



Hugh Jones
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Sent by email

Date: 3/18/2020

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.4.10 for Pan Pacific yellowfin, bigeye and albacore longline fishery

Dear Hugh Jones,

I write with reference to your submission on 24/02/2020 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

Within the Announcement Report for this fishery 18 UoA combinations (stock, area, management) were announced. Following consideration by the client following the PCDR stage they have requested that two UoAs under the IATTC management system be removed from the fishery. The rationale for this is that the client no longer wishes to seek certification in this jurisdiction.

The CAB is proposing the removal of these UoAs from the fishery. Their removal does not require any further scoring or review as all 'elements' (stock, P2, area and management) have already been subject to peer review within the context of the remaining UoAs. The fishery is to be subject to vessel level Chain of Custody (if certified) and therefore there is no additional traceability risk foreseen.

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 rationale for this is that the client no longer wishes to seek certification in this jurisdiction.
- The CAB is proposing the removal of these UoAs from the fishery.
- Their removal does not require any further scoring or review as all 'elements' (stock, P2, area and management) have already been subject to peer review within the context of the remaining UoAs.
- The fishery is to be subject to vessel level Chain of Custody (if certified) and therefore there is no additional traceability risk foreseen.

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: Assurance Services International