

Paul Knapman

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Sent by email

Date: 16th November 2011

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC certification requirements

Dear Paul Knapman,

I write with reference to your submission on the 15th November 2011 of a request for the fisheries listed in your letter to be exempt from the MSC's new certification requirements (CR) until each is reassessed. The MSC has stated that until November 2012 it would accept variation requests from CABs for any fishery having begun the assessment process or having been certified against FAM version 1, wishing to continue using FAM v1 to assess or monitor these fisheries until the time of their reassessment.

This statement referred to the use of FAM v1 assessment trees and allowing fisheries to proceed with their assessments or certificates without having to apply Annex CB of the CR, that is, the default assessment tree.

MSC notes that the fisheries included in your variation request are eligible to apply this derogation.

The MSC is therefore willing to grant a variation to the certification requirements for these fisheries subject to the following conditions:

- The assessments/certificates conform to all other requirements within the CR.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hoyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI