



Sian Morgan

SCS Global Services

2000 Powell Street, Suite 600

Emeryville, CA 94608, USA

Sent by email

Date: 27/08/2015

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR v1.3 27.4.3 & 4.12 for Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna fishery

Dear Dr. Morgan,

I write with reference to your submission on 14/08/2015 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow a change to the Unit of Certification (UOC).

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the defined UOC 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 in your letter supporting your request, including:

- The assessment currently has 2 UOCs which are defined in terms of the target stocks of skipjack and yellowfin tuna
- The current UOCs are requested to be subdivided by set-type, with these set-types being dolphin-associated, object-associated, and unassociated. This would make a total of 6 UOCs for the assessment.
- Having 6 UOCs will enable more accurate scoring by set-type to account for different P2 scoring outcomes
- The change will demand more robust traceability on the part of the client, more specific conditions and will provide risk management benefits



- The proposed change will have no material effect on the scope of work, species, or impacts considered by the team.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Gutteridge, the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email gutteridge.adrian@gmail.com or phone +61 405 390 660.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Dan Hoggarth".

Dan Hoggarth
Head of Fisheries Standard

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: ASI, lead auditor