

## Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.2

<b>Date submitted to MSC</b>	10 Sep 2012
<b>Conformity Assessment Body</b>	Intertek Moody Marine
<b>Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number</b>	Lake Hjälmarens Pikeperch Trap Fishery Lake Hjälmarens Pikeperch Gill Net Fishery
<b>Lead Auditor/Programme Manager</b>	Andrew Hough
<b>Scheme requirement(s) to vary from</b>	CR 27.9.4

<b>Proposed variation</b>
<i>To carry out a further information gathering 'visit' and SICA workshop through the medium of a teleconference, rather than in-person site visit</i>

<b>Rationale/Justification</b>
<p><i>This fishery is undergoing its first re-assessment.</i></p> <p><i>The original consultation on the assessment tree for this fishery included for use of the RBF. No objections were received to this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>However, through a priori assumptions of the assessment team based on previous assessments of the fishery, the RBF was not employed on the original site visit as it was expected that appropriate information would be made available from stakeholders.</i></p> <p><i>However, recent changes in personnel at NBF and changes in emphasis of science away from Hjälmarens have led to concomitant changes in the information base for the fishery; analysis of the information provided has determined that appropriate information required to score the following PIs was not obtained: 1.1.1, 2.1.1, 2.2.1, 2.4.1, 2.5.1.</i></p> <p><i>The information unavailable would be that allowing quantification of populations of target, retained and bycatch species, and providing evidence of the effects of the fishery on habitat/ecosystem structure and function.</i></p> <p><i>Accordingly, IMM propose to carry out a further information gathering 'site visit' as per CR 27.9.4. This will entail a SICA workshop involving all elements of CR appendix CC. To avoid unnecessary costs to the client, and as a site visit has already taken place at Lake Hjälmarens, this additional information gathering and SICA workshop is planned to take the form of a teleconference.</i></p> <p><i>We would highlight the fact that the assessment team are familiar with the nature of the fishery; a comprehensive site visit has already taken place; the stakeholders and assessment team are well known to each other and as this is a small-scale fishery we hope to minimise unnecessary costs to the client.</i></p>

**Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)**

*This variation would cause a delay to the assessment process. A revised timeline will be produced as and when variation is granted.*

*A notification to stakeholders of the proposed teleconference will be made 30 days in advance, allowing for all requirements of CR appendix CC2.2.*

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

Yes. Client and main stakeholder (WWF) are aware of this proposal.