



Jose Rios
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Sent by email

Date: 26/11/2019

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 FCP-7.16.1 for Echebastar Indian Ocean purse seine skipjack tuna

Dear Jose Rios,

I write with reference to your submission on 22/11/2019 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

The site visit was planned as an on-site visit with the two team members moving to the Basque Country. BV requests that one of the team members (and team leader) can attend the meetings remotely due to unexpected personal issues.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 FCP-7.16.1 state:

The team shall carry out the site visit as planned

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:

- Due to unforeseen personal circumstances, an assessment team member cannot make the upcoming surveillance audit in person
- They will attend remotely.
- There are no negative consequences to the fishery for this change.

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

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