached to rafts. So these empty shells were processed as described above. After the Earthquake, population density is kept low so that there is no dead bivalves due to lack of oxygen observed now. There has never been a dead bivalves observed which is considered to be caused by diseases. No mass grave case ever either. Small amount of living organisms are found attached to floats. They are removed on an empty ground and left there. Organisms treated with the warm-water treatment process fall off naturally into the sea. The warm-water treatment is done in early summer when the	Compliant		

		-	the sea. The warm-water treatment is done in early summer when the organisms are still small. In this way, those organisms are unlikely to occur again for a year. Extremely small individuals and crushed individuals are selected for personal consumption. No major deaths due to lack of oxygen etc. after the 2011 earthquake. Basically, things that are discarded do not occur constantly. Auditors visited the harbour and the temporary stock yard and confirmed that above mentioned processes are implemented.			
		d. Others, please describe				
5.1.3	**Indicator:** Evidence of appropriate storage and/or disposal of chemical and hydrocarbon wastes **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that the disposal of disused equipment and waste is done promptly, including hazardous waste from the site according to local law and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). Farms shall maintain an inventory of all chemicals used or located on site.	No chemical is used. Hence no disposal. When engine oil of ships are changed, the old oil is processed appropriately by the company which changes the oil. Invoices of oil changes are kept. E.g. Invoice dated 20th November 2017 was confirmed. There are also cases where they bring used oil by themselves to gas stations and take them for free at no cost. Since it is free pick up, there are no records such as vouchers, and the amount of waste is based on self-declaration. It is desirable to know when and to what extent oil change (disposal of used oil) occurred. Foamed polystyrene is currently not used even as floats or in the processing centre. Other plastic wastes are not burned but appropriately treated. Old ropes are collected by the Association and then processed as an industrial waste.	Minor	There are also cases where they bring used oil by themselves to gas stations and take them for free at no cost. Since it is free pick up, there are no records such as vouchers, and the amount of waste is based on self-declaration. Although it was an observation at the previous Audit, it became a minor nonconformity.	
		b. Others, please describe				
		a. Prepare a prevention and response plan spills of chemical and hydrocarbon waste. The plan shall outline the preventative maintenance of equipment exist and in place for the avoidance of fuel spills from vehicles, winches, cranes, and mechanical equipment on land and water.	Before the Earthquake, there were oil fences and absorbing mat in the office. Currently they are placed in the ship fuel station in the Shizugawa Market. The fuel station is about 15 minutes away by car from Togura Office. These equipment were provided by the prefecture. Small scale spillage is treated by the Fishery Cooperative Association and in case of large scale spillage, a local company is contracted to collect the spilled oil. The biggest risk of fuel and oil spillage is related to turn over of a small boat. Diesel engines of ships are fueled by the tank truck of the Association. Petrol used for outboard engine of a boat is bought individually by each farmer at ordinary petrol station and carried in a designated container. There has never been any reported case of spillage of the petrol. There is a written emergency communication structure in case of any spillage. In the past, farmers participated in a seminar organised by the Maritime Safety Agency. No training since the Earthquake.			

5.1.4	**Indicator:** Spill prevention and response plan for chemicals/hydrocarbons originating from farming operations **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	b. Maintain documentation regarding the training history of all employees in the proper disposal of waste and in the prevention and management of chemical and hydrocarbon spills as described in the above plan (5.1.4.a). c. Maintain documentation of equipment or structures that have come into contact with spilled chemicals and have been subsequently cleaned. d. Others, please describe	There is a communication structure in case of oil spillage. In Kesennuma, an adjacent city, there are number of large vessels sailing. So they run a drill to prepare for fuel spillage. But in this region, there is no large vessel coming so that there is no such drill conducted. Communication structure is displayed at Processing Centre as well as offices of the Association so that farmers can see it whenever needed. On 14th December 2016, a working ship moored at the port naturally sank and oil leaks were discovered. They immediately contacted the Maritime Security Agency, pulled out the ship, and absorbed the spilled oil with an absorption mat. For the oyster not to be affected, they stopped fishing for a week after that. Confirmed the record. There has been no accident since the one mentioned above. For the purpose of safety training, the Japan Coast Guard will be invited to have a safe navigation event. Basically, no complete outsider becomes a member of a fishery cooperative. In many cases, it is inherited from parents as a hereditary system, and the union has also followed the recognition of environmental protection such as health and safety and oil recovery.	Compliant		
			Criteria 5.2: Energy efficiency			
	Indicator: Evidence of energy use monitoring relative to production	a. Maintain records (e.g. receipts) of on-farm fuel and electricity usage. A minimum of 12 months of continuous records are required before the first audit. b. Compute the annual energy consumption for the last 12 months. Energy usage is itemized and summed in kilojoules. Conversions of energy components to kilojoules of energy can be found at: http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/energyexplained/index.cfm?page=about_energy_conversion_calculator.	Amount of electricity and gas used in Togura Office is recorded. Amount of electricity and gas used in Processing Centre is also recorded. Diesel used for each farmer's ship diesel engine and heavy oil used for boilers of warm-water treatment are all sold by the Association so the amount is easily accessible. About 100 litters of diesel is fueled at a time. Amount of petrol used for outboard engine of a boat could be accessible before the Earthquake when the Association managed the petrol station. But the Association no longer manages the petrol station. Currently each famer purchase the petrol individually. It is possible to keep the record of amount of petrol purchased. In case when the petrol is used for both the boat and their own private cars, the amount used for boat can be estimated. Amount can also be estimate by multiplying the number of working days by average consumption rate per day. Past data is not available. Fuel consumption amount is reported annually from each farmer to the Association. The association confirmed fuel consumption amount by reports from Jan to Dec 2017. Currently 34 farmers belong to the Oyster Subcommittee. Each farmer owns 3 ships/boats on average. Only the largest one is used for landing the oyster. Energy consumption was calculated to figure out the energy consumption per person. Converting the unit into KJ was done based on the conversion formula on the website. The calculated energy consumption per person was 99,555,054 KJ. The accuracy of the calculation was confirmed. Production amount of each Oyster Subcommittee member was calculated for oysters with and without shells. One person produced 31,843kg of oyster with the shells removed. Energy consumption per 1 Mt of oyster was calculated to be 115,678,077KJ. The accuracy of the calculation was confirmed. The total			

5.2.1	and ongoing effort to improve efficiency **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	c. Using results from 5.2.1.b and the total weight (metric tons) of shellfish produced over the last 12 months, determine the farm's energy consumption relative to production.	electricity consumption at each oyster processing plant was 752,954,400 kJ, and the electricity consumption per person was 22,145,717 kJ. In the past, there was an investigation under a project of New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization to assess the improvement of fuel consumption when a two-stroke cycle engine is replaced by a four-stroke cycle engine. Result showed sufficient improvement. Farmers used the subsidy named ""Support program for installing energy saving equipment"" (dated 13th July 2015) to replace the two-stroke cycle engine with four-stroke cycle engines. Now most farmers use four-stroke cycle engines. Boilers for warm-water treatment uses heavy oil. Togura Office received a fund from WWF Japan (under a project named ""Connect-warmth project"") on 19th June 2012 to install 10kw Solar panels. Cleaning of the bottom of boats has big impact on improving the fuel consumption rate. So each famer is taking care of cleaning their own boats. As a "fishery management and competitiveness enhancement measure", farmars are considering purchasing an energy-efficient inboard engine, and are forecasting a 27.53% reduction in fuel consumption.	Compliant		
		d. Document the main procedures undertaken by the farm to improve energy efficiency and provide a short summary of the effectiveness of those procedures.				
		e. Others, please describe				
	Indicator: Maintenance records for farm equipment (e.g., boats and generators) are up to date and	a. Prepare a maintenance plan which identifies the schedule for regular maintenance of farm equipment including boats and generators.	Boats and boilers for warm-water treatment are privately owned. Based on regulations in Fishing Vessel Law, each boat receives regular inspection every 5 years and based on Ship Safety Act, regular inspection (main inspection every 6 years and one light inspection in between in the third year) are carried out by Japan Craft Inspection Organization. Depending on the size of boiler, Industrial Safety and Health Law regulates the requirements on the qualification and regular inspection. But the boilers the farmers own are simple small boiler which are exempt from these requirements. So each farmer checks their own boiler as necessary. Processing centre is visited by public health institute every year for an inspection. The inspection includes checking the proper function of all equipment. Electrical system is checked by Electrical Safety Association. The forklift is privately owned and they don't use the unic car. There is a list of all ships/boats. Inspection records of ships/boats are kept by each farmer. Farmers also keep the insurance payment receipt for each ship/boat. E.g. One on 27th June 2018. Ship/boat insurance payment list is also kept. Inspection certificate of Japan Craft Inspection Organization is in place and updated. 10 ships are applicable. E.g. One on 4th October 2018			

