



Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	1 st November 2016
Name of CAB	Acoura Marine
Fishery Name	British Columbia Pink salmon & British Columbia Sockeye salmon
Programme Manager	Polly Burns
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	GCR V2.1 7.5.6 The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date.
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No.

1. Proposed variation	
To extend the certificates for British Columbia Sockeye and Pink salmon until 31 st April 2017 or reassessment completion, whichever comes first.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>British Columbia Pink Salmon was MSC certified on 28th July 2011, with BC Sockeye certified on the 29th July 2010. They are currently undergoing reassessment in combination with the British Columbia Chum fishery (which does not expire until 7th February 2018).</p> <p>VRs were previously accepted to extend the certificates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sockeye salmon was previously extended from the 28th July 2015 till the 31st August 2016, and then again until 31st December 2016 b) Pink salmon was extended from 27th July 2016 till the 31st December 2016 <p>As the MSC are already aware, the client action plan is currently being produced in collaboration with the DFO, which has caused a delay to the assessment process. The delay is because whilst the BC salmon fishing season was underway, key DFO staff members were fully engaged with managing the fishery. In addition, the majority of the conditions are complex in nature; developing the Client Action Plan to ensure sufficient resources could be committed to delivering any work plans is expected to require internal and possibly external consultation, together with considerable planning. The previous certificate extensions were requested prior to the recent delays, and therefore do not allow for the reassessment process to complete under the revised timelines. Extending the certificates until the 31st April 2017 (or when the reassessment completes) allows for the process to have completed and gives an unbroken period of certification.</p>	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
No further implications are expected.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No, stakeholders will be notified on publication of this request.
5. Further Comments	
Having undertaken the site visit for this fishery in December 2015, the team are confident that there are no risks to the MSC certified status of this fishery. Everything seen by Acoura during the re-assessment of both these fisheries confirms that the fisheries are meeting the MSC standard. There	



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is no active fishing for Pink or sockeye salmon, with no risk of incidental bycatch. No new product is entering further chains of custody, and there is no inventory of pink or sockeye, with most of it sold as fresh already. On the current timeline, the fisheries should have completed the assessment process by the time the first fishery (Barkley Sound/WCVI sockeye) re-opens in mid-June.