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 the Certification Requirements.

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

Once complete, delete this first page of the document, save as a PDF file and send to either:

- The MSC Fishery Assessment Manager assigned to the certified fishery/fishery being assessed, or
- <u>coc@msc.org</u>, if the variation is requested in relation to a CoC requirement.

On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 14 days.

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

This does not apply to the optional 'Confidential Information' section on page 3 of this document. If this is not required it can be left blank and deleted from the final completed Variation Request Form sent to the MSC. If used, the information will be used by MSC in considering the variation request but the page with this section will be deleted from the form before it is published.

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.3

| Date submitted to MSC | 19.11.2013 | |
|---|---|--|
| Conformity Assessment Body | DNV Business Assurance | |
| Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number | Norway Spring Spawning Herring fishery Certificate No. DNV-NOR-MSC-F-61388-2009 Issued 17 September 2009 (certificate award 30 April 2009) Valid until 29 April 2014 | |
| Lead Auditor/Programme Manager | Sandhya Chaudhury/ Variation is made by Anna Kiseleva on behalf of Sandhya Chaudhury | |
| Scheme requirement(s) to vary from | 7.5.9 The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of five years from the issue date. | |
| Is this variation sought in order to undertake an expedited P1 assessment (CR annex CL)? | No | |

1. Proposed variation

Validity of the certificate will be extended with maximum 6 months from the expiry date of 29 April 2014.

2. Rationale/Justification

The recertification process for Norway Spring Spawning Herring fishery was started 14 months prior the certificate expiry date and was announced on 2nd of April 2013. The site visit was coordinated with the fourth annual surveillance audit and took place in week 26 (24 to 28 June 2013). The recertification activities was planned to be accomplished by April 2014.

Due to new developments in the AS herring management, it was not possible to finalise the fourth annual surveillance before the release of ICES advice for 2013 (3rd of October 2013). In order to evaluate how the conclusions from the ICES 2013 advice could affect the compliance of AS herring fisheries engaged in MSC programme with MSC Principles and Criteria, a harmonization meeting was held on the 29th of October 2013 between DNV, FCI, Intertek Moody Marine, and MSC. Main conclusions were as follows:

- In 2013, a condition will be placed for PI 3.1.1
- Assessment team for Norway SSH will draft a condition for PI 3.1.1 and distribute to all affected CBs for consultation.
- Condition will apply to Norwegian fishery first. Other fisheries will then join as and when they come up for recertification, according to CR v1.3.
- The condition for PI 3.1.1 will not apply to the surveillance activities of Norway Spring Spawning Herring fishery, since it was assessed under the respective older version of the CR.

The process described above, postponed the recertification of this fishery with 4 months and more delay is expected due to extra time required for:

- Drafting a harmonised condition for PI 3.1.1
- Consultation on the condition with other CBs, clients and the responsible authorities
- Drafting of the client action plan

The assessment team is therefore seeks a variation to extend the validity of the certificate with maximum period of 6 months from the expiry date of 29 April 2014.

3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

The recertification process will be prolonged with up to 6 month. This request does not alter the conformity with the MSC requirements. If the period from the on-site visit to the receipt of the Public Comment Draft Report by the MSC is more than 9 months, the CR v1.3 requirements under § 2.4 will be followed.

| 4. | Have the stakeholders of this fishery | No |
|--------|---|----|
| | assessment been informed of this | |
| | request? (required for fisheries | |
| | assessment variations only | |
| 5. | Further Comments | |
| Please | include any further relevant information. | |