



Gunnar Á. Gunnarsson
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IS-109

Sent by email

Date: 27/01/2017

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.4.10 for ISF Iceland saithe and ling

Dear Gunnar Á. Gunnarsson,

I write with reference to your submission on 23/01/2017 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

A change to the UoA through withdrawal of vessels registered outside Iceland (foreign vessels fishing in Icelandic EEZ subject to bilateral agreements) from the assessment.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.4.10 state:

7.4.10 The CAB shall not change the uoA and UoC during the assessment unless:

7.4.10.1 The UoA is announced provisionally in the initial announcement and confirmed later in conformance with 7.10.2

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:

-The client has confirmed that the expedited assessment was only expected to include Icelandic registered vessels. The client has submitted an amended certificate sharing agreement to clarify this policy.

- the reduction in the UoA is not expected to have any major sustainability related implications for 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:

- stakeholders are informed

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: Accreditation Services International