

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	December 2, 2016
Name of CAB	MRAG Americas
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	Isefjord and East Jutland Danish blue shell mussel Vilsund Blue East Jutland blue shell mussel Seafood Romo East Jutland and Isefjord blue shell mussel dredge
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Amanda Stern-Pirlot
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	GCR 7.5.6 The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date.
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
Certificates for these three fisheries will be extended 3 months, moving the expiry date from January 25, 2017 to April 25, 2017.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>These three fisheries are currently under a combined reassessment (DFPO Inner Danish Waters blue shell mussel). The reassessment has taken longer than expected due to a delay in information from the client and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Two of these three fisheries originally had certificate expiry dates in March 2017, which were brought into alignment with the earliest expiry in January upon combining the three into one assessment.</p> <p>This action does not alter conformity of the certificate holders with the MSC fisheries standard, as they have achieved certification and are presently under active re-evaluation. The CAB does not have any reason to believe the fisheries are not currently in compliance with the MSC Standard.</p>	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
The implication is that the existing certificates would remain valid until April 25, 2017 while the reassessments are being completed. MRAG will work as quickly as practicable to complete the recertification process.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No. This request will serve as notice to stakeholders.
5. Further Comments	
NA	

