

Marine Stewardship Council

Variation Request Form

This form details the information required from CABs to enable the MSC to consider a request to vary from their scheme requirements.

Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with the described information.

Once complete, save and attach to an email to the MSC Fishery Assessment Manager assigned to the fishery being assessed or send to coc@msc.org if the variation is regarding a CoC requirement.

On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 10 days.

If your variation request is regarding a fishery requirement, please note that all variation requests and the MSC response to the request will be published on the MSC website with announcements for the fishery.

Certification Body	Det Norske Veritas (DNV)
Fishery Name	Norwegian North East Arctic Inshore Haddock
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Ms. Sandhya Chaudhury
Scheme requirement(s) to vary from	<i>MSC Certification Requirement V1.1 4.11 Transfer of certificate between CABs 27.4.2 Confirmation of scope 27.22 Surveillance</i>

Proposed variation	
<p>The original unit of certification for these fisheries, Norwegian North East Arctic haddock Fishery as announced on 3rd September 2008 was combined inshore and offshore stocks as a single Unit of Certification for each gear type (trawl, longline, Danish seine, gill-net and handline).</p> <p>Following an initial review, at which the significant issue of coastal cod bycatch was identified, each Unit of Certification was split into an offshore (outside of 12 nm limit) and inshore (inside of 12 nm limit) component (see Advisory to Stakeholders; Clarification on Unit of Certification 17 November 2009). The offshore component, which does not interact with the coastal cod stocks, was then certified in April 2010. The inshore component, which does interact with the coastal cod stocks, has been assessed on a separate timeline, taking account of the developing coastal cod management plan (see Advisory to Stakeholders; Resumption of Assessment of Inshore Cod and Haddock Fisheries, 14 January 2011) and has been certified as of 21st October 2011 and valid until 20th October 2016. With the inshore fishery now certified it is proposed to recombine the inshore and offshore fisheries, for each gear type, as unified Units of Certification, under a single certificate. The combined Units of Certification would be as follows:</p> <p>Species: North East Arctic Haddock <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i></p>	

Geographical Area:	ICES Sub-Areas I and II: Within Norwegian EEZ
Method of Capture:	Trawl
Management System:	Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission & Norwegian Authorities
Client Group:	Norwegian Fleet
Species:	North East Arctic Haddock <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>
Geographical Area:	ICES Sub-Areas I and II: Within Norwegian EEZ
Method of Capture:	Long-line
Management System:	Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission & Norwegian Authorities
Client Group:	Norwegian Fleet
Species:	North East Arctic Haddock <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>
Geographical Area:	ICES Sub-Areas I and II: Within Norwegian EEZ
Method of Capture:	Gill-net
Management System:	Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission & Norwegian Authorities
Client Group:	Norwegian Fleet
Species:	North East Arctic Haddock <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>
Geographical Area:	ICES Sub-Areas I and II: Within Norwegian EEZ
Method of Capture:	Danish Seine
Management System:	Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission & Norwegian Authorities
Client Group:	Norwegian Fleet
Species:	North East Arctic Haddock <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>
Geographical Area:	ICES Sub-Areas I and II: Within Norwegian EEZ
Method of Capture:	Hook and Line
Management System:	Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission & Norwegian Authorities

Client Group:	Norwegian Fleet
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Rationale/Justification

The client and Norwegian management agencies have expressed a strong preference to have the inshore and offshore fisheries recombined (as was the original intention when these fisheries entered assessment).

The NEA haddock fisheries, within and outside 12 nm, are managed by the Norwegian authorities as interdependent parts of one haddock fishery and a recombination will facilitate the nature of this management. The follow up of conditions will also be more easily integrated if the fisheries within and outside 12 nm from now on are viewed as one. This would also assist in minimising resource requirements to manage ongoing certification and surveillance audits, and would simplify Chain of Custody.

Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

The inshore and offshore components are now certified on separate timescales. There are also some minor differences in the wording of conditions for the inshore vs offshore components. It is therefore proposed to:

- a) Carry out recertification of both inshore and offshore components according to the shorter of the two timelines i.e. the offshore certificate timescale
- b) On recertification, the fishery assessments would be consolidated into a single timescale
- c) Where inshore components have slightly different conditions, these would be evaluated according to the timescale established in the Inshore fishery Public Certification Report. If necessary, these timescales would be continued into the recertification period, assuming progress is on-target for completion.
- d) The surveillance audits will follow the shorter timeline i.e the existing offshore certification timeline.

Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	Client and management agencies they represent in Norway have initiated this request and are supportive of this process.
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Further Comments

Please include any further relevant information.