



Polly Burns
Lloyds Register (Acoura)
6 Redheughs Rigg
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH12 9DQ

Sent by email

Date: 18/10/2019

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 FCP-7.22.1 for Wash Brown Shrimp

Dear Polly Burns,

I write with reference to your submission on 11/10/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

Extension of the 18th Month deadline from the 27th October 2019 to the 27th November 2019, so that the fishery can remain in assessment.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 FCP-7.22.1 state:

If the period from the full assessment announcement to the publication of the Final Draft Report by the MSC is more than 18 months, the CAB shall withdraw the fishery from the MSC assessment process

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:

- This fishery entered into assessment on the 27th April 2018, which means the 18th month deadline for publication of the final report is the 27th October 2019.
- The fishery under assessment experienced a significant delay in the process due to the amount time taken by the client to provide an acceptable Client Action Plan as this required working with local authorities. This subsequently delayed the publication of the Public Comment Draft report.
- The PCDR consultation closed on 6th October 2019. Owing to the significant comments from engaged stakeholders, LR will be unable to respond to the comments in time to meet the 18 month deadline.
- The proposed extension allows for the Final Report to be completed to a high standard and ensures all stakeholder and TO comments will be adequately responded to.
- If the extension is approved it is achievable for LR to have the final report and determination ready to be published on or before the extension date – 27th November 2019.

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

- Evidence of progress can be provided;
- If the new deadline is not met the UoC must withdraw;
- Stakeholders are informed, including an updated timeline on the MSC website.

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

