



**DNV GL**  
**Norway spring spawning herring**  
**MSC Variation Request**

# 1 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

**Table 1 – Variation request**

1	Date submitted to MSC
	2019-04-12
2	CAB
	DNV GL Business Assurance
3	Fishery name and certificate number or CoC certificate number
	Norway spring spawning herring, MSC-F-61388 – <b>This VR concerns the Blue Whiting fishery which was certified as a scope extension in January 2018.</b>
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Stefan Midteide
5	Request prepared by
	Stefan Midteide
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	MSC General Certification Requirements v2.3: 7.5.6 The CAB shall issue fishery certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date.
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	None

**Table 2– Variation justification**

1	Proposed variation
	The validity of the certificate for Norway Blue Whiting to be extended by 6 months
2	Additional time requested
	Original deadline date 29 Jul 2019
	Modified deadline date requested 29 Jan 2020
	Length of additional time requested 6 months
3	Justification
	<p>The Norway spring spawning herring certificate currently includes Norway blue whiting (NBW). The client would like to move the NBW fishery to the Norway sandeel, pout and north sea sprat fishery, certificate nr. F-DNV-251453 valid from 23.02.2018 to 22.02.2023. In addition, the Norway spring spawning herring fishery is a rather complex fishery in terms of the MSC requirements and the fishery currently has several conditions. From a procedural point of view, it would be better to have the NBW fishery separate from the Norway spring spawning herring.</p> <p>Annex PE (defining the minimum assessment requirements necessary for a scope extension requires following the process (PE1.2.3.3) as described in FCP Section 7.9, Section 7.17 and Section 7.18; the timelines (PE1.2.3.4) as set out in FCP 7.13.1, 7.20.1 and 7.22.1 and reporting (PE1.3.1) as outlined in FCP Section 7.10 and Sections 7.19-7.24.</p> <p>These requirements do not allow the scope extension to be completed by the time of the expiry of the existing certificate number MSC-F-61388 (Norway spring spawning herring), which is 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019.</p> <p>To allow for the scope extension assessment to be completed while the NBW fishery is still certified, DNV GL request a variation regarding the following:</p> <p><b>DNV GL asks for the validity of the certificate for Norway Blue Whiting to be extended by 6 months</b> (for details see point 4 below).</p> <p>It is worth noting that both the Norway Spring spawning herring and NBW have undergone a series of assessments lately (see point 5 for details).</p>
4	If a fishery assessment, implications for assessment
	<p>The implications for the fishery are not considered material to the sustainability of the fishery. The relevant implications are:</p> <p>For Norway spring spawning herring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The fishery re assessment will be completed as planned and according to the requirements.</li> <li>- Upon re assessment the current certificate will be split. The Norway spring spawning herring certificate will be issued with a new certificate number (according to the new numbering and format requirements of the MSC).</li> </ul> <p>For Norway blue whiting (NBW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DNV GL will issue a new certificate for the NBW fishery (according to the new numbering and format requirements of the MSC).</li> <li>- The NBW fishery will be included in the Norway sandeel, pout and sprat certificate by 29 Jan 2020</li> </ul>
5	If a fishery assessment, mitigation of the implication for assessment

	<p><b>For Norway spring spawning herring</b> – no mitigation measures required</p> <p><b>For Norway blue whiting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The fishery is thoroughly assessed and there is no risk that the scope extension will lead to the fishery not being under assessment at regular intervals. In fact, this fishery will by 29 Jan 2020 be assessed more frequent and more in depth, than if the scope extension had not taken place. This is supported by the following:</li> <li>- 02.jan 2018: PCR for scope extension of NBW published</li> <li>- 31.jan 2019: Surveillance report published for NBW and Norway spring spawning herring</li> <li>- March&amp; April 2019: Announcement Comment Draft Report to be prepared and published.</li> <li>- January 2020: NBW will be included in Norway sandeel pout and sprat fishery certificate and will be included in the surveillance audit of the same.</li> </ul> <p>Given the above, we consider that the sustainability of the fisheries involved not to be affected.</p>
6	<p>If a fishery assessment, how many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?</p> <p>For Norway blue whiting: 5 conditions: <b>Progress of conditions will not be affected</b> and was reviewed in the recent surveillance audit, published 31. Jan 2019.</p>
7	<p>What is the status of the current assessment?</p> <p>Re- assessment of the Norway spring spawning herring fishery (without the Blue whiting fishery) is in progress and in accordance to published timeline.</p> <p>Norway Blue Whiting: Announcement Comment Draft Report has been submitted to MSC</p>
8	<p>Further comments</p>
9	<p>If applicable, additional information added after MSC's request</p>

