# MarinTrust RS V2.0

## BYPRODUCT FISHERY ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE REPORT

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**TABLE 1 APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Fishery Under Assessment** | **Species:** | Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalonga*) |
| | **Geographical area:** | FAO Area 27 Atlantic, Northeast |
| | **Country of origin of the product:** | Spain and Portugal |
| | **Stock:** | Northern Atlantic albacore tuna |
| **Date** | 16 December 2020 | |
| **Report Code** | 156 | |
| **Assessor** | Sam Dignan | |
| **Country of origin of the product - PASS** | Spain and Portugal | |
| **Country of origin of the product - FAIL** | nil | |

| **Application details and summary of the assessment outcome** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Name:** | | | |
| **Address:** | | | |
| **Country:** | | **Zip:** | |
| **Tel. No.:** | | **Fax. No.:** | |
| **Email address:** | | **Applicant Code:** | |
| **Key Contact**: | | **Title:** | |
| **Certification Body Details** | | | |
| **Name of Certification Body: SAI Global** | | | |
| **Assessor** | **Peer Reviewer** | **Assessment Days** | **Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval** |
| Sam Dignan | Géraldine Criquet | 0.5 | Surveillance 2 |
| **Assessment Period** | To December 2020 | | |

| **Scope Details** | |
|---|---|
| **Main Species** | Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalonga*) |
| **Stock** | Northern Atlantic albacore tuna |
| **Fishery Location** | FAO Area 27 Atlantic, Northeast |
| **Management Authority (Country/State)** | International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and National authorities of Spain and Portugal |
| **Gear Type(s)** | Longline, seines |
| **Outcome of Assessment** | |
| **Peer Review Evaluation** | Agree with the assessor's determination |
| **Recommendation** | **APPROVED** |

**TABLE 2. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION**

| **Assessment Determination** |
|---|
| If a species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as IFFO RS raw material.<br><br>Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalonga*) is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Near Threatened (NT) and Least Concern (LC) in Europe and is not listed in CITES such that albacore derived products are eligible for approval for use as IFFO RS by-product raw material.<br><br>On the basis of available information, the existence of three Atlantic albacore stocks are assumed: northern and southern Atlantic stocks (separated at 5°N) and a Mediterranean stock. Given that FAO 27 Atlantic, Northeast occurs entirely north of 5° N latitude, only the northern Atlantic stocks is included in this assessment.<br><br>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the stock assessment processes so the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1.<br><br>As of the latest assessment of stock status biomass is considered to be above the corresponding limit reference such that the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.2.<br><br>As the stock passes both Clause C1.1 and C1.2, the by-product covered by this report is **APPROVED** for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current IFFO RS v 2.0 by-product standard. |
| **Peer Review Comments** |
| The assessor correctly classified the Northern Atlantic albacore tuna as category C species as the stock is subject to specific management regime. The stock is assessed and stock status is assessed relative to reference points.<br><br>Fisheries removals are considered in the stock assessment. According to the last stock assessment, the stock biomass is considered to be above the limit reference point.<br><br>Therefore, the peer reviewer agrees with the assessor's determination that the fishery passes both C1.1 and C1.2. |
| **Notes for On-site Auditor** |
| |

# SPECIES CATEGORISATION

**NB:** If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as an MARINTRUST raw material.

## IUCN Redlist Category

Byproduct material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

Byproduct material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

**TABLE 3 SPECIES CATEGORISATION TABLE**

| Common name | Latin name | Stock | Management | Category | IUCN Red List Category[1] | CITES Appendix 1[2] |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Albacore tuna | *Thunnus alalonga* | Northern Atlantic albacore | ICCAT, National authorities of Spain and Portugal | C | Globally: Near Threatened (NT)<br><br>Europe: Least Concern (LC) | No |

[1] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[2] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php

# CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption. Clause C1 should be completed for **each** Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it may be assessed as a Category D species instead, EXCEPT if there is evidence that it is currently below the limit reference point.

| **Species Name** | | **Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalonga*) (Northern Atlantic stock)** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **C1** | **Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements** | | |
| | C1.1 | Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible. | PASS |
| | C1.2 | The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible. | PASS |
| | | **Clause outcome:** | **PASS** |

**C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible**.

Fishery removals of the stock in the fishery under assessment are included in the ICCAT stock assessment process. Specifically, catches of Atlantic albacore are presented in §ALB-Table 1 of ICCAT, 2020 where, in the most recent 5 years for which data are available, Spanish, Portuguese and Total landings of North Atlantic albacore have been as outlined below.

| Year | Spain | Portugal | Total (all nations) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2015 | 14,126 mt | 929 mt | 25,551 mt |
| 2016 | 17,077 mt | 1,111 mt | 30,340 mt |
| 2017 | 13,964 mt | 2,527 mt | 28,401 mt |
| 2018 | 15,691 mt | 498 mt | 29,691 mt |
| 2019 | 16,536 mt | 2,493 mt | 34,772 mt |

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the fishery **PASSES** clause C1.1

**C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.**

The status of the Northern Atlantic albacore stock is based on analysis conducted in July 2020 using data to 2018.

