

Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request

Date submitted to MSC	10 th April 2018
Name of CAB	Acoura
Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number	FIUN Barents & Norwegian Seas cod and haddock
Lead Auditor/Programme Manager	Paul Knapman/ Billy Hynes
Variation prepared by:	Billy Hynes
Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested	7.3.4 If the period from full assessment announcement to the receipt of the Public Comment Draft Report by the MSC exceeds 9 months the CAB shall... [and sub-clauses]
Is this variation sought in order to fulfil IPI requirements (FCR 7.4.14)?	No

1. Proposed variation	
To submit the Public Comment Draft Report (PCDR) by 31 st May than the date at which 9 months will have been exceeded since full re-assessment announcement, without opening up the assessment to a 30-day stakeholder submission period for new information.	
2. Rationale/Justification	
<p>The client has had delays in providing information critical to the assessment due to circumstances beyond their control. The client action plan for this fishery involved many different actions designed in total to address the condition milestones. During the certificate life, the client group underwent 2 changes in their MSC manager resulting in challenges to report to the team on all these different actions. The client group consists of many members and the fishery is undertaking many different initiatives and projects for different improvement but pulling together the required information to resolve the two open conditions for the team to review took longer than anticipated.</p> <p>The Preliminary Draft report was submitted on the 23rd of April and requires a Client Action Plan be drafted for conditions raised at re-assessment. The announced Peer Reviewers' availability is uncertain as result of these delays and the extra time requested will enable those Peer Reviewers to undertake the reviews without the requirement of further nominations/consultations.</p> <p>The fishery is one of several targeting the same stocks and Acoura confirm that this request does not cause any risk to the sustainability of the fishery</p>	
3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	
The extension of this deadline implies a delay in completing the assessment resulting in a variation for a certificate extension.	
4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)	No
5. Further Comments	
<i>Please include any further relevant information.</i>	