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Jo Gascoigne  
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56 High Street, Lymington, Hampshire  
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Sent by email

Date: 08/09/2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR 27.4.3 for Walker Seafoods albacore & yellowfin tuna, swordfish and mahi mahi longline fishery

Dear Jo Gascoigne,

I write with reference to your submission on 08/09/2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow mahi mahi to change from being assessed as a P1 species to become a P2 species in the fishery currently under assessment.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the definition of units of certification 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:

- There is insufficient information to effectively evaluate mahi mahi stock under P1 requirements. Insufficient information includes an absence of stock assessments and harvest control rules.
- It is requested that mahi mahi be considered as 'main retained' under P2 instead.

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

- The name of the fishery under assessment is altered to remove 'mahi mahi' from the fishery title.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Gutteridge, the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email [adrian.gutteridge@msc.org](mailto:adrian.gutteridge@msc.org) or phone +44 7512 089279.

Best regards,

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

Dan Hoggarth  
Fisheries Oversight Director

Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: ASI