Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

| Date submitted to MSC | 16 July 2015, Revised 14 Aug 2015 |
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| Name of CAB | SCS Global Services |
| Fishery Name/CoC | Gulf of California Sardine, Mexico |
| Certificate Number | Cert # F-SCS-0026 |
| Lead Auditor/Programme | Dr. Sian Morgan, Sustainable Seafood Program Manager |
| Manager | |
| Scheme requirement(s) for | 7.23.18: The Surveillance Report shall be forwarded to the MSC |
| which variation requested | within 60 days of completing the audit, for publication on the MSC |
| | website. |
| Is this variation sought in | No. |
| order to fulfil IPI | |
| requirements (FCR 7.4.14)? | |

1. Proposed variation

The SCS Global Services team requests to publish the 4^{th} annual surveillance report by 22 September 2016. This is 60 days beyond the original due date of 21 July 2015.

2. Rationale/Justification

The extension will allow the results from the latest stock assessment of the Gulf of California sardine stock to be peer reviewed and incorporated into the surveillance audit report. To evaluate progress on the new condition on 1.1.1, the peer review of the stock assessment will need to be completed and the report finalized. Other aspects of the fishery remain in compliance with the standard and the delay in publishing the surveillance report are not expected to have any material implications for outcome of the surveillance audit cycle, particularly since the fishery is not opening prior to the stock status report being reviewed and available.

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

None. Surveillance audit cycle.

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

No, but stakeholders will be informed if granted and provided the report by 22 September 2015.

5. Further Comments

Thank you for your consideration.