# 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 77 Pacific, Eastern Central |
| | **Country of origin of the product:** | Vietnam |
| | **Stock:** | 1. North Pacific albacore tuna<br>2. South Pacific albacore tuna |
| **Date** | 05 January 2021 | |
| **Report Code** | 162 | |
| **Assessor** | Sam Dignan | |
| **Country of origin of the product - PASS** | Vietnam | |
| **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 | Geraldine Criquet | 0.5 | Surveillance 2 |
| **Assessment Period** | To December 2020 | | |

| **Scope Details** | |
|---|---|
| **Main Species** | Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalonga*) |
| **Stock** | 1. North Pacific albacore tuna<br>2. South Pacific albacore tuna |
| **Fishery Location** | FAO Area 77 Pacific, Eastern Central |
| **Management Authority (Country/State)** | The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). |
| **Gear Type(s)** | Pole lines, handlines and longlines |
| **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 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 two Pacific albacore stocks are assumed: the North Pacific stock and the South Pacific stock. Given that FAO 77 Pacific, Eastern Central overlaps in part with both stock areas, both stocks are included in this assessment.<br><br>Fishery removals of both stocks are considered in their respective stock assessment processes such that the fishery **PASSES** Clause C1.1.<br><br>As of the latest assessment of stock status both stocks are considered to have biomasses above their corresponding limit reference points such that the fishery **PASSES** Clause C1.2.<br><br>As both stock pass 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 both albacore tuna stocks as category C species as these stocks are subject to specific management regime. The stocks are assessed and stocks status is assessed relative to reference points.<br><br>Fisheries removals are considered in the stock assessments. According to the last stock assessments, the spawning stock biomass of both albacore tuna stocks is 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 for both stocks. |
| **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* | 1. North Pacific albacore tuna<br>2. South Pacific albacore tuna | ICCAT and WCPFC | C | Globally: Near Threatened (NT) | 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*) (North and South Pacific stocks)** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **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**.

North Pacific albacore

Fishery removals of North Pacific albacore tuna are included in the stock assessment process. The latest assessment, Annex 12 to the ISC20 Plenary Report: http://isc.fra.go.jp/reports/isc/isc20_reports.html, uses all available fishery data for North Pacific albacore in the period 1994 – 2018.

South Pacific albacore

Fishery removals of South Pacific albacore tuna are included in the stock assessment process; this is explained in detail in *§4.4 Catch and effort data* of the most recent assessment of the stock (Tremblay-Boyer et al., 2018). The available time series of landings data stretches back to 1960 (see Figure 2 of Tremblay-Boyer et al., 2018).

Therefore, fishery removals of both stocks of relevance to this assessment are included in their respective stock assessment processes such that **the fishery achieves a PASS against 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.**

North Pacific albacore

In 2014, the WCPFC, which manages this stock together with the IATTC, adopted a biomass-based LRP of 20% of the current spawning stock biomass when F=0 ($20\%SSB_{current,\ F=0}$). The assessment of this stock is conducted the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific (ISC). The latest estimated for SSB ($SSB_{2018}$) was estimated to be 58,858 t (95% CI: 27,751 – 89,966 t) and 2.30 (95% CI: 1.49 – 3.11) times greater than the estimated LRP threshold of 25,573 t (95% CI: 19,150 – 31,997 t); therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above its limit reference point (or proxy).

South Pacific albacore

Stock assessments for South Pacific albacore tuna are conducted by the Oceanic Fisheries Program of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) with the having been conducted in 2018 based on data up to 2016 (Tremblay-Boyer 2018). According to that assessment, the stock is above the limit reference point (of $0.2SB_{F=0}$), with overall median depletion for 2016 ($SB_{latest}/SB_{F=0}$) estimated at 0.52 (80%ile range = 0.37 – 0.63); therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above its limit reference point (or proxy).

Both stocks of relevance to this assessment are considered, in their most recent stock assessments, to have biomasses above their limit reference points such that **the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.2**.

| **References** | |
|---|---|
| ISC, 2020. Stock Status and Conservation Information — North Pacific Albacore tuna: http://isc.fra.go.jp/recommendation/index.html.<br><br>ISC, 2020. North Pacific albacore tuna stock assessment 2020. Annex 12 to the ISC20 Plenary Report: http://isc.fra.go.jp/reports/isc/isc20_reports.html.<br><br>Tremblay-Boyer, L., Hampton, J., McKechnie, S. and Pilling, G., 2018. Stock assessment of South Pacific albacore tuna. 14th Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC. Busan, Republic of Korea: https://www.wcpfc.int/node/31182. | |
| **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