

**Audubon Nature Institute**  
**Gulf United for Lasting Fisheries (G.U.L.F.)**  
**Responsible Fisheries Management (RFM) Certification Scheme**  
**2017 Work Plan**  
**UPDATED June 1, 2017**

**STANDARDS IN REVIEW:**

- [G.U.L.F. Responsible Fisheries Management Standard \(Version 1.1, March 2016\)](#)

**STANDARDS IN DEVELOPMENT:**

[G.U.L.F. Chain of Custody Standard \(Version 1.0, May 24, 2017\)](#)

*Both Standards are currently open for Public Comment from June 2, 2017- August 1, 2017.*

**WORK PLAN:**

The Audubon G.U.L.F. Program has three primary goals for the RFM Certification Scheme in 2017:

1. Development and Implementation of a Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard for the Scheme to verify the traceability of certified products throughout the supply chain and allow for on-package certification claims. This includes the following actions:

- Development of a Chain of Custody Technical Advisory Committee (CoC TAC)-  
*completed May 2017*
- Draft of a CoC Standard by the CoC TAC in accordance with FAO, ISO and GSSI principles - *completed May 2017*
- Conduct pilot CoC assessment(s) - *anticipated August 2017*
- Application for formal accreditation of CoC Standard - *anticipated Fall 2017*

2. Development of a Data Deficient Assessment Tool (DDAT) as a supplemental component of the Audubon G.U.L.F. RFM Certification Scheme. Given the small-scale nature and potential data-deficiencies of some Gulf fisheries, a Data-Deficient Assessment Tool (DDAT) would define procedures for taking into account the special circumstances of such fisheries and allow for more widespread use of the Audubon G.U.L.F. RFM Certification.- *anticipated Summer 2017*

3. Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) Benchmarking

– Submit application for GSSI recognition - *anticipated Summer 2017*