



Geraldine Criquet
Global Trust (GT)
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Sent by email

Date: 20/01/2022

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.2 FCP - 7.30.1 for ISF Iceland Cod

Dear Geraldine Criquet,

I write with reference to your submission on 18/01/2022 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

FCP v2.2 §7.30.1: We propose to announce the reassessment of the certified ISF Iceland cod fishery no later than 129 days after the 4th anniversary of the existing certificate. This is an additional 39 days beyond the 90 days set out in the FCP. This would mean the announcement would take place by 4th March 2022 rather than the 24th January 2022.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.2 FCP - 7.30.1 state:

The CAB shall announce the reassessment of a certified fishery no later than the date 90 days after the fourth anniversary of the existing certificate. Exact timing and planning of the reassessment shall remain the responsibility of the CAB, in consultation with the client

These 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 supporting your request, including:

- Given unexpected unavailability of one of the previous assessment team members, CAB has requested to delay announcement of reassessment for this fishery, to allow the newly appointed member sufficient time to catch up with the assessment.

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 shall inform the client that a delay to the reassessment announcement may result in the certificate expiring before the reassessment is complete and that the CAB and client cannot request a certificate extension unless there are extenuating circumstances that are outside the control of the client and CAB.
- Extended deadline is 4th March 2022.
- A stakeholder announcement shall be uploaded to eCert for publication on the MSC website to inform stakeholders of the delay to the announcement of the reassessment.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council
cc: Assurance Services International