5.2.2	generators) are up to date and available **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	b. Maintain records of equipment maintenance. A minimum of 12 months of continuous maintenance records must be provided for the first audit.	updated. 10 ships are applicable. E.g. One on 4th October 2018. Ship registration inspection application. All registered numbers of ships are listed. Motored ship registration for each ship/boat. Ship registration The fishing vessel registration is renewed every 5 years. They cannot board a fishing boat unless Miyagi confirms that it is the same as the fishing boat when it was registered and approves it. Inspection records of the processing centre. Records on water temperature, chlorine, cold storage chamber are kept everyday to check if there is anything going wrong or not. It is recorded in "Oyster processing plant voluntary management book". As an example the record on 8th and 9th February 2020 was confirmed. Also confirmed hygiene inspection records at each processing plant.	Compliant		
		c. Others, please describe				
PRINCIPLE 6. BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR AND CONSCIENTIOUS COASTAL CITIZEN						
6.1 Criteria: Community relations and interaction						
6.1.1	**Indicator:** Visible floats must be of a uniform color, except where otherwise specified by law (if applicable to growing area) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. If the farm uses visible floats, ensure that they are all uniform in color.	Most floats are black. A few yellow floats are used for the purpose of indicators at places such as edge of rafts. Auditors confirmed on site that only minimum required number of yellow floats were used. Small beacon lights are placed in key spots which uses lights powered by solar panels. Two large beacon lights are used in the area. The colour of light follows the regulation in law. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		-				
		c. Others, please describe				
6.1.2	**Indicator:** Uniform positioning and orientation of visible farm structures, except where specified by law (if applicable to growing area) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that visible farm structures are uniformly positioned and oriented and do not impede navigation.	Oyster rafts were in order so that even large ships can go through easily. Confirmed during site visit. Places of the rafts are managed by GPS. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		b. Others, please describe				
6.1.3	**Indicator:** Allowance for floats made out of open-cell Styrofoam **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that no open-celled Styrofoam floats are used or locate	Styrofoam floats including open-celled Styrofoam floats are not used for oyster rafts. Confirmed during site visit. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		b. Others, please describe				

6.1.4	**Indicator:** Noise, light and odor originating from the farm are minimized in areas where it may impact others (if applicable to growing area) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Prepare a list of all sources of noise, light and odor originating on the farm and include actions taken to reduce them b. Ensure that designated storage areas and containers exist for the materials that create odors. c. Others, please describe	Before the Earthquake, temporary stock yard of oyster shells was in the harbour. It sometimes caused odor near neighbouring houses. After the Earthquake, the temporary stock yard is place in a forest and oyster shells are transported there everyday. So there is no more odor issue. No other sources of noise, light. Auditors confirmed during site visit that there was no source of odor. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
6.1.5	**Indicator:** Evidence of compliance with all applicable navigational rules and regulation**s** **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** Sea-based Farms	a. Provide a copy of local navigation rules and regulations. b. Maintain records of the training of relevant farm staff in local navigational rules and regulations. - d. Others, please describe	Followings apply: Safety Regulations for Small Fishing Vessels based on Fishing Boat Act; Preventing Collisions at Sea Law; Maritime Traffic Safety Act; Act on Port Regulations. The client kept the latest laws and regulations list and actual documents. In order to steer a fishing boat, a license to operate small boats is needed. It is renewed every 5 years and each renewal is accompanied by a training seminar. The Association is informed by the Marine Office about the status of each farmer's license. So when renewal is needed, the Association informs the farmer to renew. The announcement of the small boat maneuver license renewal workshop held on 11th December 2018 issued to the farmeres was confirmed. The Association understands the status of license of each farmer. Confirmed the lisence list. The association talk to the members to secure a navigation route when setting the fishing rights. Several farmers were interviewed and appropriate understanding was confirmed. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
6.1.6	**Indicator:** Documented cleanup of receiving shoreline in response to gear loss based on local condition**s** **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Maintain a record of effort spent cleaning the receiving shoreline in response to gear loss. Record shall span at least a 12 month period prior to the audit. b. Others, please describe	No gear is lost for oyster aquaculture. Shoreline cleaning activity was held on 20th July every year (National Holiday named "Day of Sea"), but has not been conducted since the earthquake because the construction of the tide breakwater etc. continues. After a heavy rain and storm, local people on their own upon consulting with town/prefecture officer (shoreline managers) clean up the shoreline. Confirmed a photo record on 23rd October 2017. Shoreline managers are known. Before the Earthquake, broken floats are collected to be disposed. At the time of the Earthquake, all broken floats are disposed together with the rubbles. After the Earthquake, there has been no broken float. Some of the rafts tangled and sunk after a storm were collected and passed to processor. When disposing of fishery materials, the fishery cooperative collects from farmers and delivering to processors. The fishery cooperative issues a manifest of waste disposal. Confirmed guidance documents and manifests when collected on 7th December 2017. There was no case in 2018. It is planed to collect again in June 2019. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		

6.1.7	**Indicator:** Substantial gear (e.g., floats, cages, bags, predator nets and racks) is identifiable to farm (if applicable to growing area) **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that all substantial gear is clearly labeled and identifiable as belonging to the farm. At a minimum, labeled gear shall include floats, cages, bags, predator nets and racks. b. Others, please describe	Equipment such as floats are owned by Miyagi Prefecture Northern Facilities Owner Fisheries Cooperative Association. Farmers are renting the equipment so that they cannot label whatever they want or include their names. Though some farmers put an identification mark. When rafts break, for instance due to a storm, they are usually tangled up and stays there. So the original users can usually be identified later. Beacon light are owned by the Association and region names is written. Policy is asking each farmer to write their names on carrying container of petrol so prevent them to be stolen. Since theft of fuel from a ship that has been raising for a long time has occasionally occurred, they continue to ask producers to write their name on containers. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
6.1.8	**Indicator:** Provision of equipment for gear recovery (e.g., scoop nets and grapple hooks) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Ensure that the farm maintains equipment and /or mechanisms for recovering lost gear. b. Others, please describe	Each boat is equipped with a stick with a hook. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
6.1.9	**Indicator:** A mechanism (e.g., insurance or an industry agreement to collect derelict gear) is in place for the decommissioning of abandoned farms **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Provide documentation of a mechanism for the collection and decommissioning of gear. b. Others, please describe	"Document regarding abandoning of a farm by member" was newly developed. When a farmer wishes to abandon a farm, "Closing business application" is to be submitted to the Association. Processes to follow are then discussed case by case. In most cases, next member to take up the place will be decided. There has been no case in the past where a farm was completely abandoned due to lack of replacing farmer. One producer filed a Notice of Suspension on 4th September 2017. Confirmed the record. They discussed in the fishery cooperative and discussed the handling of the fishing ground afterwards. The facility was owned by the Miyagi Prefecture Northern Facilities Owner Fisheries Cooperative Association, so it was handed over to the next user. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
6.1.10	**Indicator:** Conflict resolution protocol, including publicly available registry of complaints and evidence of due diligence to resolve them **Requirement:** Required	a. Provide documentation outlining the farm's protocol for responding to complaints lodged by stakeholders, community members, and organizations. b. Maintain publically available documentation of registered complaints and farm responses.	"Complaints and Requests Following Up Procedure" was developed. No complaint so far. Several farmers who are also local community members were consulted but no information about complaints in the past were obtained. Rather, with the acquisition of certification, the relationship with school and people in the town has increased, the relationship with forest managers who have acquired FSC certification is also established, and a good relationship with the area is established. Tours on ASC certification and requests for information exchange are increasing. There has been no complaint in a year.	Compliant		

