

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	9 th of October 2018
Name of CAB	SCS Global Services
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	F-SCS-01020
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Dr Sabine Daume
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	FCR 7.23.11.5 CABs shall submit this information (surveillance announcement template) for posting on the MSC website at least 30 days before the audit activities are carried out.
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
SCS requests a shorter posting period of the MSC surveillance audit announcement (14 days instead of 30 days) for the 1 st annual surveillance audit of the Western Australian Abalone Fishery.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>The Western Australian Abalone fishery was certified on the 28 April 2017 and is on a level 5 surveillance cycle with an onsite audit proposed for the first surveillance audit.</p> <p>According to the FCR 7.23.6.2 surveillance audits shall be carried out no later than 6 months after the anniversary date (certification date). First annual surveillance audits are part of the Western Australian (WA) Third-Party Certification Program and as such still fall under the WA Government tender process. The first step of this process is to re-appoint CAB Panel members as the panel expired in September 2017. The next step involves selecting successful proposal for the 1st surveillance audits which are due this year, including audits of the Western Australian Abalone fishery. Both processes have not been finalised.</p> <p>In order to meet MSC FCR 7.23.6.2 and still conduct the surveillance audit before the 28 October 2018 (< 6 months after the anniversary date), the announcement posting period will be shorter. It is anticipated that the contract for the WA Abalone surveillance audit will be awarded to the successful CAB by the end of the week of 8th October 2018. Therefore, the audit could be announced during that week, leaving 14 days for the posting period prior to the audit activities.</p>	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
None.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No. Stakeholders will be informed via announcement of the 1 st annual surveillance audit, through direct email to all know stakeholders.
5. Further Comments	
None	