



Scientific Certification Systems  
2000 Powell Street  
Suite 600, Emeryville  
United States  
94608

**Sent by email**

Date: 20/04/2022

**Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.2 FCP-7.5.5 for Tri Marine Pacific Ocean longline tuna fishery**

I write with reference to your submission on 19/04/2022 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

To expand the UoA

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.2 FCP-7.5.5 state:

The CAB shall not change the UoA and UoC during the assessment unless the UoA is announced provisionally in the initial announcement and confirmed later in conformity with 7.17.3

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:**

- This VR is to expand the client group while the fishery is still in the early stages of assessment and the CAB will extend the stakeholder period by another 60 days.

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

- All stakeholders are informed of changes to the UoA/UoC and allow another 60-day comment period.
- Hold a second site visit to gather and discuss all necessary info and to speak to all relevant stakeholders regarding the expansion of the UoA.
- Republish an updated version of the ACDR containing the changes to the UoA, additional UoA information, rationales, and scoring.
- Ecert is updated to reflect changes in UoA/UoC.

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