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Sent by email

Date: 12/04/2019

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 FCP-7.10.3 for Zhangzidao scallop

Dear Jo Akroyd,

I write with reference to your submission on 11/04/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

LR would like to use a modified tree for the assessment of the Zhangzidao Scallop Fishery

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 FCP-7.10.3 state:

The team shall use the structure and the default set of Performance Indicator Scoring Guideposts in the default assessment tree as set out in the MSC Fisheries Standard (Annex SA) in all assessments, with the following exceptions

These 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 supporting your request, including:

- The fishery is targeting an introduced species.
- The MSC Fisheries Standard Annex SD: Introduced Species Based Fisheries (ISBF) includes requirements to modify specific Fisheries Standard Performance Indicators which the CAB have stated that they are implementing.
- As per FCP v2.1 7.12.5, CABs are required to obtain a variation request from the MSC to use the MSC Fisheries Standard Annex SD: Introduced Species Based Fisheries (ISBF).

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

- Stakeholders are informed.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: Accreditation Services International