

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	9 October, 2014
Name of CAB	MRAG Americas
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Ozernaya salmon
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Bob Trumble
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	CR 27.22.2
Is this variation sought in order to fulfill IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No.

1. Proposed variation	
<i>The second annual surveillance audit will take place in April, 2015—17 months after the previous surveillance audit, and 7 months after the anniversary of the certification date (Sept. 2012).</i>	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p><i>The NE Sakhalin Island salmon fishery needs additional time to prepare for their surveillance audit (see NE Sakhalin variation request), and there is a desire to keep that fishery and this one on the same surveillance schedule.</i></p> <p><i>The sustainability status of the fishery is not believed to be affected by this change, particularly as the fishery will not be open, and thus there will be no new product entering the supply chain before June/July of 2015. We offer the following justification:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. The results of the previous season's fishery would not be available if the audit were to take place according to the existing schedule (Oct/Nov this year), however they will be available in April of next year for the assessment team to review thus allowing the most up-to-date information to be used for the surveillance audit; and</i> <i>2. Keeping this fishery on the same surveillance schedule as the NE Sakhalin Island salmon fishery will increase efficiency and cost savings for both fisheries and their stakeholders in this remote area of Russia.</i> 	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
<i>There aren't expected to be any negative implications for the assessment. As mentioned above, the fishery is closed until June or July 2015 anyway, and maintaining consistent timing on surveillance audits between Ozernaya and NE Sakhalin Island will ensure efficiency and cost savings for both assessments.</i>	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	<i>Not specifically, although the NGO partners with this fishery are aware of the plan and have not raised any concerns.</i>
5. Further Comments	
<i>Please include any further relevant information.</i>	