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Dr. Sian Morgan  
SCS Global Services

Sent by email

Date: 12/08/2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement 7.5.9 for British Columbia Halibut

Dear Dr. Morgan,

I write with reference to your submission on 5 August 2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow for an extension to duration of the fishery certificate.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the duration of the fishery certificate are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC programme.

MSC notes the factors presented in your letter supporting your request, including:

- Prevent a lapse in certification between the existing certificate and completion of the reassessment.
- This will allow ample time for stakeholder comments on the PCDR to be considered fully as well as add an additional stakeholder consultation period.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:

- The CAB's assessment up to this point does not indicate that the Fishery may not be in compliance with the MSC Standard.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Megan Atcheson the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email [megan.atcheson@msc.org](mailto:megan.atcheson@msc.org) or phone +44 (0)207 246 8978.

Best regards,



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cc: ASI, lead auditor