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Paul Knapman

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Sent by email

Date: 14.05.2012

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement 27.22.13

Dear Paul Knapman,

I write with reference to your submission on 09.05.2012 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow for a period of longer than 30 days between the on-site surveillance audit and the publication of the surveillance report for the British Columbia pink and sockeye salmon fisheries.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the timeframes for the surveillance audit and publication of the surveillance report 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 in your letter supporting your request, including:

- Seven Units of Certification, and 33 conditions due;
- Significant information expected at the surveillance audit from the management agency and stakeholders;
- The need for additional time to allow for the assessment team's thorough evaluation of surveillance audit evidence and documentation and allow client review of reports, and



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- Commitment to submitting the surveillance reports on 15 August 2012.

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

- Stakeholders are notified of these changes to the timeline, and
- All activities related to the completion of the surveillance report, including client consultation, revision of client action plans, etc. are also carried out within this extended 3-month timeframe.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Dan Hoggarth'.

Dr. Dan Hoggarth
Fisheries Oversight Director

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: ASI, Steven Devitt