	Applicability: All	-	2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
		d. Others, please describe				
6.1.11	**Indicator:** Evidence of outreach (e.g., meeting records, newsletters, consultation with communities and indigenous groups, or membership in association with documented outreach program) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Provide documentation of community outreach and measures taken to maintain positive communication. Documented evidence shall include one or more of the following: - meeting records, - newsletters, - records of consultation with communities and indigenous groups, - membership in an association with a documented outreach program	The Association has a on-site training facility. The overview of aquaculture for each species is explained first from purchase to sales. Then visitors can visit the actual farms. This is leading activity in the prefecture. Visitors come to use this program several times a month. In the "Osubade" Festival which is held by companies in the town at the end of year, the Association provides fish for very low price. Last year it was held on 29th December 2018. Oyster festival will be held as a part of revival market on 24th February 2019. There are many acceptance of education for children inside and outside the town and training for companies. KODOMO Ramsar was held from 9th to 11th February 2019. 11th January 2018: acceptance of the Ofunato municipal fishery employment acquisition and development council. 20th January 2018: Participated in the Ramsar Convention Minami Sanriku Symposium. 26th - 28th October 2018: Acceptance tours by AEON (each facility in the town). There are other many acceptance and presentation not included in the record. In elementary school in town (Togura, Shizugawa, Iriya, Isatomae and Natari) In the hometown learning of the sixth grade, they took on a fishing boat and showed a fish farm including oysters. At the Shizugawa branch, they talked about scallop farming in the class at Shizugawa Elementary School. They held the Tokura Oyster Branding Study Group 4 to 5 times a year.	Compliant		
		b. Others, please describe	2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
6.1.12	**Indicator:** Evidence of acknowledgment of indigenous groups' rights (if applicable to growing area) **Requirement:** Required **Applicability:** All	a. Provide a record of agreement or proof of acknowledgement of indigenous rights	Not applicable as no indigenous peoples exist here.	N/A		
		b. Others, please describe				
PRINCIPLE 7. DEVELOP AND OPERATE FARMS IN A SOCIALLY AND CULTURALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER						
7.1. Criteria: Child labor						
		a. Minimum age of permanent workers is 15 or higher (per national legal minimum age).	[All members] According to the Labour Standards Act of Japan, one cannot be employed as a permanent worker before the 1st April after s/he became 15 years old. There is no revision of the law. No young or child labour or light work. No migrant workers.			
		b. System exists to monitor hours and conditions of young workers and light work by children.				

7.1.1.	**Indicator:** Incidences of child [14] labor [15] **Requirement:** 0 **Applicability:** All	c. Young workers from 15 to 18 years of age [as defined in footnote 16]: have no conflicts between work and schooling; do not spend more than 10 hours/day on transportation time, school and work; and do not perform hazardous work [as defined in footnote 17].	[Farmers] Audit team confirmed via interview and on site that all workers and part-time workers are grown up adult members of families and acquaintance. [Fisheries Cooperative Association] Audit team confirmed via interview and on site that people under 15 are not employed. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		d. Children under 15 perform only light work. Light work & school not to exceed 7 hours/day.				
		e. Equal treatment for children of migrant workers.				
		f. Others, please describe				
7.2. Criteria: Forced, bonded, compulsory labor						
7.2.1.	**Indicator:** Incidences of forced [18], bonded [19], or compulsory labor **Requirement:** 0 **Applicability:** All	a. Contracts clearly stated and understood by employees, no 'pay to work' schemes through labor contractors or training credit programs.	[Farmers] Each farmer is a family business. Part of farmers hire relatives or acquaintances as part-time workers in busy season, but do not do compulsory labour. (confirmed via interview to farmers and office staff) [Fisheries Cooperative] Contract for employments are in place between the association and employees. Payment is made according to the payment regulation. Office staff sign employment contract as a form of condition of employment letter. Audit team confirmed via interview that office staff understand the contents of the letter. Article 29 of employment regulation states that break during work and what to do during the break are up to the employees. Office staff can take one hour break during the work time (from 8:30 am to 17:00 pm) and use the break freely. Even when they cannot take a break on time they take it by staggered time. (Confirmed with the employment regulation and interview)." Audit team confirmed via interview with office staff and manager that employee's original identity papers are not withheld by the association. Currently only resumes are checked at hiring time. Payment is made according to the payment regulation. No personal property is withheld by the association. Employee's salaries are payed regularly and not withheld by the employer in order to oblige them to continue working for the employer (confirmed via interview to office staff). There is a funding loan system in place but request for paying back is only done according to the paying back agreement. No additional forcing is made. Audit team confirmed via interview with office staff that they are not obligated to stay in job to repay debt. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		b. Employees free to leave workplace and manage their own time.				
		c. Employer does not withhold employee's original identity papers.				
		d. Employer shall not withhold any part of workers' salaries, benefits, property or documents in order to oblige them to continue working for employer.				
		e. Employees not obligated to stay in job to repay debt.				
		f. Others, please describe				
7.3. Criteria: Discrimination						

7.3.1.	**Indicator:** Incidences of discrimination [20] **Requirement:** 0 **Applicability:** All	a. Written anti-discrimination policies in place, stating that the company does not engage/support in discrimination in hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement based on race, caste, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, union membership, political affiliation, age or any other condition that may give rise to discrimination	[Farmers] Almost all farmers are family business without employment. Part of farmers hire relatives or acquaintances as part-time workers, but do not discriminate them. (confirmed via interview to farmers and office staff) [Fisheries Cooperative Association] Documents specifying such policies are not confirmed but employees are all uniform in terms of race, caste and nationality and no such discrimination was confirmed. Regarding gender, they have a single employment contract for both gender and no discrimination was confirmed. There are 4 permanent office staff and 2 temporary office staff. Payment system is specified for each type of operation so that no discrimination was confirmed in terms of employment types. No condition based on gender etc. is set for employment. No other form of discrimination has occurred (Confirmed via interview to office staff and the manager). It was confirmed that an anti-discrimination policy document (February 17, 2020) was prepared.	Compliant		
		b. Worker testimony supports that the company does not interfere with the rights of personnel to observe tenets or practices, or to meet needs related to race, caste, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, union membership, political affiliation or any other condition that may give rise to discrimination. Records indicate objective mechanisms for employee reviews and the offering of promotion and training opportunities				
		c. Others, please describe				
			7.4. Criteria: Health and safety			
7.4.1.	**Indicator:** All health and safety related accidents and violations are recorded and corrective action is taken when necessary **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Documentation is generated with regards to occupational health and safety violations.	[Farmers & Fisheries Cooperative Association] In 2013, there was an accident. During landing of oyster on a boat, the boat swung and this person accidentally put the hand in washing equipment and hurt the hand. The accident was recorded in a diary dated 17th December 2013. After this accident, Kesennuma Marine Safety Station came to investigate. After the investigation, a notice was circulated in the region. The direct cause was because the washing equipment moved due to the swing of a boat. So the measure was consider to take special care in situations when waves are heaving up. After the accident, a paper with photos was made and posted in the office of the association to remind people. Members of the association were informed of the accident to prevent similar accident to happen (auditors confirmed the posted paper in the office). In the past year there have been no cases of occupational health and safety breaches. Occasionally there is a case to injure a hand slightly during peeling oyster. (confirmed via interview to farmers and office staff) [Fisheries Cooperative] Employees of the association are involved in assembly service but there has never been any safety issue so far. It was confirmed that an anti-discrimination policy document (February 17, 2020) was prepared. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		b. Corrective action plans are implemented in response to accidents that have occurred. This should include: analysis of the root causes, address the root causes, remediate and prevent future accidents of similar nature.				
		c. Others, please describe				

