



MSC Variation Request

NAFO 3M FLEMISH CAP COLD WATER PRAWN

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

1 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request				
1	Date submitted to the MSC			
	29 April 2021			
2	CAB			
	DNV Business Assurance			
3	Fishery name and certificate number			
	NAFO 3M Flemish Cap cold water prawn			
4	Lead auditor or program manager			
	Jodi Bostrom			
5	Request prepared by			
	Jodi Bostrom			
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested			
	FCP v2.2 7.5.5: "The CAB shall not change the UoA and UoC during the assessment unless the UoA is announced provisionally in the initial announcement and confirmed later in conformity with 7.17.3."			
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

The CAB proposes to change the UoA and UoC during the assessment by adding two more vessels to the client group being assessed.

2 Additional time requested

Original deadline date	NA	
Modified deadline date requested	NA	
Length of additional time requested	NA	

3 Justification

The client group works to add more company/vessels to the group in order to streamline the assessment process and limit overlapping fisheries. (Refer to the Estonia North East Arctic cold water prawn and cod fishery, which is the same core clients/vessels that has added more clients/vessels during its certification period.) Unfortunately, the client agreement to add these two vessels was not in place before the fishery's announcement on 28 April. Due to the lack of team availability in July and not wanting to postpone the site visit until August, the client group requested that the CAB proceed with the announcement.

The client group and vessel list stated in the assessment announcement and ACDR are provided in the table below. The CAB proposes to add the two clients/vessels highlighted in yellow. The CAB concludes that the addition of the França Morte has minimal impact on what is stated in the ACDR because it:

- Overlaps with the announced UoA (i.e., same target stock, fishing gear, and management [NAFO, DG MARE]).
- Is subject to the same target catch restrictions and non-target species and habitat protection measures.
- Sells to Frioantartic, which is a company that already has MSC CoC in place.

The CAB has determined that the addition of the Arctic Viking is slightly more complicated since the Faroe Islands is under a previously not considered management entity – the Faroese Ministry of Fisheries. However, the Arctic Viking is included in the MSC-certified Faroe Islands North East Arctic cold water prawn fishery, and the Faroe Islands and its national management structure have been assessed as part of several current MSC certifications. Therefore, the CAB concludes that the additional of this vessel also presents minimal risk.

Flag Country	Client	Vessels
Denmark	P/R Ocean Prawn	Ocean Tiger (R38)
Estonia	Reyktal Ltd	Dagö (EK-2001)
		Steffano (EK-1601)
		Merike (EK-1801)
	Reval Seafood Ltd	Reval Viking (EK-1202)
Latvia	SIA Batterfisa	Dorado 2 (LVL 2158)
	Arctic Trawler Ltd.	Auseklis (LVR 0851)
	SIA North Star	Laima (LVR 0853)
Lithuania	UAB Marlinas	Taurus (KL 898)
		Lokys (KL 926)
Poland	Arctic Navigations	Polonus (GDY-58)
United Kingdom	Onward Fishing Company Ltd	Norma Mary (H110)
Portugal	Pedro França SA	França Morte
Faroe Islands	P/F Líðin	Arctic Viking

	Overall, the assessment of this fishery was announced one day before this variation request is being submitted. If this variation request were to be approved in the next two weeks, the team would have ample opportunity to consider these two vessels ahead of the site visit and to be able to plan the site visit to guarantee their full inclusion.		
4	Implications for assessment		
	The ACDR does not cover these two vessels explicitly. Therefore, stakeholder input could be limited to what is presented in the ACDR.		
5	5 Mitigation of the implications for assessment		
	As stated above, the CAB concludes that the risk of adding these two vessels is low. However, if the variation request is accepted, the CAB would send an email to stakeholders stating the two new vessels being considered. This announcement would be sent during the initial 60-day stakeholder consultation period, allowing ample opportunity for input at that time. The normal assessment process also allows stakeholders to meet with the assessment team during the site visit or submit written statements that could refer to the two vessels.		
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?		
	NA		
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?		
	ACDR announced 28 April with the site visit occurring 28 June to 2 July.		
8	Further comments		
	Allowing the client group to expand at this time instead of waiting for a scope extension will save the client money and, if certified, allow more MSC-certified product to enter the market sooner.		
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request		

2 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Variation Request Form – Fisheries v1.0'.

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Template versi	emplate 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 (msc.org).

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