

Global Trust Certification

Canada Scotia-Fundy haddock

MSC Variation Request

1 Introduction

This form details the information Global Trust is required to submit to the MSC to enable the MSC to consider an application to vary from a clause or requirement in any of the MSC program documents.

Once a Variation Request has been submitted the MSC will consider that request and will usually respond within 14 days.

2 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1. Variation request.

1	Date submitted to MSC	28 September 2021
2	CAB	Global Trust Certification Limited
3	Fishery name and certificate number or CoC certificate number	Canada Scotia-Fundy haddock / MSC-F-31238
4	Lead auditor or program manager	Paul Knapman, lead auditor
5	Request prepared by	Geraldine Criquet, Global Trust Certification's Fisheries Team Leader
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	MSC General Certification (GCR) v.2.4.1 §7.5 Fishery Certificates <i>7.5.6 The CAB shall issue fishery certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date.</i>
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?	0

Table 2. Variation justification.

1	Proposed variation	Global Trust Certification proposes to extend the validity of the fishery certificate by 16 days.						
2	Additional time requested	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Original deadline date</td> <td>30 October 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Modified deadline date requested</td> <td>15 November 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Length of additional time requested</td> <td>16 days</td> </tr> </table>	Original deadline date	30 October 2021	Modified deadline date requested	15 November 2021	Length of additional time requested	16 days
Original deadline date	30 October 2021							
Modified deadline date requested	15 November 2021							
Length of additional time requested	16 days							
3	Justification	The Canada Scotia-Fundy haddock re-assessment was announced on 29 January 2021, so 3 months after the 4 th anniversary date.						

Table 2. Variation justification.

	<p>There has been slight delay in the re-assessment process for the following reason:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the site visit held on 17-18 March 2021, DFO Science and Resource Management advised the assessment team that the last stock assessment for the 4X5Y haddock stock could not determine the status of the stock because the model was rejected and consequently reference points were no longer available to assess the stock status against. <p>As a result, the assessment team follows the requirements of MSC FCPv.2.2 Table 3, and the use of the RBF to score PI 1.1.1 was triggered. An Use of the RBF in Fishery Assessment notification was issued on 23 March 2021 with an additional stakeholder consultation period of 30 days. A RBF questionnaire was provided to stakeholders to collect their input and the assessment team needed time to analyse them, to further discuss with stakeholders and to finalise the scoring of PI 1.1.1 in the Client and Peer Review Draft Report.</p> <p>If the certificate extension was to be granted, it will allow the fishery to still be covered by a valid certificate until the completion of the re-assessment process, meaning that the client group would not be penalised by the delay that occurred for the reason described above.</p>
4	Implications for assessment
	<p>Global Trust Certification has not identified any implications for the re-assessment. No risk to the integrity of the MSC Fisheries Certification Program from granting this VR has been identified.</p> <p>The assessment team has not identified any issues that could prevent the fishery from continuing to conform with the MSC Fisheries Standard, and therefore recommended that recertification should be granted. Both peer reviewers agreed with the assessment team's overall conclusion and recommendation.</p> <p>No stakeholder comments have been submitted in written on the ACDR and no stakeholder attended the remote site visit besides the client group and DFO who provided information requested by the assessment team.</p>
5	Mitigation of the implication for assessment
	<p>There is no implication requiring mitigation.</p>
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?
	<p>Three conditions were raised by the assessment team during the re-assessment process: condition 1 on PI 1.2.2 for the UoAs 1-4, condition 2 on PI 1.2.2 for UoAs 5-8, and conditions 3 on PI 3.2.4 for all UoAs.</p> <p>Their progress will not be affected, neither positively or negatively, by this VR.</p>
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Comment Draft Report was issued on 6 September 2021 for a stakeholder consultation period that ends on 7 October 2021. • The Final Draft Report & determination is expected to be issued on 11 October 2021 for a 15 working days objection period which will end on 1 November 2021. • Pending no objection is submitted and accepted, the Public Certification Report is scheduled to be issued on within the 2 first weeks of November 2021.
8	Further comments
	<p>NA</p>
9	If applicable, additional information added after MSC's request

3 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Variation Request Form – Fisheries v1.0'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with Global Trust Certification's corporate identity, Global Trust has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

The Marine Stewardship Council's 'MSC Variation Request Form – Fisheries v1.0' and its content is copyright of "Marine Stewardship Council" - © "Marine Stewardship Council" 2020. All rights reserved.

Table 3. Template version control.

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the [MSC website](http://msc.org) (msc.org).

Marine Stewardship Council
Marine House
1 Snow Hill
London EC1A 2DH
United Kingdom

Phone: + 44 (0) 20 7246 8900
Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7246 8901
Email: standards@msc.org