

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

DNV GL-Business Assurance

Norway North Sea herring fishery

Norway North East Arctic saithe fishery

Norway North Sea demersal fisheries

Norway sand eel, pout and North Sea sprat fisheries

NFA Norway ling and tusk and NFA Norway lumpfish fisheries

MSC Variation Request

1 Introduction

This Variation Request pertains to the integrated audits for all 5 fisheries mentioned above.



2 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	Date submitted to the MSC																								
	18.01.2021 / 03.02.2021																								
2	CAB																								
	DNV GL Business Assurance																								
3	Fishery name and certificate number																								
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4	Lead auditor or program manager																								
	Sandhya Chaudhury																								
5	Request prepared by																								
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6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested																								
	<p>MSC Fisheries Certification Process v 2.2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.28.23 The CAB shall upload the Surveillance Report to the MSC database within 60 days of completing the audit for publication on the MSC website 7.28.23.1 If the client has revised the Client Action Plan following surveillance, the CAB shall upload the Surveillance Report to the MSC database within 90 days of completing the audit for publication on the MSC website. 																								
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?																								
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Table 2 – Variation justification

1	Proposed variation	
	<p>MSC FCP v 2.2 in the mentioned clauses requires a 60- day deadline from the end of the site visit for the publication of the surveillance report which is extended to 90 days in case the CAP has to be revised.</p> <p>DNV GL requests a further extension of 30 days, with the new deadlines as 19.05.2022 and 19.06.2021 respectively.</p>	
2	Additional time requested	
	Original deadline date	19.04.2021 & for revised CAP 19.05.2021
	Modified deadline date requested	19.05.2021 & for revised CAP 19.06.2021
	Length of additional time requested	30 days
3	Justification	
	<p>MSC FCP v2.2 §G7.28.8.1 allows the coordination of site visits with the surveillance audits of other nearby MSC fisheries, thereby minimising the inputs required from management agencies and stakeholders.</p> <p>The surveillance audits for the mentioned fisheries have been integrated for the client NORGES FISKARLAG. The fisheries all have varying anniversaries and the on-site audits were integrated and implemented at the most viable period for all the relevant fisheries, the client and the availability for the stakeholder interviews. The integrated surveillance audit results in 5 different reports all to be written and approved by the client. DNV GL has experienced that the 30-day extension facilitates the process of finalizing and client approval of the reports before publishing on the MSC website.</p> <p>The main aim of this Variation Request is to facilitate the near-simultaneous finalizing and client approvals of 5 surveillance reports for continuous certification.</p> <p>The 30- day extension requested does not affect FCP v2.2 §7.28.8 due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 5 fisheries now have 5 and- a- half year cycle due to the Covid 19 derogation extension of the present certificate. • The integrated audits for these 5 fisheries are already conducted in accordance with FCP v2.2 §7.28.8.1 and will continue to do so to accommodate adherence to FCP v2.2 § 7.28.9 (4 surveillance audits in a certificate cycle). A 30- day extension, at this stage, has minimal or no effect on this requirement. <p>Adequate resources, in accordance with GCR v2.4.1 §6; §7.2.1 and §7.2.2 are in place and documented as per requirements.</p> <p>GCR v 2.4.1 §7.4.3 will not be affected. The audit plan has a closing meeting scheduled with the client and assessment team for 18.02.2021 where any possible material changes to certificate status will be discussed and progress of the relevant fisheries adapted accordingly, irrespective of this Variation Request. The requirements in this clause will, therefore, not be affected by this Variation Request.</p>	
4	Implications for assessment	
	<p>The implications for the assessment are not considered material to the sustainability of the fishery. The only implication for the surveillance assessments is that the process will extend 30 days beyond the original required timeline.</p>	

5	Mitigation of the implications for assessment																		
	NA																		
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?																		
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7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?																		
	The audits have been announced on 12.01.2021 and the interviews are scheduled to be conducted on 16 th and 17 th February 2021 and the closing meeting with the client on the 18 th February 2021.																		
8	Further comments																		
	NA																		
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request																		
	NA																		

3 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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