

What do ASC's New Standards Mean for Aquaculture?

A Deep-Dive into the Latest Standards and Updates
by the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)

Agenda

What will you learn?

Who is SCS Global Services?

Support for the Seafood Industry

Key Updates to the ASC Standard

Implications

How to Prepare

Thank you slide



Speakers



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Seafood Specialist

Learning Outcomes

- New changes in the ASC Farm Standard
- What these changes mean for the aquaculture industry – SCS insights
- Call to Action! Potential areas for collaboration with the CASS Community

**Who is SCS
Global Services?**



About SCS Global Services

International leader in third-party sustainability certification, consulting, and standards development



30,000+

Certifications in 125
countries



15,000+

Clients – Corporate,
Government, NGOs



40+ Years

Sustainability
Leadership



Auditors

Every major
market

Our Four Service Pillars



Seafood Industry Partners



Our Efforts to Date

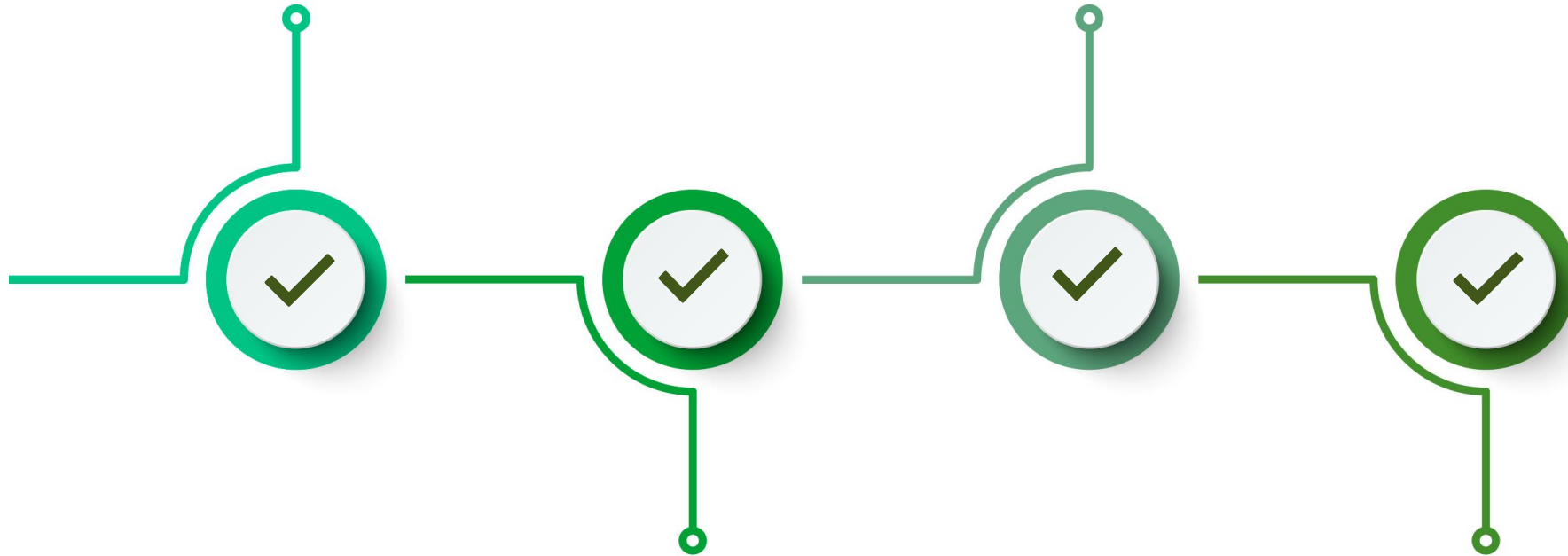
- **3 mock audits** against ASC Farm v 1.0.1, 1.01 2A in 2025, 2026
- SCS Global Services is the only CAB member of the **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)**



