

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.3

Date submitted to MSC	18.08.2015
Conformity Assessment Body	DNV GL
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Norway North East Arctic cod and haddock fisheries
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Project manager: Guro Meldre Pedersen Team Leader: John Nichols
Scheme requirement(s) to vary from	MSC CR v1.3, 7.5.9: The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of five years from the issue date
Is this variation sought in order to undertake an expedited P1 assessment (CR annex CL)?	No

1. Proposed variation

DNV GL proposes to extend the certificate of the Norway NEA cod and haddock fisheries for a period of 2 months beyond the current expiry date of 25 August 2015; 25 October 2015.

2. Rationale/Justification

The Norway NEA cod and haddock fisheries are currently undergoing reassessment.

- Full reassessment was announced May 2014.
- Site visit was completed June 2014.
- The PCDR was published 20 January 2015.
- The certificate was granted extension from 25 April to 25 August 2015 caused by time needed for processing stakeholder comments to the PCDR
- The Final report was published 28 May 2015
- 30 July 2015, DNV GL received an additional submission from stakeholders on fisheries impacts on VMEs and is now in the process of investigation to determine whether this information has any material impacts on the scoring. Additional time is therefore required to process and finalize the assessment results and draft the determination.

There are no reasons to believe that a delay in Publication of the Certification report and extension of validity of the certificates will have such a material implication on compliance of the fishery with the MSC standard, that the use of certificates could no longer be warranted.

3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

The scores for Principle 2 as published in the Norway NEA cod and haddock Final Report were as outlined in the table below.

	Trawl	Longline	Gill-net	Danish seine	Hook and line gears
Principle 2 – Ecosystem	85.3	86.7	85.7	85.7	87.0

Any further reduction in scoring for P2.4 for the particular scoring element addressed in the stakeholder submission would not result in the overall score for Principle 2 falling below 80 and failing the fishery.

Extension of certificate validity will allow for a prolonged timeline and delayed publication of the Public Certification Report for this reassessment, but will not have any impact on stakeholder consultations, which are already completed.

4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

Stakeholders will be informed accordingly and the timeline will be revised.

5. Further Comments

Please include any further relevant information.

6. Confidential Information

*Please include any information that cannot be published here.
This may include information covered by provisions of CR 24.4.*

[Please note, this section is OPTIONAL and is designed to include supplementary information to the rationale provided above. As this information will not be published, the rationale for the variation that is published should make sense without the inclusion of this section. For example, if the rationale section included a statement that the variation to continue all the steps of the assessment is needed because the client has instructed the CAB not to proceed, this section could add that the reason for this is that the client has insufficient funds to continue with the assessment due to unforeseen costs. It would therefore be impossible for the CAB to complete the assessment.]