

Global Trust Certification

Louisiana blue crab

MSC Variation Request

1 Introduction

This form details the information Global Trust is required to submit to the MSC to enable the MSC to consider an application to vary from a clause or requirement in any of the MSC program documents.

Once a Variation Request has been submitted the MSC will consider that request and will usually respond within 14 days.

2 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1. Variation request.

1	Date submitted to MSC
	14 th March 2023
2	CAB
	Global Trust Certification Limited
3	Fishery name and certificate number or CoC certificate number
	Louisiana blue crab, MSC-F-31382
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Vito Romito
5	Request prepared by
	Vito Romito
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	FCP v2.2 §7.30.1 "The CAB shall announce the reassessment of a certified fishery no later than 90 days after the 4th anniversary of the existing certificate."
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	None

Table 2. Variation justification.

1	Proposed variation
	FCP v2.2 §7.30.1: we propose to announce the reassessment of the certified Louisiana blue crab fishery no later than 120 days after the 4 th anniversary of the existing certificate. This is an additional 30 days beyond the 90 days set out in the FCP. This would mean the announcement would take place by the 19 th of May 2023 instead of the 19 th of April 2023.
2	Additional time requested
	Original deadline date
	19 th of April 2023
	Modified deadline date requested
	19 th of May 2023
	Length of additional time requested
	30 days

Table 2. Variation justification.

3	Justification
	Due to a delay concerning administrative issues regarding contract agreement signing as well as additional data requested from the client, GTC needs some extra time to complete the Announcement Comment Draft Report for this re-assessment.
4	Implications for assessment
	<p>This request would have a positive impact in allowing additional time for the new assessment team to complete the ACDR and client to review the report before announcement.</p> <p>There should be no negative impacts in relation to meeting any other requirements including stakeholder input and completing the re-assessment within the proposed timeline and before certificate expiry.</p> <p>In the case that the re-assessment is not completed before the certificate expiry, a Variation Request against MSC GCR v.2.5 §7.5.6 will be submitted (but it is unlikely that will required).</p> <p>The site visit is being planned for early July 2023 to take into account new survey/stock assessment information concerning this fishery. This proposed additional time would still allow the required assessment stages to be completed well in advance of the early July site visit.</p>
5	Mitigation of the implication for assessment
	Although we expect to complete the re-assessment within the proposed timeline and before certificate expiry, a Variation Request against MSC GCR v.2.5 §7.5.6 will be submitted in the case that the re-assessment is not completed before the certificate expiry, but it is unlikely that will required.
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?
	There are no open conditions after the 3 rd surveillance audit.
7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	We are currently working on drafting the re-assessment ACDR.
8	Further comments
	No further comments.
9	If applicable, additional information added after MSC's request

3 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Variation Request Form – Fisheries v1.0'. While amendments have been made to formatting in order to comply with Global Trust Certification's corporate identity, Global Trust has ensured that content and structure follow that of the original template.

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Table 3. Template version control.

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the [MSC website](https://www.msc.org) (msc.org).

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