



Geraldine Criquet  
SAI Global (SAI)

**Sent by email**

Date: 15/11/2019

**Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 FCP - 7.30.1 for Lake Erie Multi-species Commercial**

Dear Geraldine Criquet,

I write with reference to your submission on 06/11/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

SAI Global to announce the re-assessment one month later than the date 90 days after the fourth anniversary of the existing certificate.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 FCP - 7.30.1 state:

The CAB shall announce the reassessment of a certified fishery no later than the date 90 days after the fourth anniversary of the existing certificate. Exact timing and planning of the reassessment shall remain the responsibility of the CAB, in consultation with the client

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:**

- The Principle 1 assessor has an unexpected family issue that prevents him from being available to work on the ACDR for 2 weeks, leading to delay in the completion of the ACDR.
- Granting this VR will allow SAI Global's team to complete the ACDR, the client to review it, and the re-assessment to be announced (should the client confirm their decision to proceed to re-assessment announcement) without SAI Global being outside MSC requirements.

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

- Stakeholders are informed of the delay to the announcement of the reassessment and an indicative timeline is provided

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