

MSC Variation Request

FISF FAROE ISLANDS COD, HADDOCK, TUSK AND LING

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

22.08.2022

1 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	Date submitted to the MSC
	22.08.2022
2	CAB
	DNV Business Assurance
3	Fishery name and certificate number
	FISF Faroe Islands cod, haddock, tusk and ling. MSC-F-31402
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Lucia Revenga
5	Request prepared by
	Lucia Revenga
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	<p>MSC GCR v2.4., Section 7.4.3.e-h.</p> <p>7.4.3. If a fishery certificate is suspended, the CAB shall set the effective date for the fishery certificate suspension 30 days after the CAB's decision to suspend, and:</p> <p>e. Instruct the client to provide a documented corrective action plan for addressing the cause of suspension, which is acceptable to the CAB as being able to address the cause(s) for suspension, within 90 days from the date the Notice of Suspension is published on the MSC website.</p> <p>f. The corrective action plan shall include a binding timeframe.</p> <p>g. If the client submits an acceptable corrective action plan within 90 days:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Instruct the client to implement the corrective action plan. ii. Upload to the scheme database to be published on the MSC website: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. A statement confirming their acceptance of the corrective action plan. B. The client's corrective action plan. <p>h. If the client does not submit an acceptable corrective action plan within 90 days, the CAB shall withdraw the certificate.</p>
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	0

Table 2 – Variation justification	
1	Proposed variation
	- Please describe how the CAB proposes to vary from the requirement including, where required, any original deadline date, the length of additional time requested and the exact modified deadline date.
	To allow the client additional 30 days to the 90 days indicated in the MDC GCR v2.4 7.4.3, making a total of 120 days.
2	Additional time requested
	Original deadline date 90 days
	Modified deadline date requested 120 days
	Length of additional time requested 30 days
3	Justification
	<p>A Notice of suspension has been issued on the 16th August 2022 to the Faroe Plateau cod stock, as a result of the review of stock status at 3rd surveillance audit, where the team found that at present stock biomass is below Biomass limit and therefore the SG60 requirements for PI 1.1.1 are not met. Date of effective suspension is 14th September. MSC GCR v2.4 Section 7.4.3 requires client to prepare an acceptable Client Action Plan to address the cause of suspension within 90 days from the date of release of the Notice of Suspension. This is 14th November. ICES 2022 advice on the Faroe Plateau cod stock is to be released on the 29th November.</p> <p>DNV considers that given that the suspension on the cod stock is based on ICES 2021 advice and that next advice is to be released 15 days after the deadline established by MSC GCR v2.4 Section 7.4.3, it would be reasonable to wait for the latest version of the advice (2022) to be released in order for the Client to prepare a Client Action Plan based in the latest advice and present situation.</p>
4	Implications for assessment
	<p>No other specific delay is associated. 4th surveillance and recertification audit is planned for late January, in conjunction with the FISF saithe 4th surveillance and recertification audit. Both fisheries will merge as one at reassessment and the date of the saithe certificate is more restrictive given that FISF Faroe Islands saithe certificate expires in December 2023.</p>
5	Mitigation of the implications for assessment
	No specific implication apart from the 30 days delay is found.
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?
	The cod UoA has 2 conditions, Condition 1 under PI 1.2.2.a and Condition 4 under PI 2.3.3.a
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	<p>3rd surveillance report has been released on the 15th August 2022. 4th surveillance and recertification audit is planned for late January 2023, since it will be merged with the FISF Faroe Islands saithe 4th surveillance and recertification audit.</p>

8	Further comments
	N/A
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request

2 Template information and copyright

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Template version control		
Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website (msc.org).

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