7.4.2.	**Indicator:** Occupational health and safety training is available for all employees **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Minimization of hazards/risks in the working environment, including documented systemic procedures and policies to prevent workplace hazards and their risks, shall exist and the information shall be available to employees. b. Emergency response procedures shall exist and be known by employees. c. Health and safety training for all employees is available, including training on potential hazards and risk minimization. d. Potentially dangerous chemicals are stored properly and as prescribed.	[Farmers & Fisheries Cooperative] ""Togura sub-branch Oyster Subcommittee Occupational health and safety regulation"" was developed. There are sections on safety training, social security coverage, prevention of accident re-occurring, safety management. Points of risk for each process is developed and displayed in the processing centre. They have a communication structure in case of accidents. The structure is displayed in the processing centre. Warm-water treatment uses hot water of at maximum 75 to 80 degrees C. But there was no case of burn injury in the past. Japan Coast Guard is promoting on a program named ""Life guard ladies"" where female promoters promote the use of life jacket. On 29th October 2014, Kesennuma Marine Safety Station contracted the Female Committee of Togura Sub-branch to be the ""Life guard ladies. Record confirmed. They are always aware of wearing a life jacket. On 20th November 2017 in the female department "Togura branch office maritime safety training seminar" was held. They announced it orally every time at the board meeting. Poster was also posted. They also informed by public relations magazine issued by Miyagi prefecture fishery cooperative (issued to all cooperative members). When a license to operate small boat is renewed, farmers receive a training seminar and safety is included in the seminar. Before the Earthquake, there was a seminar on safety management of leisure fishing boat but this program is no longer available. Farmers participated in first aid seminar when they got the license to operate boat. In the past first aid seminar was held in the region, but it is no longer available in the region. Currently first aid training is not provided. AED is installed but no training on how to use it is given. Health and Safety information is shared during the general assembly (once a year) but lecture is not provided. (confirmed by interview to farmers). Wearing a life jacket is decided when boarding a ship during the landing of oysters. (confirmed by interview to farmers) [Farmers] Farmers are members of "Mutual Rescue Society of Water Accidents" (within the Shizugawa branch), but the society is currently inactive. There are procedures for taking actions in case of oil spillage, boat accident, distress and other accidents and illness (auditors confirmed the documents). [Fisheries Cooperative Association] Study seminar on safety for staff was not held in the past year. The role of office staff in the assembly service is to supervise. So the training on site given by the direct manager is sufficient. It is not related to safety of aquaculture. No dangerous chemical is used during work. (confirmed by interview to staff) Health and safety training is not conducted regularly, such as at least once a year. Therefore, no training opportunities have been given for more than one year. Since it has not been improved since the previous audit, implementation and recording of training education, and planning of health and safety/health	Major	Health and safety training is not conducted periodically, such as once a year. Therefore the training has not been available for more than a year. Farmers are working with due consideration to their health and safety, and although no accidents have occurred, they have not been improved since the last audit, so it is judged as Major nonconformity.	

		e. Others, please describe	management are required.			
7.4.3.	**Indicator:** Employer responsibility and proof of insurance (accident or injury) for employee medical costs in a job-related accident or injury, unless otherwise covered **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Documentation maintained by management confirms that all personnel are provided sufficient insurance to cover costs related to occupational accidents or injuries. Equal insurance coverage must include temporary, migrant or foreign workers.	[Farmers & Fisheries Cooperative] Regarding the above mentioned accident, the person was insured by an insurance of National Mutual Insurance of Water industry federation of cooperatives. The payment record was confirmed. The person was covered by this insurance as they were all managed under the "support program for hard-working aquaculture" It is up to farmers to decide if they wish to apply for an insurance of National Mutual Insurance of Water industry federation of cooperatives. The Association recommends farmer to continue with the same insurance. The Association does not have every information about insurance status of all farmers but almost 100% of farmers are covered by some sort of personal insurance. Boat insurance can also be used in many situations. Boat insurance is covered by the association. They have a plan to make a ledger covering all farmers. [Fisheries Cooperative] Office staff are covered by social insurance and employee's insurance. In case of accidents at work, the Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance is used (Confirmed via interview to office staff and the manager).	Compliant		
		b. Others, please describe	2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
			7.5 Criteria: Fair and decent wages			
7.5.1.	**Indicator:** Payment of fair and decent wages **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Employers/Managers understand and have policies to ensure the principle of equal pay for equal work.	[Farmers] Almost all farmers are family business without employment. Part of farmers hire relatives or acquaintances as part-time workers, and remuneration is paid according to the time spent on oyster stripping work. (Confirmed via interview to farmers) [Fisheries Cooperative] Payment regulation is in place and payment is decided based on this regulation so that the payment system is clear. Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative merged on 1st April 2007 and at this point a common payment regulation was developed which unified the payment system in all branches. Office staff understand the contents of the regulation (confirmed via interview and the regulation). Article 29 of employment regulation states that specified work hour is 40 hours per week. Payment is regulated by payment regulation which meet the legal requirements. If there are problems concerning labour, there is a system that allows staff to talk with each other and consult with administrators at any time (confirmed via interview to office staff). Staff are consulted and evaluated based on the employee evaluation system of Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative (confirmed via interview to the manager). Salary is confirmed at the head office. Minimum payment level specified in the payment regulation is well-above the minimum wage of Miyagi Prefecture.	Compliant		
		b. Employers ensure wages paid for a standard working week (no more than 48 hours) always meet, at least, legal/industry minimum standards.				
		c. Labor conflict resolution policy in place to track conflicts and complaints raised, and responses to conflicts and complaints.				

