



Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	23 rd November 2016
Name of CAB	Acoura Marine
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Limfjord Oyster Dredge
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Polly Burns
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	7.3.4 If the period from full assessment announcement to the receipt of the Public Comment Draft Report by the MSC exceeds 9 months the CAB shall: (7.4.3.1-.3)
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
The request is to allow the Public Comment Draft Report to be published on the MSC website beyond the 9-month deadline and not follow the steps detailed in 7.3.4 opening the fishery up to new information. The PCDR will be published by the 23 rd December 2016 rather than 1 st December 2016.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
The fishery was announced 1 st March 2016, making the deadline for the publication of the PCDR the 1 st December 2016. Due to unforeseen circumstances with one of the peer reviewers, the report has been delayed. Therefore, the report will not be available for publication on the MSC website by the 1 st December. We would like to request an extension till the 23 rd December, to allow the PCDR to be finalised. Opening the assessment to further information at this stage will delay the assessment, and far beyond the 3-week extension that is requested here.	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
This assessment is unlikely to be delayed beyond this point. This maximum delay will not significantly affect the remainder of the process. If stakeholders have concerns regarding the 30-day PCDR consultation period over Christmas, we would be open to extending this period to ensure stakeholders feel they have adequate time to comment on the report.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No – stakeholders will be notified when the variation is published.
5. Further Comments	
None, thank you.	