

Marine Stewardship Council

Variation Request Form

This form details the information required from CABs to enable the MSC to consider a request to vary from the Certification Requirements.

Please complete all unshaded fields. Where instructions are included in italics, please delete and replace with the described information.

Once complete, delete this first page of the document, save as a PDF file and send to either:

- The MSC Fishery Assessment Manager assigned to the certified fishery/fishery being assessed, or
- coc@msc.org, if the variation is requested in relation to a CoC requirement.

On receipt, the MSC will consider your request and will usually respond within 14 days.

If your variation request is regarding a fishery requirement, please note that all variation request forms and the MSC response to the request will be published on the MSC website with announcements for the fishery.

This does not apply to the optional 'Confidential Information' section on page 3 of this document. If this is not required it can be left blank and deleted from the final completed Variation Request Form sent to the MSC. If used, the information will be used by MSC in considering the variation request but the page with this section will be deleted from the form before it is published.

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.2

Date submitted to MSC	31 May 2012
Conformity Assessment Body	Scientific Certification Systems, Inc
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	US North Pacific Sablefish (<i>Anoploma fimbria</i>) SCS-F-0019
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Dr. Sabine Daume
Scheme requirement(s) to vary from	CR v1.2 27.22.3.1

Proposed variation
<i>Surveillance audits to be held in September instead of the certificate anniversary date in August (1 month postponement).</i>

Rationale/Justification
<p><i>Upon consultations with fishery clients, scientists and managers, the current timing of the audit at the anniversary of the certification date (August) will consistently conflict with availability of key staff that would be interviewed at onsite meetings.</i></p> <p><i>US Sablefish qualifies for reduced surveillance, but there is a possibility that we may be expanding the scope of the certificate starting at this year's audit. Many of the same staff from NMFS work on both P. halibut and sablefish fisheries, so it makes sense to interview them at the same time for the fisheries.</i></p> <p><i>SCS proposes to move the surveillance audit dates to September when the schedules of key staff are more available for onsite meetings and to maintain efficiencies in linking this audit with US P. halibut annual surveillance.</i></p> <p><i>Note: the surveillance level of this fishery is 'reduced.'</i></p>

Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)
<i>None. The fishery is currently certified.</i>

Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	<i>Stakeholders will be informed of the change if approved.</i>
--	---

Further Comments
<i>This request has been made on behalf of the fishery client and managers.</i>

Confidential Information
<p><i>Please include any information that cannot be published here. This may include information covered by provisions of CR 24.4.</i></p> <p><i>[Please note, this section is <u>OPTIONAL</u> and is designed to include supplementary information to the rationale provided above. As this information will not be published, the rationale for the variation that is published should make sense without the inclusion of this section. For example, if the rationale section included a statement that the variation to continue all the steps of the assessment is needed because the client has instructed the CAB not to proceed, this section could add that the reason for this is that the client has insufficient funds to continue with the assessment due to unforeseen costs. It would therefore be impossible for the CAB to complete the assessment.]</i></p>