		d. Ratio of lowest wage rate to basic needs wage always exceeds 100%.	Minimum wage is set by each Prefecture as a level that workers can maintain the minimum standards of wholesome and cultured living. Therefore the minimum wage is the same level of basic needs wage, and the payment is well-above it. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
		e. Others, please describe				
7.6. Criteria: Freedom of association and collective bargaining						
7.6.1.	**Indicator:** Employees have access to freedom of association and collective bargaining **Requirement:** Yes **Applicability:** All	a. Workers have the freedom to form and join any trade union, free of any form of interference from employers or competing organizations set up or backed by the employer. The ILO specifically prohibits "acts which are designed to promote the establishment of worker organizations or to support worker organizations under the control of employers or employers' organizations".	[Farmers] Almost all farmers are family business. Part of farmers hire acquaintances as part-time workers, but they are one or two and the scale is too small to organise labour union. [Fisheries Cooperative Association] As a local fishery cooperative, they have never organized a trade union, also in last year. The managers do not restrict to organise a union (Confirmed via interview to office staff). Before the merge of the fishery cooperation, there was a trade union in the superior body (Federation of Prefectural Fisheries Cooperation), but no such an union for the current Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative (Confirmed via interview to office staff and the manager). No special communication related to freedom of association and collective bargaining was confirmed. Managers and all staff can communicate directly (via interview to office staff). 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.	Compliant		
		b. Local trade union, or where none exists a reputable civil-society organization, confirms no outstanding cases against the employer for violations of employees' freedom of association and collective bargaining rights.				
		c. Trade union representatives have access to their members in the workplace at reasonable times on the premises.				
		d. Explicit communications from the employer about their commitment to freedom of association and collective bargaining rights of all.				
		e. If trade unions exist, they are able to access/inform all workers directly (posters, pamphlets, visits).				
		f. Others, please describe				
7.7. Criteria: Non-abusive disciplinary practices						
7.7.1.	**Indicator:** Incidences of abusive disciplinary practices occurring on the farm	a. There is never any use of or support for (e.g. subcontractors using) corporal punishment, mental or physical coercion, or verbal abuse.	[Farmers] Almost all farmers are family business. Part of farmers hire acquaintances as part-time workers, but there is no abusive disciplinary practices. [Fisheries Cooperative] Corporal punishment, physical / psychological compulsion, abuse, etc. to office staff have not been reported (confirmed via interview to office staff). Disciplining of workers follow the labour standard act in Japan. There is a discipline classification of deductions of wages, however, this has never been implemented so far, also in the last year (confirmed via interview to the	Compliant		
		b. Fines or wage deductions shall not be acceptable as a method for disciplining workers (indicated by policy statements, as well as evidence from worker testimony).				

	Requirement: 0 **Applicability:** All	c. Procedures exist for situations in which disciplinary action is required, and they establish the use of progressive verbal and written warnings. Aim should always be to improve the worker before letting him/her go. (Indicated by policy statements as well as evidence from worker testimony).	manager). There has been no reporting of disciplinary action. No fine nor wage deduction has implemented (confirmed via interview to office staff). Employment regulation specifies reducing measures (extenuation) of disciplinary actions. However there was no such a case in the past year. 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
		d. Others, please describe				
7.8. Criteria: Working hours						
7.8.1.	**Indicator:** Incidences, violations or abuse of working hours and overtime laws or expectations **Requirement:** None **Applicability:** All	a. No deductions in pay for disciplinary actions.	[Farmers] Almost all farmers are family business without employment, so working hours are decided by themselves. Because shipping time by the association is fixed, opening time of the oyster processing centres is determined by it. Opening hours and users of the processing centre is specified. In the busiest season, it opens at 4 o'clock in the morning and can be used until noon. Sunday is a closing day because markets are also closed. In the afternoon after oyster processing, until 3pm, oyster for next day is landed. Landing oyster does not take long time. It finishes sometime even in one hour. Mechanisation made it easier to land oysters. Since the ""Support program for hard-working aquaculture"", working hours has become shorter. No one works for more than 12 hours / day now. Reducing working hours has led to the development of young producers. [Fisheries Cooperative] Disciplinary actions are regulated in the Labour Standard Act. However, no disciplinary action has been implemented so far, also in the past year. Payment regulation is clearly in place. Wages are transferred to employee's bank account every month (confirmed by interview to office staff and payment evidences). Audit team confirmed via interview that there is no such form of contract (information from farmers, association's staff and the manager). Payment regulation is clearly in place. Staff can refer to it anytime (confirmed via interview to office staff). Employment regulation regulates working hours to be 40 hours a week (from 8:30 am to 17:00 pm). 36 agreements were made at Shizugawa branch and Togura subbranch. Premium paid for overtime work is specified in the payment regulation and payment is made based on this regulation. Regarding the overtime work, there is almost no long-time overtime work during weekdays, and total overtime work does not exceed 12 hours per week. But in the busy seasons, they have to work during non-business days. Premium bonus is paid for such holiday works. (confirmed with records of overtime work and payment records). Overtime work and work on non-business days is not mandated by the employer. Employees ask to work overtime in writing when necessary and the direct manager approves it. A new computer system was introduced to request for	Compliant		
		b. Wage and benefits are clearly articulated to employees and rendered to employees in a convenient manner; e.g. no need to travel to collect benefits, no promissory notes, coupons or merchandise; payment in cash or check.				
		c. Labor-only contracting or false apprenticeship schemes are not accepted, including: revolving/consecutive labor contracts used to deny benefit accrual.				
		d. Clear, transparent mechanism for wage setting known to employees.				
		e. Employer shall comply with applicable laws and industry standards related to working hours. “Normal workweek” can be defined by law but shall not on a regular basis (constantly or majority of the time) exceed 48 hours. Only if allowed by law, variations (to the 48-hour regular work week) based on seasonality may apply.				

		f. All overtime shall be paid at a premium and should not exceed 12 hours per week.	manager approves it. A new computer system was introduced to request for overtime work since January 2017 (confirmed with the record of request for overtime work). 2020: This criteria was not assessed during the SA1 audit.			
		g. Overtime work shall always be voluntary.				
		h. Others, please describe				

11 Findings

11.1 DO NOT DELETE ANY COLUMN
11.2 Columns B/C/D/E (in black) are automatically populated from the species checklist/audit manual
11.3 Each NC is raised against a standard indicator or a CAR requirement
11.4 Use the "sort" function for presenting the list to your liking (e.g. grading, status, closure deadline, etc.)
11.5 Add new rows as needed
11.6 Adjust the column width and row as needed - to show the whole text

