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Sent by email

Date: 16/12/2016

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.4.14 for Annette Islands Reserve salmon

Dear Sian Morgan,

I write with reference to your submission on 28/11/2016 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

SCS requests that IPI catches be permitted to enter further chains of custody (Annex SC6.1.3).

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.4.14 state:

7.4.14

If IPI stocks are identified and are below the level of 15% specified in 7.4.13.1.c, the CAB shall, as early as practicable in the assessment process and following the variation request procedure set out in section 4.12 of the GCR, submit a variation request to the requirements section 7.4 to the MSC to either:

7.4.14.1

Allow fish or fish products to be considered as coming from IPI stocks to enter into chains of custody subject to Annex PA.

- a. The variation request to allow fish or fish products to be considered as coming from IPI stocks to enter into chains of custody shall include a detailed and substantiated rationale of how the catches under consideration fulfil the requirements of 7.4.14.1 above.
- b. If this variation request is accepted, the requirements for IPI stocks in Annex PA shall apply.

7.4.14.2

Allow fish or fish products considered as coming from IPI stocks to enter chains of custody, with an exemption to the additional assessment requirements for IPI stocks given in PA4.2.

- a. The variation request to allow an exemption to requirements for IPI stocks shall include a detailed and substantiated rationale showing that, in addition to 7.4.13.1:
 - i. The catch proportion of IPI stocks calculated in 7.4.13.1.c is less than or equal to 2% and the total catch of IPI stock(s) by the UoA does not create a significant impact on the IPI stock(s) as a whole.
 - ii. CABs shall note that significance will be assessed on basis of the status of the IPI stock, and the risk that the IPI catch poses to the health of the IPI stock

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:

- Based on catch data from the most recent five years (SC6.1.2), the assessment team has determined that the potential harvest of non-UoA stocks that are not already certified (Annex SC6.1.1) is <5% of total UoA harvest (Annex SC6.1.1.2a).
- For IPI stocks outside of biologically based limits, the assessment team has found that the UoA does not catch a significant portion of the total catch of the IPI stock and it is highly likely not to significantly hinder its



recovery, and practical measures have been implemented to reduce impacts on the stock (SC6.1.1.2b).

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR.

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