



Sian Morgan  
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Sent by email

Date: 16/02/2016

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR v1.3 27.11.1.4 c for Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna fishery

Dear Dr Morgan,

I write with reference to your submission on 5/02/2015 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow an exemption from listing how the scores at interim milestones will change.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to condition milestones 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 PAST (client) has structured their Client Action Plan at the level of scoring issues, to assure that all Performance Indicators are fully met at the 80 level. At the scoring issue level, scores cannot be adjusted in increments of 5, the way they might be for a Performance Indicator.
- The Action Plan for this fishery remains carefully structured to assure that 27.11.1.4 a. measureable improvements and outcomes expected each year, and 27.11.1.4 b. the specific timeframes over which the milestones and the whole condition must be met are spelled out.
- Existing milestones, set at the scoring issue level, which will be scored as Ahead, On Target or Behind Target in each surveillance audit, and therefore have the ability to clearly demonstrate how and when each scoring issue within a given Performance Indicator will move from a score of 60 to a score of 80 or greater.



Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact, the MSC Fisheries Team by email [fisheries@msc.org](mailto:fisheries@msc.org).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Hoggarth". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dan Hoggarth  
Head of Fisheries Standard

Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: ASI, lead auditor