NC reference	Indicator	Grade of NC	Description of NC	Evaluation	Date of detection	Status	Related VR (#)	Root cause (by client)	Corrective/ preventive actions proposed by UoC and accepted by CAB	Deadline for NC close-out	Evaluation by CAB (including evidence)	Actual date of close-out	Date request for delay received	Justification for delay	Next deadline	Request evaluation by CAB	Date request approved
2019.1	2.3.1	Compliant	[Observation] They have not confirmed the contents of the new red list yet. Although there is no addition of red lists in the sea, it is desirable to check the contents of the red list updated just in case.	WWF Japan consulted existing materials and experts and has developed a list of threatened/endangered species listed in IUCN red list, Red list of Ministry of Environment and Red list of Miyagi Prefecture that exist or were found in the past in the region. 8 bird species and 2 mammals were listed at the time of the initial assessment, and 1 reptile was added from consultation after the initial assessment. Oyster aquaculture never seems to have any direct negative impact on any of the species listed. Birds use the area as resting and feeding site but the oyster aquaculture is unlikely to be putting any pressure on their habitats nor any case of death of the birds caused by farm reported. Regarding the possibilities of water quality change affecting the organisms in intertidal zone or physically preventing the movement of marine mammals, there is no research on these. Regarding fish species, Leucopsarion petersii which is designated endangered species by the Ministry of Environment is considered to live in this region. But this fish lay eggs in river and stays in seaweed bed so the farms are unlikely to be causing any impact on them. The association presented which rivers this fish runs in order to understand their habitats. There are 5 species of Eelgrass. One of which is endangered but the habitat does not overlap with farms. For seaweeds, one of endangered species designated by the Ministry of the Environment has been newly confirmed, but habitats also do not overlap with farms. Since farms are managed for many decades, there is no data on status of threatened/endangered species in the absence of farms. There is a map of seaweed beds in Shizugawa Bay. Aquaculture farms are located deeper than 10m and seaweed beds exist in areas of 5m depth or above. So they do not overlap. During the site visit, auditors confirmed that farms are not located near seaweed beds. Currently there is no case where farms are considered to be affecting the threatened/endangered species. Hence no measure is needed. Several farmers who are also local community members were consulted but no information about threatened/endangered species or their habitats were obtained. MInamisanriku Town is preparing to apply for the Ramsar Convention with seaweed bed as a candidate area, and explained it to committee members and producers. There was no disagreement. Almost all of Shizugawa bay was designated as the registration site of the Ramsar Convention. At that time the collection of biological information was done. In March 2018, the report "Shizugawa Bay Ramsar Convention wetland information form" was prepared by the Ministry of the Environment (not disclosed). An explanatory meeting of the Ramsar Convention was held at Shizugawa branch steering committee on 22nd June 2017. Endangered species such as Brent goose, Golden eagle and Steller's sea eagle have been confirmed to exist, but there are no reports that the farms are harming them. Red list of Miyagi Prefecture was revised in 2016. Species in intertidal zone are added in this list. Data related to marine benthic organism is not sufficient and there is no red list. They have not confirmed the contents of the new red list yet. Although there is no addition of red lists in the sea, it is	19/02/2019	Open	-	We were not aware of the update of the Miyagi Prefecture red list.	We will check the Miyagi Prefecture red list to confirm if there is any related RTE species that was newly identified.	-	The Miyagi Prefectural Fisheries Association was aware that the Miyagi Prefectural Red List had been updated, but was not aware of the existence of rare species that could affect the farm. Continue observations.						
2019.2	5.1.3	Minor	There are also cases where they bring used oil by themselves to gas stations and take them for free at no cost. Since it is free pick up, there are no records such as vouchers, and the amount of waste is based on self-declaration. Although it was an observation at the previous Audit, it became a minor nonconformity.	No chemical is used. Hence no disposal. When engine oil of ships are changed, the old oil is processed appropriately by the company which changes the oil. Invoices of oil changes are kept. E.g. Invoice dated 20th November 2017 was confirmed. There are also cases where they bring used oil by themselves to gas stations and take them for free at no cost. Since it is free pick up, there are no records such as vouchers, and the amount of waste is based on self-declaration. It is desirable to know when and to what extent oil change (disposal of used oil) occurred. Foamed polystyrene is currently not used even as floats or in the processing centre. Other plastic wastes are not burned but appropriately treated. Old ropes are collected by the Association and then processed as an industrial waste.	19/02/2019	Open	-	When producers exchanged engine oil by themselves, we judged that self-declaration was enough because there were no slips.	When producers change engine oil by themselves, it will be recorded.	19/05/2020	It was an observation item at the re-certification audit in 2019, but since no record was recorded, it is changed to a minor nonconformity for SA1 audit on 2020/2/19.		19/05/2020	When producers change engine oil by themselves, it will be recorded.	19/02/2021	If the farmer changes the oil of the engine, it will be recorded. Auditor will check the record at the next audit.	19/05/2020
2019.5	7.4.2.	Major	Health and safety training is not conducted periodically, such as once a year. Therefore the training has not been available for more than a year. Farmers are working with due consideration to their health and safety, and although no accidents have occurred, they have not been improved since the last audit, so it is judged as Major nonconformity.	[Farmers & Fisheries Cooperative] ""Togura sub-branch Oyster Subcommittee Occupational health and safety regulation"" was developed. There are sections on safety training, social security coverage, prevention of accident re-occurring, safety management. Points of risk for each process is developed and displayed in the processing centre. They have a communication structure in case of accidents. The structure is displayed in the processing centre. Warm-water treatment uses hot water of at maximum 75 to 80 degrees C. But there was no case of burn injury in the past. Japan Coast Guard is promoting on a program named ""Life guard ladies"" where female promoters promote the use of life jacket. On 29th October 2014, Kesennuma Marine Safety Station contracted the Female Committee of Togura Sub-branch to be the ""Life guard ladies. Record confirmed. They are always aware of wearing a life jacket. On 20th November 2017 in the female department "Togura branch office maritime safety training seminar" was held. They announced it orally every time at the board meeting. Poster was also posted. They also informed by public relations magazine issued by Miyagi prefecture fishery cooperative (issued to all cooperative members). When a license to operate small boat is renewed, farmers receive a training seminar and safety is included in the seminar. Before the Earthquake, there was a seminar on safety management of leisure fishing boat but this program is no longer available. Farmers participated in first aid seminar when they got the license to operate boat. In the past first aid seminar was held in the region, but it is no longer available in the region. Currently first aid training is not provided. AED is installed but no training on how to use it is given. Health and Safety information is shared during the general assembly (once a year) but lecture is not provided. (confirmed by interview to farmers). Wearing a life jacket is decided when boarding a ship during the landing of oysters. (confirmed by interview to farmers) [Farmers] Farmers are members of "Mutual Rescue Society of Water Accidents" (within the Shizugawa branch), but the society is currently inactive. There are procedures for taking actions in case of oil spillage, boat accident, distress and other accidents and illness (auditors confirmed the documents). [Fisheries Cooperative Association] Study seminar on safety for staff was not held in the past year. The role of office staff in the assembly service is to supervise. So the training on site given by the direct manager is sufficient. It is not related to safety of aquaculture. No dangerous chemical is used during work. (confirmed by interview to staff) Health and safety training is not conducted regularly, such as at least once a year. Therefore, no training opportunities have been given for more than	19/02/2019	Closed	-	Because there has been no accident or injury, there is no recognition that we need to implement Health and safety training periodically.	We will develop system to conduct Health and safety training periodically and implement it.	19/05/2020	Health and safety training is not provided regularly (at least annually). Therefore, no training opportunities have been given for more than one year. The producers are working with due consideration for their health and safety, and although no accidents have occurred, it is judged to be major nonconformity because the action plan for the minor nonconformity raised in the previous audit in 2019 has not been implemented. (On February 19, 2020) Major nonconformity is closed because the evidence documents have been submitted. (2020/5/19) Evidence documents: -Health training	#########					

ASC Audit Report - Traceablity

10	Traceability Factor	Description of risk factor if present.	Describe any traceability, segregation, or other systems in place to manage the risk.
10.1	The possibility of mixing or substitution of certified and non-certified product, including product of the same or similar appearance or species, produced within the same operation.	Because all oysters produced are to be certified, there is no possibility of mixing or substitution of certified and non-certified product.	Oysters are clearly separated by farmers during harvesting and processing.
10.2	The possibility of mixing or substitution of certified and non-certified product, including product of the same or similar appearance or species, present during production, harvest, transport, storage, or processing activities.	During the process of harvesting, transporting to processing plants, shelling, packing in 10kg container and shipping, only certified oysters are processed and non-certified oysters will never enter the processes. Therefore there is no possibility of mixing or substitution of certified and non-certified product.	Oysters are clearly separated by farmers during harvesting and processing. Shelled oysters are packed in a tamperproof container and traceability sticker is attached on it.
10.3	The possibility of subcontractors being used to handle, transport, store, or process certified products.	There is no subcontractor.	N/A
10.4	Any other opportunities where certified product could potentially be mixed, substituted, or mislabelled with non-certified product before the point where product	No	N/A

		Owned by client	Subcontracted by client
10.4.a	Total number of sites owned/subcontracted by client producing the same species that is included in the scope of certification	5	0
	Number of sites included in the unit of certification	5	0

	Site name(s)	Reason(s)
10.4.b Site(s) within UoC that has product to be excluded from entering the chain of custody		

10.5 Detail description of the flow of certified product within the operation and the associated traceability system which allows product to be traced from final sale back to the unit of certification	Oysters are harvested by each farmer and transported to a processing plant which is designated for each farmer. Temporal stock area and processing area within plants are also designated for each farmer, therefore oysters farmed by other farmers will not be mixed. All farmers farm oysters only within the certified area therefore only certified oysters enter the processing plants. Each farmer shell oysters of him/herself and pack shelled oysters in a 10kg of tamperproof container and attach traceability sticker. The sticker includes farmer's name, farm site and a use-by date.

