

Bio.inspecta (mandated by q.inspecta) Walker Seafood Australian albacore, yellowfin tuna, and swordfish longline fishery

Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	10 October 2019
2	CAB
	Bio.inspecta (mandated by q.inspecta)
3	Fishery name and certificate number or CoC certificate number
	Walker Seafood Australian Australian albacore, yellowfin tuna, and swordfish longline
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Dr Sabine Daume
5	Request prepared by
	Dr Sabine Daume
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	FCR v 2.0 7.23.18 The surveillance report shall be forwarded to the MSC within 60 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?

	First time. No other variance was submitted to extend the timeline for the 4 th annual surveillance report.	
Table 2 – Variation justification		
1	Proposed variation	
	We propose to finalise the report after the ERA has been made public within 4 weeks after the due date (29 th November 2019). This is also the time when the ACDR for the re-assessment will be re-leased.	
2	Additional time requested	
	Original deadline date	29 th October 2019
	Modified deadline date requested	29 th November 2019
	Length of additional time requested	4 weeks
3	Justification	
	<p>Several vital documents for the assessment like the recently completed ERA are still to be made public and this is expected to happen around the time the surveillance report is currently due. The ERA will form the basis for the assessment towards meeting conditions 8 and 9 which are due to be closed out during this surveillance audit. Allowing the extra 4 weeks will allow for full re-scoring of the relevant PI if the conditions can be closed.</p> <p>The requested time extension would also allow an alignment of rescoring all of Principle 1 (tuna and swordfish species) under v2.0 in one report (if the related variance request for re-scoring is approved). The ACDR for the re-assessment of the fishery is also due to be posted around the end of November 2019.</p>	
4	If a fishery assessment, implications for assessment	
	There are no implications as the scores and rationales under FCR 2.0 will also be made public as part of the ACDR which will be due at the same time.	
5	If a fishery assessment, mitigation of the implications for assessment	
	NA	
6	If a fishery assessment, how many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?	

	Progress will not be affected there are 10 conditions.
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	The fishery is at the 4 th annual surveillance and due to start the re-assessment this year. The last surveillance report (by Control Union Pesca) was posted on the 5 th April 2019, only 4 months before the 4 th audit was conducted due to the re-assessment timelines.
8	Further comments
	- Please include any further relevant information.
	None of the target species are considered to be overfished or subject to overfishing. We have been advised that the preliminary findings of the ERA do not indicate any increased risks to any P2 components but need to confirm this when the report is public.
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request