



Sandy Morison

SCS Global Services

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Sent by email

Date: 11/04/2016

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CRv1.3 27.4.3 for Tri Marine Western and Central Pacific skipjack and yellowfin tuna

Dear Mr Morison,

I write with reference to your submission on 11/03/2016 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow revision the unit of assessment and unit of certification for the Tri Marine Western and Central Pacific skipjack and yellowfin tuna fishery.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the definition of the unit of assessment and unit of certification 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 in your letter supporting your request, including:

- The need to further specify and decrease the geographic scope of the Unit of Assessment (UoA) and Certification (UoC) for both skipjack and yellowfin tuna,
- Specify the definition of 'FAD' sets for both the UoA and UoC.
- The client has voluntarily assumed a tighter definition of "unassociated" for definition of the UoC, further controlling product that is eligible to carry the label. "Unassociated" for the UoA is defined before the set begins, whereas for the UoC it is defined after the set ends.
- These revisions of scope will be included in the Final Report, and all tables, figures, and text will be updated accordingly.
- The team has examined scoring implications of this scope reduction and have found that none will occur.



- Should distribution of effort meaningfully change in the future, the team may consider applying for a variation to alter scope and to re-score as necessary.

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

- The changes to the UOC/UOA in terms of both reduction of geographic scope and the definition of 'FAD' are provided in the Final Report with justification where relevant

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact, the MSC Fisheries Team by email [fisheries@msc.org](mailto:fisheries@msc.org).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'D. Agnew'.

David Agnew

Director Science and Standards

Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI, lead auditor