



Sandhya Chaudhury
Det Norske Veritas (DNV-GL) Certification
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Høvik
Norway
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Sent by email

Date: 13/05/2019

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.4.10 for Norway North Sea and Skagerrak herring

Dear Sandhya Chaudhury,

I write with reference to your submission on 03/05/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

A change to the UoA to exclude ICES area IIIa from the geographical range of fishing operations. The re-assessment UoA will only include North Sea herring in ICES div IV within EEZ of Norway as the target species.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.4.10 state:

7.4.10 The CAB shall not change the UoA and UoC during the assessment unless:

7.4.10.1 The UoA is announced provisionally in the initial announcement and confirmed later in conformance with 7.10.2

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:

- The UoA is being reduced to exclude ICES area IIIa from the geographical range of fishing operations.

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

- Stakeholders are informed; and,
- ECert is updated to reflect change in UoA, UoC and fishery name (if applicable).

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