New Transition Timeline

Initially we had a 2 Year
Timeline, now 3 years

Anything announced on
or after March 20, 2028



Originally announced
May 1, 2025, and
effective May 1, 2027

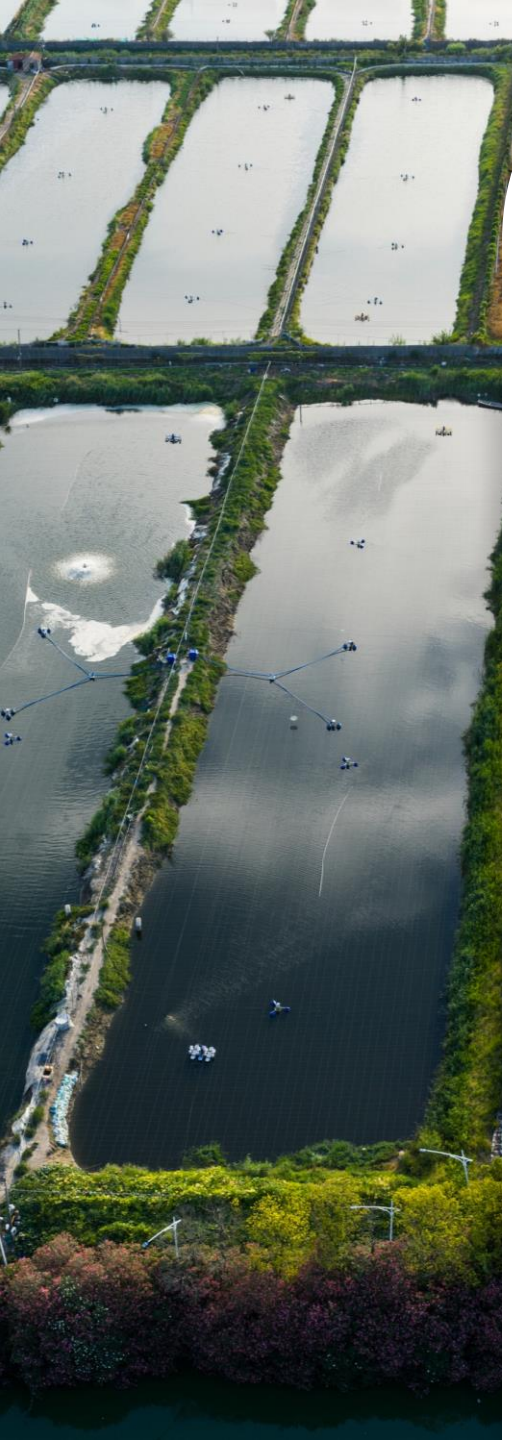
The mandatory transition deadline of the
ASC Farm Standard has now been extended a
year to 1 May 2028 (previously 1 May 2027).

Revised Standard – v 1.0.1 A2

- An interim version, **ASC Farm Standard V1.0.1 A2**, was just released and became effective on **Aug 5th 2026**. This version includes select indicators (42 in total) and appendix (4 Appendices) marked as “not in use.”

