

# Marine Stewardship Council

## Variation Request Form

This form details the information required from CABs to enable the MSC to consider a request to vary from their scheme requirements.

Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with the described information.

Once complete, save and attach to an email to the MSC Fishery Assessment Manager assigned to the fishery being assessed or send to [coc@msc.org](mailto:coc@msc.org) if the variation is regarding a CoC requirement.

On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 10 days.

If your variation request is regarding a fishery requirement, please note that all variation requests and the MSC response to the request will be published on the MSC website with announcements for the fishery.

<b>Certification Body</b>	Intertek Moody Marine Limited
<b>Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number</b>	Pacific hake mid-water trawl
<b>Lead Auditor/Programme Manager</b>	Steve Devitt / Paul Knapman
<b>Scheme requirement(s) to vary from</b>	C.R. 27.22.3.1

<b>Proposed variation</b>
To undertake the annual audit for the Pacific hake mid-water trawl outside of the annual reporting cycle.

<b>Rationale/Justification</b>
<p>The anniversary of the fishery's certification is 13<sup>th</sup> October. The client has requested that the audit be delayed until mid November (the likely date being week of 19<sup>th</sup> November) The rationale for this request is to better align the surveillance audit with the Pacific hake fishery science and management schedule.</p> <p>The 2012 hake acoustic survey will be completed in September 2012; preliminary results from the acoustic survey should be available in November 2012. Other biological data used in the Pacific hake assessment process is also more likely to be available in November 2012. The 2012 fishing seasons in both the U.S. and Canada are likely to run into November, which means that fishery-dependent biological data and monitoring and enforcement information will not be available in September 2012.</p>

The fishery clients believe that changing the audit schedule will allow them to provide the most timely and complete science and management data to the certification assessment team. Moreover, a revised schedule would provide the scientists and managers who participate in the surveillance audit more time to develop complete information, which will help the certification assessment team in their review of the Pacific hake fishery.

**Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)**

*None*

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

No.

**Further Comments**