



Carolina Medina Foucher
Organización Internacional Agropecuaria (OIA)
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Sent by email

Date: 25/04/2019

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 FCP-PC1.2.Table-PC1.3.a for Argentine anchovy (*Engraulis anchoita*), Bonaerense stock, semi-pelagic mid-water trawl fishery

Dear Carolina Medina Foucher,

I write with reference to your submission on 23/04/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

OIA to designate Eng. Pedro Landa as Team Leader during the fishery's second surveillance audit. Eng. Landa complies with all the requirements mentioned in the MSC General Certification Requirements v2.3 (Table 1), and FCP v2.1 Annex PC1.2 except section 3a, the proposed team leader has only partaken in 1 MSC assessment/surveillance on the last 5 years as a team member.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 FCP-PC1.2.Table-PC1.3.a state:

Fishery team leader qualification and competency criteria

3. Assessment experience - Qualifications

a. Have undertaken 2 MSC fishery assessment or surveillance site visits as a team member in the last 5 years

These 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 supporting your request, including:

- That although the proposed team leader has only partaken in 1 MSC assessment/surveillance on the last 5 years as a team member; he has participated, in recent surveillance audits by OIA, as technical support, completed the MSC Program Manager modules, and participated as team member in this fishery re-assessment in 2016.
- GCRv2.3 published on 31 August 2018 and effective on 28 February specifies that the CAB shall ensure that all fishery team leaders have passed an official course on third-party product and management system conformity assessment auditing techniques. It's noted the CAB observation that courses recognized by CQI/IRCA or Exemplar Global are scarce in Argentina.
- Pedro Landa has passed the ISO 19011 auditing course recognized by Exemplar Global.
- This variation request will allow the CAB to conduct the second surveillance in time with FCRv2.1 - 7.28.8.1 deadlines.
- OIA has secured dates for conducting the training and no future Variation Request will be necessary for this topic.

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



- This variation applies only to Eng. Pedro Landa.
- This variation shall not be taken as precedent for similar situations in the future.
- OIA can provide evidence, if required, that their auditors have taken the course as specified in the variation request.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: Accreditation Services International