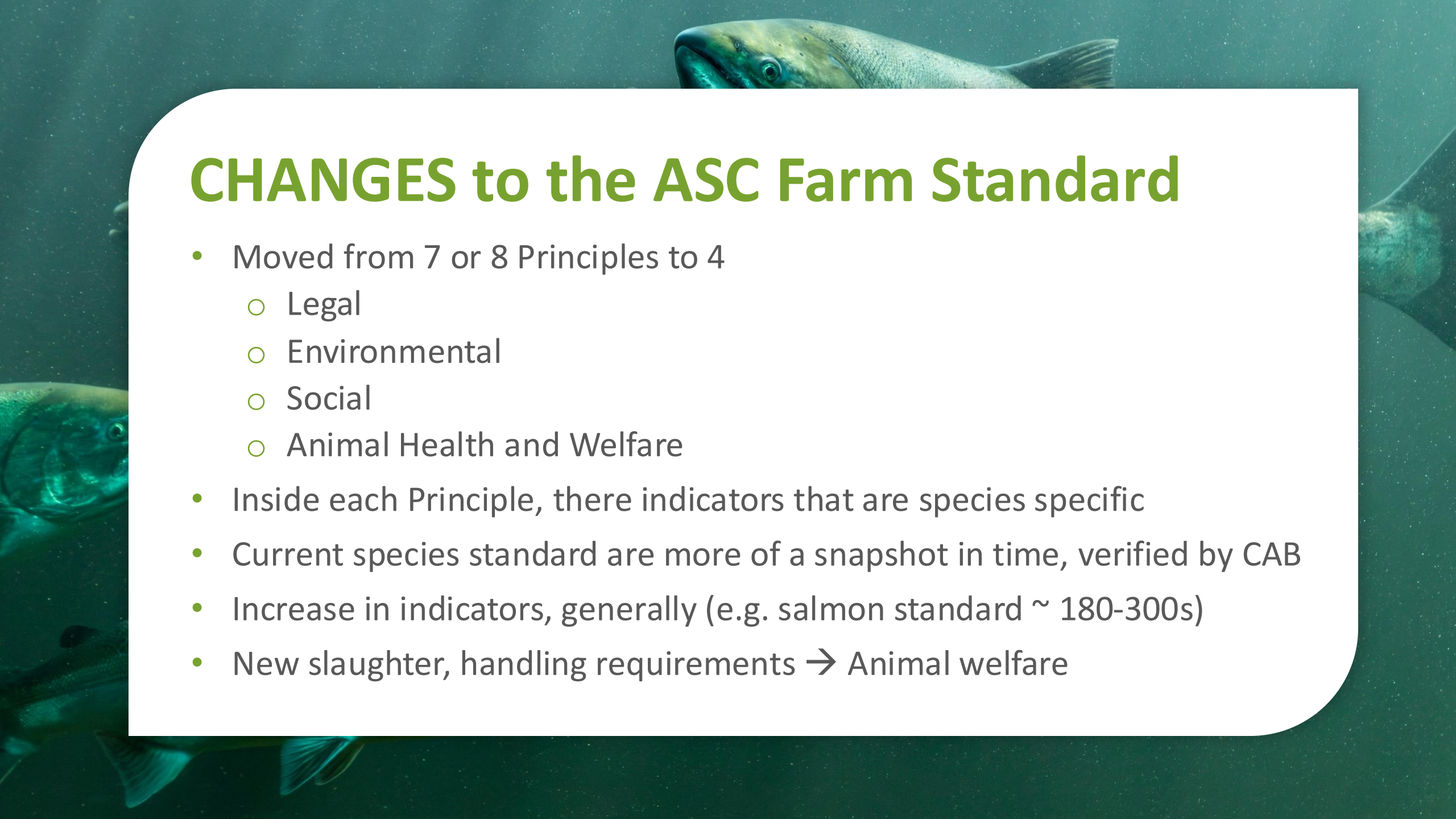
- "Not in use" does NOT mean removed necessarily, they are under review

- The fully revised version, **ASC Farm Standard V1.1**, will be released on **1 November 2026**, and becomes effective on **1 February 2027**.



What Does This Mean?

- Farms currently certified against ASC Species Standards now have until **1 May 2028** to complete the transition.
- ASC Farm Standard V1.0.1 A2 becomes effective on **Aug 05 2026** and this version will be used for any ASC Farm Standard audits starting on or after this date.*
- From **1 February 2027**, audits may be conducted against ASC Farm Standard V1.1.
- New applicants are encouraged by the ASC to certify under the new ASC Farm Standard, Species Standards remains available
- From **1 May 2028**, all audits must be conducted against the ASC Farm Standard V 1.1.



CHANGES to the ASC Farm Standard

- Moved from 7 or 8 Principles to 4
 - Legal
 - Environmental
 - Social
 - Animal Health and Welfare
- Inside each Principle, there indicators that are species specific
- Current species standard are more of a snapshot in time, verified by CAB
- Increase in indicators, generally (e.g. salmon standard ~ 180-300s)
- New slaughter, handling requirements → Animal welfare



CHANGES to the Process?

