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Derogation: A derogation is a temporary normative measure that allows for an MSC requirement to be applied differently, or not at all.

Derogations apply to the version of the document that is specified, and any earlier versions still in use. As of March 2020, derogations are published on the MSC Interpretations Log.



Program Derogations: **Current Versions**

Derogation identification		Date version effective	Date version expires	Affected document(s) and requirement(s) and additional information
Title	Version			
Fisheries program derogations				
Derogation 5: PI 2.4.2.a scoring issue a	1.0	05 November 2020	Until fisheries are assessed against the next version of the MSC Fisheries Standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCP (v2.1 and v2.2) section 7.17, and Fisheries Standard (v2.0 and v2.01) PI 2.4.2 scoring issue a
CoC program derogations				
Derogation 9: Use of both ASC and MSC labels on products coming from seaweed production category Bii	1.0	06 November 2023	This derogation will be withdrawn once it has been incorporated into the next version of all affected program documents, and those documents are made effective (MSC Chain of Custody Standard (Default & Group), MSC General Certification Requirements and ASC-MSC Seaweed (Algae) Certification and Accreditation Requirements (CAR)).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASC-MSC Seaweed (Algae) Certification and Accreditation Requirements (CAR) v1.01: Guidance 4.9.1 MSC Chain of Custody Standard (Default v5.1 & Group v2.1): Clause 1.1.1, Guidance 2.1; 2.2 MSC General Certification Requirements (GCR) v2.6: Clause 7.5.1



Program Derogations: **Superseded Versions**

Derogation identification		Date version effective	Date version expires	Affected document(s) and requirement(s) and additional information
Title	Version			
Scheme wide derogations				
Derogation 1: Covid-19 pandemic	1.0	27 March 2020	27 September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of requirements in the Fisheries Certification Process v2.1 and v2.2 relating to on-site visits and assessment/audit timelines. A range of requirements in the Chain of Custody Certification Requirements v3.1 relating to on-site audits.
Derogation 3: UPDATE 02/09/2020 Covid-19 Pandemic Derogation– Effective 28 September 2020	2.0	28 September 2020	27 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of requirements in the Fisheries Certification Process v2.1 and v2.2 relating to on-site visits. A range of requirements in the Chain of Custody Certification Requirements v3.1 relating to on-site audits.
Derogation 3: Covid-19 Fishery and Chain of Custody Remote Auditing	3.0	28 March 2021	28 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of requirements in the Fisheries Certification Process v2.1 and v2.2 relating to on-site visits. A range of requirements in the Chain of Custody Certification Requirements v3.1 relating to on-site audits.
Derogation 3: Covid-19 Fishery and Chain of Custody Remote Auditing	4.0	29 March 2022	28 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of application, amendments to initial audit requirements and clarifications for Chain of Custody, including addition of 1.5.b-c, 1.7, 1.14.a and 1.19.
Derogation 3: Covid-19 Fishery and Chain of Custody Remote Auditing	5.0	29 March 2023	28 September 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of application, updated references to the Fisheries Certification Process to align with versions 2.3 and 3.0, as appropriate. Supersedes: Derogation 3: Covid-19 Fishery and Chain of Custody Remote Auditing v4.0
Derogation 4: Extension of ISO 19011 (GCR v2.4.1 – 6.1.3)	1.0	29 September 2020	This derogation will be incorporated into the next full update of the General Certification Requirements and will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Certification Requirements v2.4.1 and v2.5, clause 6.1.3.



Derogation identification		Date version effective	Date version expires	Affected document(s) and requirement(s) and additional information
Title	Version			
			expire on the effective date of that version.	
Fisheries program derogations				
Derogation 6: Covid-19 Fishery Conditions Extension	1.0	28 March 2021	The derogation applies until all eligible conditions have been extended for all applicable fisheries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions related to management decision making, monitoring and compliance extended for 12 months for all fisheries.
CoC program derogations				
Derogation 2: Covid-19 pandemic Labour	1.0	06 May 2020	30 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC Chain of Custody Default Standard v5.0, clause 5.7.2. • MSC Chain of Custody Group Standard v2.0, clause 5.7.2. • MSC Chain of Custody CFO Standard v2.0, clause 5.8.2. • General Certification Requirements v2.4.1, clause 4.8.6.c. • All requirements in the MSC Third-Party Labour Audit Requirements v1.
Derogation 2: Covid-19 Chain of Custody Labour Pause	2.0	31 March 2021	27 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC Chain of Custody Default Standard v5.0, clause 5.7.2. • MSC Chain of Custody Group Standard v2.0, clause 5.7.2. • MSC Chain of Custody CFO Standard v2.0, clause 5.8.2. • General Certification Requirements v2.4.1, clause 4.8.6.c. • All requirements in the MSC Third-Party Labour Audit Requirements v1.
Derogation 7: Chain of Custody Labour Audit Risk Revision	1.0	28 May 2021	Until certificate holders are assessed against the next version of the MSC Chain of Custody Standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of two options self-assessment & revision of risk-based audit. • Clauses affected identified in document across the relevant MSC Chain of Custody Standard and the MSC Chain of Custody Certification Requirements.
Derogation 8: Chain of Custody Labour Eligibility Requirements	1.0	01 May 2023	This derogation will expire on the effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC Chain of Custody Standard: Default V5.0: Clause 5.7



Derogation identification		Date version effective	Date version expires	Affected document(s) and requirement(s) and additional information
Title	Version			
			date of the next version of the affected program documents. Referenced requirements relating to: CoC Standards expire on 15 May 2023; CoC Certification Requirements expire on 1 November 2023.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSC Chain of Custody Standard: Group V2.0: Clause 5.7 • MSC Chain of Custody Standard: Consumer-Facing Organisation v2.0 Clause 5.8 • MSC Chain of Custody Certification Requirements v3.1: Clauses 7.1.8; 8.2.2k; 8.2.14; 8.2.15; 8.3.1 l; 8.3.15; 8.3.16; 9.2.1 b; 9.2.8 c • MSC Third-Party Labour Audit Requirements • MSC CoC Certificate Holder Statement of Understanding of Labour Requirements • Derogation 7: Chain of Custody Labour Audit Risk Revision