



Polly Burns
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Sent by email

Date: 06/03/2017

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-SA3.1.2 for PNA Western and Central Pacific skipjack and yellowfin, unassociated / non FAD set, tuna purse seine

Dear Polly Burns,

I write with reference to your submission on 19/01/2017 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

This variation request is to allow for shark finning for silky shark to be considered under PI 2.1.2 (Silky shark finning), but have the species scored under PI 2.3.x as ETP.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-SA3.1.2 state:

The team shall consider each P2 species within only one of the primary species, secondary species or ETP species components

These 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 supporting your request, including:

Silky sharks are being assessed as an ETP species (i.e., scored under PI 2.3.x, following the rationale of the MSC Interpretations Log.

There is no 'finning' Si within the ETP species Pis. So the proposed approach of scoring finning in PI 2.1.2, Sid, and otherwise score silky sharks under PI 2.3.x, would account appropriately for two separate issues related to scoring silky sharks.

This request follows a similar request granted for Trimarine to score shark finning of silky sharks in a separate PI.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:

Information relating to this approach is given in the PCDR.

Stakeholders are made aware of the change in approach.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: Accreditation Services International