10.6 **Traceablity Determination:**

10.6.1 The traceability and segregation systems in the operation are sufficient to ensure all products identified and sold as certified by the operation originate from the unit of	Yes
10.6.2 The traceability and segregation systems are not sufficient and a separate chain of custody certification is required for the operation before products can be sold as ASC-certified or can be eligible to carry the ASC logo.	A separate chain of custody is not required.
10.6.3 The point from which chain of custody is required to begin	At buyers' factory where oysters are purchased and received from Togura area, Shizugawa Branch of Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative
10.6.4 If a sepearate chain of custody certificate is required for the unit of certification	No

For Multi-site clients

ASC Audit Report - Closing

12 Evaluation Results

12.1 A report of the results of the audit of the operation against the specific elements in the standard and guidance documents	Generally the operation of the oyster farms in Togura area meets the requirements of the ASC Bivalve standard V1.1.
12.2 A clear statement on whether or not the audited unit of certification has the capability to consistently meet the objectives of the relevant standard(s)	The audited unit of certification has the capability to consistently meet the objectives of the relevant standard.
123 In cases where BEIA or PSIA is available, it shall be added in full to the audit report. IF these documents are not in English, then a synopsis in English shall be added to the report.	BEIA or PSIA is not available.

13 Decision

13.1 Has a certificate been issued? (yes/no)	Yes
13.2 The Eligiblity Date (if applicable)	-
13.3 Is a separate CoC certificte required for the producer? (yes/no)	No

13.4	If a certificate has been issued this section shall include:	
13.4.1	The date of issue and date of expiry of the certificate.	The date of issue: 30th March 2019 The date of expiry of the certificate: 29th March 2022
13.4.2	The scope of the certificate	Oyster farms in Togura Area, Shizugawa Branch of Miyagi Prefecture Fisheries Cooperative Type of products: Oyster (Crassostrea gigas) Standard: ASC Bivalve Standard Version 1.1 March 2019
13.4.3	Instructions to stakeholders that any complaints or objections to the CAB decision are to be subject to the CAB's complaints procedure. This section shall include information on where to review the procedure and where further information on complaints can be found.	Please cotact AMITA Corporation for complaints procedure. Address: 3-2-4 Kudankita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 102-0073 Japan E-mail: ninsho@amita-net.co.jp

14 Surveillence

14.1	Next planned Surveillance	
14.1.1	Planned date	1st February 2021
14.1.2	Planned site	Togura farms, Minamisanriku-cho, Miyagi Prefecture
14.2	Next audit type	
14.2.1	Surveillence 1	
14.2.2	Surveillance 2	x
14.2.3	Re-certification	
14.2.4	Other (specify ty	

Client Internal Management System

Pre-requisite, without which an external audit is not allowed to take place

If not met, a major NC is raised by CAB

Internal procedures

	Brief description	Status (*met/not met*)
17.1.3.2.b).iii.A Document control procedure	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council"	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.B Record keeping and retention procedure	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 6. Management of documents and records	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.C Procedure for managing changes to ASC requirements	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.D Procedure for conducting annual management reviews	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.E Procedure for managing complaints submitted to Management by stakeholders and staff members as per specified in the applicable (farm) standard	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 8. Complaint resolution system	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.F Procedure for the evaluation and implementation of corrective and preventive actions	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 9. Procedure for the evaluation and implementation of corrective and preventive actions	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.G Procedure for conducting root cause analyses for nonconformities, and for addressing identified root causes	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.H Procedures to ensure compliance with legal requirements	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met

17.1.3.2.b).iii.I Procedures for conducting an annual internal audit, covering ASC requirements	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.J Procedures for planning for and evaluation of the results of internal audits	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.K Procedures for the scheduled reporting of performance of management systems and sites	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 7. Annual internal monitoring procedure related to the ASC requirements	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.L Procedures for identifying and segregating all products within each site, among sites within the unit of certification, and products that are not included in the unit of certification	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 10. Sales of ASC certified products and prevention of mixture with non-certified products	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.L.1 Description of how certified products are identified and segregated to prevent mixing with non-certified before the start of the MSC/ASC certified chain of custody	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 10. Sales of ASC certified products and prevention of mixture with non-certified products	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.L.2 Description of the conditions under which products must be segregated, and measures to prevent mixing directly or indirectly	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 10. Sales of ASC certified products and prevention of mixture with non-certified products	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.L.3 Procedure for traceback of products from the start of the MSC/ ASC certified chain of custody back to the production unit (*cage/net/pen/ pond/tank/raceway*)	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 10. Sales of ASC certified products and prevention of mixture with non-certified products	Met
17.1.3.2.b).iii.M Procedures for traceability of inputs used for each site as specified in the standard being audited to	"Management manual for multisite certification of Aquaculture Stewardship Council" 11. Material purchase related to ASC requirements	Met

Management review

17.1.3.2.b).iv Yearly management review is carried out (*date of the last review, by whom, outcome, etc* .)	After the S1 audit is completed, they plan to conduct an annual management review based on the results.	Met

Internal audit

17.1.3.2.b). v.A A full internal audit has been completed prior to this onsite audit (*dates, scope, outcome, etc.*)	A full internal audit was conducted on 15 February 2020.	Met
17.1.3.2.b). v.A.1 The internal audit included all relevant ASC requirements at all sites and the central office	The internal audit included all relevant ASC requirements at all sites and the central office	Met
17.1.3.2.b). v.A.1.1+ 2 Social requirements excluded from internal audits and justification	Social requirements were excluded from the internal audit because it is related to a lot of personal information. Social audit was left to AMITA.	Accepted by AMITA
17.1.3.2.b).v.A.3 Internal auditors are competent as required in Annex B	On March 15, 2019, Fujio Abe and Shotaro Sudo completed the ISO9001 Internal Auditor Training Course certified by JATA (Japan Auditors Training Association). Confirmed the certificate of completion. Meet the competence requirements of internal auditors.	Met
17.1.3.2.b).vii.B Implementation of corrective and preventive actions	No non-conformities were found by the internal audit so there were no corrective and preventive actions.	Met

Traceability

17.1.3.2.b).iii.L.3 Test traceback from sale(s) by the client's central office back to production unit(s) of site(s)	Traceability test was implemented and no problem was found. The same test will be performed when new sites are added.	Met

Subcontracting

17.1.3.2.b).vi.B.1 All of the operations of subcontracted farms are subject to the same procedures as the rest of the unit of certification	No subcontracting	Met
17.1.3.2.b).vi.B.2 The product produced by the subcontractors is owned by the certificate holder	No subcontracting	Met
17.1.3.2.b).vi.B.3 The central office has the same oversight and right to control over the operations of subcontractors as it has for its own operations	No subcontracting	Met

17.1.3.2.b).vi.B.4 All of the operations of the subcontracted farms are included in the multi-site certificate.	No subcontracting	Met
17.1.3.2.b).vi.B.5 The contract is transparent, mutually accepted by both parties and include the above provisions (17.1.3.2.b.vi.B.1-4)	No subcontracting	Met
17.1.3.2.b).ix Compliance to all relevant ASC requirements of all sites within the unit of certification is monitored	It is monitored that all sites complied to the ASC requirements.	Met
17.1.3.2.b).x Notification to the CAB of any non-conformities against applicable local regulations that are relevant to the ASC scope of certification within three (3) days of detection	No non-conformities against applicable local regulations, thus no report of it.	Met