- New CAR, no Ruoc any longer
- Social auditor required for every surveillance audit (cite pricing/scoping under existing standard)
- ASC Audit Planning Tool – defines audit team composition
 - For high-risk countries determined by ASC, minimum 2 auditors required per audit

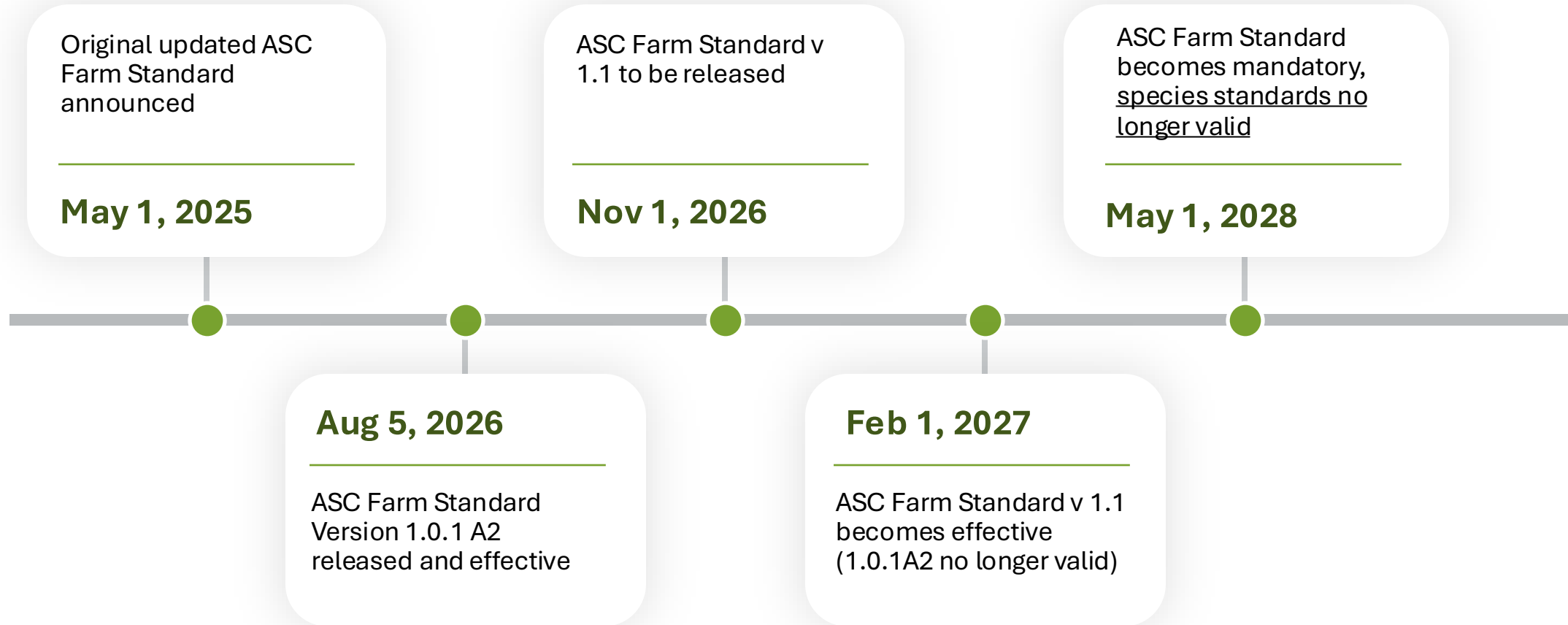
What do these changes mean?

- Extra day for all farm audits; we expect this to be reduced
- More time for report writing; expect this to be reduced with V 1.1
- Some efficiencies for surveillance and re-certification audits – able to more seamlessly transfer data from previous year into the next report (may not include)

Initial Pain Points/Challenges

- Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA)
- Health and Welfare Management Plan
- Health Management Plan

Recap of Important Dates





Key Takeaways

- Transition is still happening - don't wait on familiarizing yourself
- SCS Global Services is here to help industry
 - Try out a desk-based Pre-Assessment to identify any gaps
 - We are happy to answer questions and talk with anyone directly!
- Are you a consultant? We would love to partner with you!

Questions?

THANK YOU



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