

## Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.3

<b>Date submitted to MSC</b>	24 January 2014
<b>Conformity Assessment Body</b>	Vottunastofan Tún ehf.
<b>Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number</b>	ISF Iceland Saithe
<b>Lead Auditor/Programme Manager</b>	Louise le Roux
<b>Scheme requirement(s) to vary from</b>	CR 27.4.3
<b>Is this variation sought in order to undertake an expedited P1 assessment (CR annex CL)?</b>	No

### 1. Proposed variation

It is proposed that Nephrops trawl is added to the unit of certification (UoC) for the ISF saithe fishery, in addition to the UoC's notified at the outset of the assessment.

### 2. Rationale/Justification

The request has no bearing on conformity to standards, except it will ensure a fuller evaluation of conformity by the Icelandic saithe fishery to MSC Principles and Criteria.

While quantities of saithe caught by means of Nephrops trawl were not significant a few years back, this has changed substantially from 86 tonnes (or 0,13% of total catch of saithe) in the fishing year of 2007/2008 to 527 tonnes (1,22% of total catch) in the 2012/2013 fishing year. The assessment team is of the opinion that this fully justifies the inclusion of the Nephrops trawl as the sixth unit of certification for this fishery.

While preparing the assessment report, the assessment team considered the Nephrops trawl as one separate unit of certification during the latter stage of information gathering, during consultation meetings with stakeholders and during scoring, as well as in assessment reports to client and to peer reviewers.

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

The variation's impact on the timeline will be modestly reflected in the revised timeline due for publication, although it will not cause any subsequent delays in the progress of the assessment. Once the assessment report is submitted for public consultation the variation will serve to provide all stakeholders with somewhat more comprehensive picture of the saithe fishery in Iceland.

### 4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

Client and stakeholders interviewed were requested to supply information on saithe caught in the Nephrops trawl fishery as one of the units of certification during site visit and stakeholder meetings. This variation request will act as notification to all other stakeholders.

<b>5. Further Comments</b>

<b>6. Confidential Information</b>