Risk evaluation

Table E1 - ASC sample size calculator for sites and staff interviews in multi-site certification	
Is this the initial audit of the client or operation?	No
How many sites does the client or operation have?	Yes
How many sites has the clinte or operation ADDED since the last audit?	No
How many employees does the client or operation have?	0
Threat	**Risk Level**
1. Management system weakness	Medium
2. Weakness of client's internal site checklist	Medium
3. Internal audit weakness	Medium
4. Staff training weakness	Medium
5. Multiple management systems	Low
6. Records management weakness	Low
7. Subcontractors including subcontracted farms and subcontracted services (related to the operations of the unit of certification	Low
8. Use of resources	High
9. Record of NCs raised by the ASC CAB and response	Medium
10. Complaints resolution weakness	Low
11. Traceability weakness	Low
12. Country risk assessment score	Low

E2. The CAB shall add the list of additional threats (Annex E, E4.2.1.ii) to this table and provide its risk category and an explanation to support it to this table.

Additional risks identified by the CAB (E7.1.1.i, 7.2.2, 8.1.1.i)		
Threat	**Thresholds for determining level of risk**	**Risk Level**

None	Low: Medium: high:	

Sample size (Sites)	2
Sample size (Employees)	0
E2.1.vi Sample size for records	2
E9.2 Explanation of sample selection	Although the sample size was 2, there are only 5 sites so all of them were audited.

Internal Auditors Requirements

Annex B - Table D - Internal auditors qualifications and competencies

Items denoted with (*) are required when the training is made available by the ASC

Req.#		Requirement	Evidence	Met	Unmet
For all internal auditors					
B45	Auditor training	* Completed the ASC training for new requirements as specified by the ASC within the deadlines set by ASC	On March 15, 2019, Fujio Abe and Shotaro Sudo completed the ISO9001 Internal Auditor Training Course certified by JATA (Japan Auditors Training Association). Confirmed the certificate of completion.	x	
		Undertake additional training on changes to legislation, specific standards, codes or conventions as appropriate	They attend workshops held by the prefecture and the fishery cooperative as necessary.	x	
B60	Work experience	The individual shall have experience relevant to the business being audited.	Experience of oyster farming as staff of the fishery cooperative	x	
B51	Interviewing	Be experienced in different types of interviewing techniques	Experience through the work	x	
B52	Language	Fluent speaker and reader of the language(s) used by managers, administrators and workers or accompanied by an independent interpreter	Japanese	x	
For internal audit team leader					
B42	Audit/inspection Experience	At least two satisfactory witness audits as an acting audit (team) leader, shadowed by and under the supervision of a competent internal auditor	As it was the first internal audit it was conducted shadowed by a competent ISO internal auditor.	x	
For auditing multi-site requirements (IMS)					

B44	Audit/inspection training	Successfully completed an Internal Assessor training course based on ISO 19011 principles that have a minimum duration of sixteen (16) hours	On March 15, 2019, Fujio Abe and Shotaro Sudo completed the ISO9001 Internal Auditor Training Course certified by JATA (Japan Auditors Training Association). Confirmed the certificate of completion.	x	
B45	Auditor training	successfully completed either an ISO management system internal auditor course (ISO 9001/14001/22000/27000/OHSAS/etc.) provided by a certification body or a professional auditor training institution	On March 15, 2019, Fujio Abe and Shotaro Sudo completed the ISO9001 Internal Auditor Training Course certified by JATA (Japan Auditors Training Association). Confirmed the certificate of completion.	x	
		* Successfully passed the 'ASC Farm Traceability' online training module	Not applicable currently	x	

		Had an audit peer witnessed by a qualified ASC internal auditor no less than once in each two (2) year period	As it was the first internal audit it was conducted shadowed by a competent ISO internal auditor.	x	
B54	Management systems and reference documents	Have a general knowledge of management systems standards (such as ISO 9001), applicable procedures or other management systems documents used as audit criteria	Internal Assessor training course of ISO 9001 was completed and understand it.	x	
For auditing environemntal requirements					
B59	Technical languag	Have knowledge of the technical language employed in aquaculture and processing of aquaculture products	They have knowledge as staff of the fishery cooperative.	x	
For auditing social requirements					
B45	Auditor training	Successfully completed a training course for auditing social requirements provided by a certification body or professional training institution specialised in social auditing	Social requirements were excluded from the internal audit because it is related to a lot of personal information. Social audit was left to AMITA.	x	

List of sites of multi-site unit of certification

Name of Certificate Holder	Miyagi Prefecture Fiheries Cooperative, Shizugawa Branch
Certificate Number	ASC-AMITA-F-1001
Date of certificate issuance	30th March 2019
Date of certificate expiry	29th March 2022

#	Site name*	Site address*	Site GPS*	Species * (*Latin/English name*)	Ownership* (owned/ subcontracted)	Number of pens/cages/ ponds/ tanks/etc.	Production area (ha)	Stocking date(s)	Harvesting dates	Harvested volumes	Date of inclusion*	Date of removal
1	Demarcated Fishery Right No.1526 located in Togura fishery area	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi	38° 39.16' N, 141° 26.82' E 38° 39.27' N, 141° 27.64' E 38° 39.03' N, 141° 27.74' E 38° 38.74' N, 141° 27.43' E 38° 38.76' N, 141° 27.08' E 38° 38.63' N, 141° 27.06' E 38° 38.63' N, 141° 26.72' E 38° 38.75' N, 141° 26.62' E	Crassostrea gigas / Oyster	Owned	75	50	May-18	ongoing	35 tons	Initial audit	-
2	Demarcated Fishery Right No.1528 located in Togura fishery area	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi	38° 39.16' N, 141° 27.80' E 38° 39.29' N, 141° 28.67' E 38° 38.89' N, 141° 28.70' E 38° 39.04' N, 141° 27.85' E	Crassostrea gigas / Oyster	Owned	75	50	May-18	ongoing	35 tons	Initial audit	-
3	Demarcated Fishery Right No.1530 located in Togura fishery area	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi	38° 39.40' N, 141° 28.74' E 38° 39.42' N, 141° 28.98' E 38° 39.40' N, 141° 29.46' E 38° 39.24' N, 141° 29.46' E 38° 39.25' N, 141° 29.16' E 38° 38.96' N, 141° 29.10' E 38° 39.01' N, 141° 28.82' E	Crassostrea gigas / Oyster	Owned	75	50	May-18	ongoing	35 tons	Initial audit	-
4	Demarcated Fishery Right No.1534 located in Togura fishery area	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi	38° 39.29' N, 141° 30.02' E 38° 39.25' N, 141° 30.20' E 38° 39.08' N, 141° 30.16' E 38° 38.81' N, 141° 30.18' E 38° 39.00' N, 141° 29.54' E	Crassostrea gigas / Oyster	Owned	75	50	May-18	ongoing	35 tons	Initial audit	-
5	Demarcated Fishery Right No.1535 located in Togura fishery area	Togura, Minamisanriku-cho, Motoyoshi-gun, Miyagi	38° 39.61' N, 141° 30.08' E 38° 39.63' N, 141° 30.29' E 38° 39.75' N, 141° 31.07' E 38° 39.46' N, 141° 31.07' E 38° 39.45' N, 141° 30.25' E 38° 39.49' N, 141° 30.09' E	Crassostrea gigas / Oyster	Owned	75	50	May-18	ongoing	35 tons	Initial audit	-

* Fields to be included in the annex to multi-site certificate - List os sites