



Lucia Revenga  
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**Sent by email**

Date: 12/07/2022

**Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.2 FCP-7.5.5 for Norway beaked redfish**

Dear Lucia Revenga,

I write with reference to your submission on 29/06/2022 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

To allow for a change in the UoA, regardless of this not been announced provisionally (note that the UoC was provisionally announced). We would like to UoA to be equal to UoC so that there are not other eligible fishers.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.2 FCP-7.5.5 state:

The CAB shall not change the UoA and UoC during the assessment unless the UoA is announced provisionally in the initial announcement and confirmed later in conformity with 7.17.3

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:**

- DNV became recently aware of a mistake in the definition of the Unit of Assessment (UoA) at the Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) of the Norway beaked redfish fishery, stating the existence of other eligible fishers, which was not the intent.
- The fishery comprises a single UoA, and its assessment is at the Public Consultation Draft Report (PCDR) stage. The fishery undertook the assessment as if the UoA didn't include other eligible fishers.
- To address this situation, DNV is requesting to amend the UoA, by excluding other eligible fishers.

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

- The fishery's UoA shall only be amended regarding the exclusion of other eligible fishers.
- Ecert is updated to reflect changes in the UoA.
- The CAB describes changes of the UoA in the PCDR and subsequent assessment reports so stakeholders can follow the process.
- All stakeholders are informed of changes to the UoA.

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: Assurance Services International