



Sandhya Chaudhury
Det Norske Veritas (DNV-GL) Certification
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Høvik
Norway
1363

Sent by email

Date: 17/12/2018

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.24.2.2 for Norway spring spawning herring

Dear Sandhya Chaudhury,

I write with reference to your submission on 07/12/2018 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

Carrying over the condition on PI 3.1.1 into reassessment with the intention to harmonise condition timelines across all four certified Atlanto-Scandian herring fisheries

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.24.2.2 state:

Take into account all surveillance reports, outcomes, and evaluate progress against certification conditions. Unless exceptional circumstances apply (7.11.1.3) or paragraph (b) applies, the fishery shall have met all conditions and milestones

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:

- Certain outcomes required to assess progress on the condition will be only be reported after the deadline for the surveillance report
- There are no Fisheries Standard versioning issues associated with carrying over the condition on PI 3.1.1
- The CABs wish to use the additional time to consider harmonisation of timelines for the three conditions across all overlapping fisheries

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

- Notwithstanding the subject matter of this variation, the CAB can confirm that it is not aware at this time of any factor (related to either fishery status, or performance against conditions) that could result in the fishery no longer being in compliance with the MSC Fisheries Standard
- Stakeholders are informed

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: Accreditation Services International