



3rd Floor Mountbarrow House
6-20 Elizabeth Street
London
SW1W 9RB
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 7811 3300
Fax: +44 (0)20 7811 3301

Paul Knapman

Moody Marin Ltd

Sent by email

Date: 17 Dec 2010

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC methodology to allow a departure from the prescribed procedure for surveillance timing

Dear Paul,

I write with reference to your submission on 13 December 2010 of a request for variation to the MSC certification methodology (FCM 6.1) to allow a delay in the timing of the surveillance audits for the Pacific Cod (BSAI and GOA) fisheries, in order to coincide with activities for the other Alaskan fisheries.

As you are aware, the FCM procedures relating to surveillance audits and the timing thereof, are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited certification bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC scheme.

MSC notes the factors presented in your letter supporting your request, including:

- the desire to avoid unnecessary financial costs and avoid the duplication of requests for information from fisheries managers and scientists, and
- the timing of the certifications of the different fisheries to be covered.

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

- The audit be held no later than the end of May 2011

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

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Daniel Suddaby".

Daniel Suddaby

Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI