

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	March 1, 2018
Name of CAB	SCS Global Services
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Atlantic Spiny Dogfish Fishery
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Richard Allen/Sian Morgan
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	GCRV2.1 7.5.6
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
SCS requests a variation from GCRV2.1 7.5.6 to further extend the current valid certificate for the US Atlantic Spiny Dogfish Fishery beyond 5 years from its current expiration of March 1, 2018 to April 30, 2018.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>SCS considers an extension to the current certificate justifiable given:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The fishery is currently in compliance with the MSC standard, as concluded by the results of the 4th surveillance and is currently undergoing re-assessment; b) The assessment team required additional time to review documentation on the status and ensuing management actions related to new information on the status of Atlantic right whales. On 18th of September 2017 a key scientific paper with new estimates of the Atlantic right whale population was published. Subsequently, the assessment team gathered additional information on the status and management of this species, including the 5-Year Review of the North Atlantic Right Whale completed by National Marine Fisheries Service on October 2017 and the meeting notes of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Webinar held on November 30, 2017. Additionally, SCS requested clarification from MSC regarding interpretation of limits for PI 2.3.1; submitting an interpretation request on November 2017. The review of this additional documentation and development of the Client Action Plan to close these conditions delayed the publication of the PCDR. 	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
The certificate extension will affect re-assessment timelines. New timelines will be uploaded via MSC website.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No. Stakeholders will be informed via a revised certificate and announcement on the MSC website.
5. Further Comments	

