Polly Burns
Acoura Marine
6 Redheughs Rigg
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH12 9DQ

Sent by email

Date: 07/12/2016

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.23.18 for Newfoundland & Labrador snow crab

Dear Polly Burns,

I write with reference to your submission on 17/11/2016 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

Surveillance report will be submitted 4 weeks after current deadline of 21st November 2016 (19/12/2016)

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.23.18 state:

This Surveillance Report shall be forwarded to the MSC within 60 days of completing the audit, for publication on the MSC website

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:

- Assessor illness

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

• If asked, the CAB can confirm that it is not aware at this time of any factor (related to either fishery status, or performance against conditions) that could result in the fishery no longer being in compliance with the MSC Fisheries Standard.
• Extended deadline of 4 weeks (19/12/2016)
• Stakeholders are informed

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