

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

DNV GL-Business Assurance

Faroe Islands tusk and ling –scope extension with cod and haddock

MSC Variation Request

1 Introduction

This form details the information required from Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) to enable the MSC to consider a CAB application to vary from a clause or requirement in any of the MSC program documents (GCR 4.12).

Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with your specific information. All grey boxes containing instructions may be deleted, e.g. the 'Introduction' section.

Once this variation form is completed, delete guidance, save it as a PDF file and upload to the MSC database. On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 14 days.

Please note that all variation request forms and MSC responses to the request will be published on the MSC website along with other assessment documents associated with the specific fishery.



2 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	Date submitted to the MSC
	19.02.2021
2	CAB
	DNV GL Business Assurance
3	Fishery name and certificate number
	Faroe Islands tusk and ling –scope extension with cod and haddock. MSC-F-31402.
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Lucia Revenga
5	Request prepared by
	Lucia Revenga
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	<p>MSC Fisheries Certification Process v2.1</p> <p>7.22.1: <i>If the period from the full assessment announcement to the publication of the Final Draft Report by the MSC is more than 18 months, the CAB shall withdraw the fishery from the MSC assessment process.</i> (now 24 months after COVID derogation, clause 29: https://www.msc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/for-business/program-documents/chain-of-custody-supporting-documents/msc-covid-19-guidance-for-cabs-september-2020.pdf).</p>
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	None.

Table 2 – Variation justification

1	Proposed variation
	That the period from the full assessment announcement to the publication of the Final Draft report can be extended by 3 extra months (apart from the 6 extra months already granted by the COVID derogation).
2	Additional time requested
	Original deadline date 17.10.2021
	Modified deadline date requested 17.01.2022
	Length of additional time requested 3 months
3	Justification
	<p>Faroese management authorities implemented on 01.01.2021 a new management plan for Faroese cod, haddock and saithe fisheries, which is aligned with management advice by national research institute (Havstovan).</p> <p>Cod advice by Faroese research institute has been made in the last months of 2020.</p> <p>ICES advice for Faroe Plateau cod stock was released in November 2020, however, was abbreviated due to the COVID-19 disruption.</p> <p>Havstovan advice for cod has not been peer reviewed by ICES and there is significant discrepancy in the allocated Fishing mortality of the advice for 2021. Faroese new fisheries management plan (implemented in January 2021) has not been reviewed by ICES either.</p> <p>The disagreement between both advices brings difficulty in scoring the fishery against the MSC FSv2.01.</p> <p>ICES has confirmed that there won't be any review on new special requests until late May (see email conversation copied in box 8). The fishery would benefit from the recently implemented management plan to be reviewed by ICES.</p> <p>New information can change the score so the fishery will pass based on the new information. ICES review and approval of the management plan would make the fishery score above SG80 requirements.</p>
4	Implications for assessment
	<p>Main risk of accepting this delay is falling out the timeline described in MSC FCP v2.1.</p> <p>Main benefit would be the fishery becoming certified (area of trouble is PI 1.2.2).</p>
5	Mitigation of the implications for assessment
	If suitable a new consultation period for stakeholders could be set at a later stage.
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?
	N/A. The fishery is at present under assessment.
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	<p>The scope extension for cod and haddock is at present under assessment.</p> <p>ACDR was published on 17.10.2019. PI 1.2.2 was not scored at the time waiting for the new management plan to be implemented.</p> <p>6 months extension for COVID derogation has already been used.</p> <p>Client and Peer review report has not been finalised (nor sent) yet.</p>

8	Further comments
	<p>Please see email conversation between the National research institute and ICES:</p> <p>REQUEST: From: Petur Steingrund <Peturs@hav.fo> Sent: Thursday, 18 February 2021 12.43 To: David Miller <david.miller@ices.dk> Subject: Who to contact in ICES with regards to MSE</p> <p>Hi David.</p> <p>Faroese authorities plan to send a request to ICES to evaluate the newly adopted management plan for cod, haddock and saithe (i.e. the effort management system). Do you know who in ICES is supposed to receive such a request? (As I understand, the Faroese Ministry of Fisheries has to send the request, via NEAFC, to ICES). Best regards, Petur.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Petur Steingrund, Fisheries biologist (Dr.Philos.), Faroe Marine Research Institute, Box 3051, FO-110 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands. Tel: +298 353900 (central board) Tel: +298 353933 (direct line) Fax: +298 353901 Email: peturs@hav.fo Web page: www.hav.fo</p> <p>-----</p> <p>ANSWER: ----->>> David Miller <david.miller@ices.dk> 18/02/2021 11:52 >>></p> <p>Hi Petur,</p> <p>Thanks for letting me know. I believe requests are sometimes mailed to the Secretariat, but most are e-mailed to the advice@ices.dk address. Indeed since there is no functioning MOU between Faroes and ICES for advice, the requests for the Faroes come through NEAFC. NEAFC will be aware of how to submit requests to ICES. However, because of pressure that is building up across the advisory system caused by the Covid disruptions, ACOM has agreed to a pause in evaluating any new special requests. So any new requests will not be evaluated for the next 3 months (until 20th May). NEAFC will have been informed about this.</p> <p>Best regards, David</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>Dr David C. M. Miller Professional Officer for Advisory Support, <i>International Council for the Exploration of the Sea</i> (ICES) addr.: ICES Secretariat, H.C.Andersens Boulevard 44-46, DK 1553 Copenhagen V, Denmark tel.: +45 78793546 fax: +45 33934215 skype for business: david.miller@ices.dk ~~~~~ >())^> ~~~~~ >())^> ~~~~~ >())^> ~~~~~</p>
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request
	N/A

3 Template information and copyright

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

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Template 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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In the food and beverage industry, we help customers worldwide to achieve excellence in food safety and quality, environmental management, supply chain management and product sustainability. We combine technical, digital and industry expertise to empower companies' decisions and actions.

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