Model results suggest a biomass drop between 1930 and the 1990s and a recovery since. The stock has now recovered to levels well above $B_{MSY}$ such that $B_{current}/B_{MSY}$ = 1.32 with 80% Confidence Intervals of 1.13 – 1.51.

With respect to stock status relative to its limit reference point (or proxy), $B_{2019}/B_{LIM}$ = 3.30 with 80% Confidence Intervals of 2.83 – 3.78 such that the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy) meaning; therefore, **the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.2**.

**References**

ICCAT, 2020. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) 2020 Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) Advice to the Commission: https://iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/SCRS_2020_Advice_ENG.pdf

| **Links** | |
|---|---|
| **MARINTRUST Standard clause** | 1.3.2.2 |
| **FAO CCRF** | 7.5.3 |
| **GSSI** | D.3.04, D5.01 |

## SOCIAL CRITERION

In addition to the scored criteria listed above, applicants must commit to ensuring that vessels operating in the fishery adhere to internationally recognised guidance on human rights. They must also commit to ensuring there is no use of enforced or unpaid labour in the fleet(s) operating upon the resource.

# Appendix B: From MARINTRUST Standard V2.0 Annex 2: Fish By-product Assessment Methodology

**Definition of a Fish By-product**
A by-product is a useful and marketable product that is not the primary product being produced. A marketable by-product is from a process that can technically not be avoided. This includes materials that may be traditionally defined as waste such as industrial scrap that is subsequently used as a raw material in a different manufacturing process.

"Fish By-products" refers to commodities that are manufactured from fish, including shellfish, and crustaceans in a form that is different than conventional foods and which are intended for human consumption (either directly or as a food ingredient). Fish By-products include, but are not limited to:

- By-products derived from fish, including fish cartilage, fish oils, and fish proteins; and
- By-products derived from the carapaces of crustaceans; but do not include marine plants or marine plant products.

(Canadian Food Inspection Agency Definition)
In addition, a whole fish which is rejected on an intrinsic quality ground e.g. does not meet the specification for human consumption due to physical damage or the quality is substandard. These whole fish shall in these cases be classified as a by-product from the human consumption fishery, and can be used for marine ingredients production.

A whole catch of fish that is rejected by a fish processing factory on economic grounds is not considered to be a fish by-product. This fish can only be used for marine ingredients production if the fishery has been assessed and approved under the requirements of the IFFO Responsible Sourcing Standard.

**Why utilise Fish By-products?**
**FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries**
**General Principles Article 6**
**6.7** The harvesting, handling, processing and distribution of fish and fishery products should be carried out in a manner which will maintain the nutritional value, quality and safety of the products, reduce waste and minimize negative impacts on the environment.

**Responsible fish utilisation Article 11.1**
**11.1.8** States should encourage those involved in fish processing, distribution and marketing to reduce post-harvest losses and waste.

**Benefits of Including Fish By-Products in the MARINTRUST Standard:**
**1.** Improved fish resource utilisation
**2.** Reduction in waste for nutritional value
**3.** 35% of fish by-products are currently used to make quality fishmeal and oil
**4.** Excellent Economic return
**5.** Better compliance with FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

**What Fish By-products cannot be used?**
**1. IUCN**
Fishery By-products shall Not be taken from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for certain categories;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)

- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

Fish By-product material may be used from the vulnerable category, but it shall incur a fishery surveillance conducted by the certification body prior to it being included in the scope of this standard.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

The Fish By-product material from these species will be acceptable for use in the scope of this standard;

- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.

Fish By-product material may be used from the following category, but it shall incur a fishery surveillance prior to it being included in the scope of this standard;

- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

The fishery surveillance conducted by the certification body will review the following areas:

**Stock Assessment**

- From a recognised Institution
- Fisheries are recognised as legal
- Fisheries do not contradict scientific opinion

**2. FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries**

In addition the Fish By-products shall not come from fisheries that do not comply with the following criteria;

**1.** Fisheries should prohibit dynamiting, poisoning and other comparable destructive fishing practices.

**2.** Fishery material shall not be from IUU fishing activity nor sourced from vessels officially listed as engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity.

**Sources of Information**

**1.** Food Standards Agency
**2.** Canadian Food Inspection Agency
**3.** DEFRA
**4.** GAA Feed mill BAP standard
**5.** EU Commission
**6.** IUCN