

MSC Variation Request

Pingtairong Pacific Tuna Deep Set Longline Fishery

Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	Date submitted to the MSC
	May 10, 2023
2	CAB
	SCS Global Services
3	Fishery name and certificate number
	Pingtairong Pacific Tuna Deep Set Longline Fishery – In Assessment
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Mr. Peter Trott, Lead Assessor Ms. Gabriela Anhalzer, Program Manager
5	Request prepared by
	Ms. Alison Johnson
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	MSC FS v 3.0, Page vi: CABs shall conduct any initial assessment that is announced on or after 1 May 2023 in conformity with the MSC Fisheries Standard v 3.0.
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	N/A – first attempt

Table 2 – Variation justification

1	Proposed variation	
	Accept the Pingtairong Pacific Tuna Deep Set Longline Fishery Announcement Comment Draft Report and Fishery Announcement as intended under FSC v2.01 and FCP v 2.3	
2	Additional time requested	
	Original deadline date	n/a
	Modified deadline date requested	n/a
	Length of additional time requested	n/a
3	Justification	
	<p>The Pingtairong Pacific Tuna Deep Set Longline Fishery applied to SCS for assessment against MSC Fisheries Standard v2.01 on August 2022. The ACDR and announcement were subsequently written over the past eight months in accordance with this version of the standard. After final checks were completed, due to the SCS's project manager's challenging international travel arrangements for three other site visits, the ACDR and announcement were then uploaded to ecert on Saturday 29th April 2023. However, the project manager was unaware that this would result in the documents not being published on the MSC website by May 1st, 2023. As a result, the May 1st, 2023, deadline set for announcement of v 2.01 initial assessments under the v 3.0 implementation requirements was missed. This was due to no fault of the fishery, having completed the assessment under v2.01, it would be an extreme financial burden for the fishery client to re-start the assessment process under the new version.</p>	
4	Implications for assessment	
	<p>The ACDR and announcement were submitted to Ecert on April 29th , thus the report was technically completed and submitted to MSC before the May 1st deadline. The delay between the uploading of the report to the MSC website and the publication of the report on the MSC website, could cause a delay on the initial consultation period. To address this implication SCS will initiate the consultation period once MSC published the ACDR, in order to ensure stakeholders, have 60 days to provide input on the report. As all other fisheries currently assessed under v2.01, if this fishery is certified, the certificate will expire after 1st of November 2028, as per the implementation timeframes of the MSC Fisheries Standard v3.0, this fishery will be required to either Apply Annex PE (Transition Assessment) by 1 November 2028, or announce the reassessment of the certified UoA against the MSC Fisheries Standard v3.0 no later than 9 months before 1 November 2028.</p>	
5	Mitigation of the implications for assessment	
	See above.	
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?	
	Not applicable as the fishery is in initial assessment.	

7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	The ACDR was written and uploaded to ecert on April 29, 2023. The ACDR has not been accepted by MSC, once the ACDR is accepted and published the 60-day consultation period will initiate.
8	Further comments
	None.
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request

Template information and copyright

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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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