

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.3

Date submitted to MSC	<i>12/21/2015</i>
Conformity Assessment Body	<i>SCS Global Services</i>
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	<i>Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna fishery</i>
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	<i>Sian Morgan</i>
Scheme requirement(s) to vary from	<i>CRv1.3 (27.4.3 & 4.12)</i>
Is this variation sought in order to undertake an expedited P1 assessment (CR annex CL)?	<i>No.</i>

1. Proposed variation

The SCS Global Services team requests a variation to CR V1.3 (27.4.3) to revise the units of assessment for the Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna fishery by withdrawing two of the current units (Yellowfin: object set and Skipjack: object set). There will be four units then remaining: Yellowfin dolphin-associated, Yellowfin unassociated, Skipjack dolphin-associated, Skipjack unassociated).

2. Rationale/Justification

Upon review of the Client Draft Report, the client has decided to withdraw the object associated sets from MSC assessment. Therefore, skipjack and yellowfin caught in object-associated sets in the unit of assessment will not be eligible for use of the MSC ecolabel. There are already systems in place in the fishery to differentiate product by set type at the vessel-well level, and therefore removing this set-type from MSC assessment does not increase traceability risk, although MSC CoC audits will be required to verify Chain of Custody considerations. The report background will still recognize the use of object sets in the fishery where relevant to the broader context of overall fishing operations. The report will also clearly articulate where mixing and other traceability risks begin.

3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

This variance will affect the structure of the scoring, with a total of 4 distinct units of assessments instead of 6. Product caught in object-associated sets will not be eligible for the MSC ecolabel.

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

No. If approved, stakeholders will be informed with the posting of this variance request, and again with the posting of the PCDR.

5. Further Comments

Thank you for your consideration.

6. Confidential Information

None

