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Sent by email

Date: 16/04/2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement for Normandy and Jersey lobster

Dear Chrissie,

I write with reference to your submission on 15/04/2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow delaying the annual surveillance audit for this fishery until the 24th June 2014, 3 weeks after the certificate anniversary date (2nd Jun).

2. Rationale,

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to Surveillance (27.22) 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 in your letter supporting your request, including:

- The unit of certification of this fishery is the following: The lobster fishery in the Granville Bay Treaty area and associated Basse Normandie and Jersey territorial waters by commercial fishermen from Basse Normandie (West and North Cotentin) and Jersey. For the purposes of the surveillance audit, interviews will be held with parties from both Normandy and Jersey sides.
- To facilitate this and limit auditing costs it is proposed that the third annual surveillance audit for this fishery is held at the same time as the three-monthly reunion of the joint committee for Granville Bay, attended by both the client group and this fishery's stakeholders.
- The next reunion will be held on the 24th June 2014 in Granville, France. It is therefore proposed that the audit takes place on this date.
- All surveillance activities including reporting will therefore be completed by the 24th July 2014, 8 weeks after the certificate anniversary date

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:

- The CAB can confirm that it is not aware at this time of any factor (related to either fishery status, or performance against conditions) that could result in the fishery no longer being in compliance with the MSC fishery standard.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Sergio Cansado, the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email sergio.cansado@msc.org or phone +44(0)2072468937

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Hooper".

Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI, lead auditor