



Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	29 th November 2016
Name of CAB	Acoura Marine
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Talley's New Zealand Skipjack tuna purse seine
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Polly Burns
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	7.6.1 The CAB shall nominate a date from which product from a certified fishery is eligible to be sold as MSC certified or bear the MSC ecolabel (the eligibility date). This shall be either: 7.6.1.2 The publication date of the first Public Comment Draft Report.
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
The eligibility date will be the 1 st December 2016, rather than the date of the first PCDR publication.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>The New Zealand Skipjack fishery season starts on the 1st December 2016, so the client wanted their target eligibility date to be that date or before, meaning the PCDR would have to be published by this date. Due to harmonisation discussions, this assessment process was delayed, meaning the report went to peer review later than planned. The peer review comments are now in, but turning around the report ready for it to be published as a PCDR by 1st December 2016 is unlikely. We expect that the PCDR will be ready for publication around a week later than the 1st December. As this delay has been through no fault of the client, and we would like them to be able to have the whole season covered by the eligibility date, we would therefore request that the eligibility date is fixed as the 1st December 2016.</p> <p>The assessment team have no concerns over traceability and the storage of MSC eligible catch.</p>	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
No further implications, the assessment process will continue as normal.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No, stakeholders will be notified when this request is published.
5. Further Comments	
None thank you.	