

Marine Stewardship Council

Variation Request Form

This form details the information required from CABs to enable the MSC to consider a request to vary from their scheme requirements.

Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with the described information.

Once complete, save and attach to an email to the MSC Fishery Assessment Manager assigned to the fishery being assessed or send to coc@msc.org if the variation is regarding a CoC requirement.

On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 10 days.

If your variation request is regarding a fishery requirement, please note that all variation requests and the MSC response to the request will be published on the MSC website with announcements for the fishery.

Certification Body	<i>Scientific Certification Systems</i>
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	<i>US Pacific halibut/ SCS-MFCP-F-0018</i>
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	<i>Dr. Sabine Daume/Same</i>
Scheme requirement(s) to vary from	<i>FCMv6.1 Section 5.3.1</i>

Proposed variation
<i>Variance to the maximum period of validity of a fishery certificate of five years. The current certificate expires on 18 July, 2011. SCS requests a variation so that the certificate expires 9 August, 2011.</i>

Rationale/Justification
<i>The certification report with the certification decision was published to the MSC website on 5 July, 2011. There is a 15 working-day period to allow stakeholders time to file an objection. The objection period concludes 26 July, 2011. The short time extension of the certificate will allow sufficient time for the objection period to conclude and, if no objections are received, the final report to be published without causing substantial disruption to the chain of custody for products originating from the fishery. Additional time to respond to stakeholder comments caused a slight delay of the submittal of the Final Certification Report. Some comment responses required further coordination and information gathering from outside agency personnel and the client.</i>

Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)
<i>No substantive impact on the assessment or other requirements. The granting of this variance will</i>

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Author: SLH

Approved by: DS

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simply ensure there is no break in certification status of the fishery between certification cycles.

Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

The stakeholders have been informed of the objection period. If the variance is not granted, a notice to all stakeholders and chain-of-custody clients will be issued to prepare for supply disruptions.

Further Comments

The fishing season is currently open. A lapse between certification cycles would negatively affect the supply of MSC certified products originating from this fishery.