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Sent by email

Date: 02/09/2021

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.2 FCP-2d for Sustainable Western and Central Pacific (SWCP) Yellowfin Tuna and Skipjack 1st Fishery

Dear Gabriela Anhalzer,

I write with reference to your submission on 30/08/2021 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

Use of client's document checklist for this fishery and assessment, as well as all future assessments conducted by SCS Global Services.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.2 FCP-2d state:

MSC Client Document Checklist

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:

As described in Guidance G7.3 (FCP v 2.2.) the intent of the Client Document checklist "[...] is that the client and the CAB are sure that all available information needed for an assessment has been collated that a plan has been made to collate any outstanding information, and that the fishery is fully prepared to proceed to assessment...".

The modified MSC Client Document Checklist template contains the same information as in the original checklist template with additional detail to guide and facilitate the information collection stage for client.

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

Upload this VR response to other relevant document sections in ecert each time the team uses the amended template.

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: Assurance Services International