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:**	Bigeye tuna, *Thunnus obesus*
	Geographical area:	FAO Areas 77, 71 Pacific Eastern Central, Western Central
	Country of origin of the product:	Thailand
	Stock:	Pacific Eastern Central & Western Central
Date	February 2021	
Report Code	185-2020	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Thailand	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Thailand		**Zip:**	
Tel. No.:		**Fax. No.:**	
Email address:		**Applicant Code:**	
Key Contact:		**Title:**	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	**Peer Reviewer**	**Assessment Days**	**Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval**
Virginia Polonio	Géraldine Criquet	0.5	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	February 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Bigeye tuna, *Thunnus obesus*
Stock	Pacific Eastern Central & Western Central
Fishery Location	FAO 77, 71
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and domestically Department of Fisheries of Thailand
Gear Type(s)	Longline, pole and line and purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	**APPROVED**

TABLE 2. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Assessment Determination
If any 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 MarinTrust raw material. Bigeye tuna, *Thunnus obesus* does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices, therefore Bigeye tuna, (*Thunnus obesus*) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material. Bigeye tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean are managed at the international level by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The WCPFC has an agreement with the Secretariat of the Pacific to undertake regular assessments of target tuna and tuna-like species. Therefore, the status of the stocks is known and regularly monitored. Catch limits have recently been put into place (2013) for six countries (United States, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Taiwan) longline fisheries operating on the high seas. The species is subject to a species-specific management regime and therefore it has been assessed under Category C. The most recent assessment (2017) indicates that bigeye tuna is no longer underfished or undergoing overfishing. In order to be approved, the stock assessed must achieve a pass in clauses C1.1 and C1.2. Therefore, Bigeye tuna, *Thunnus obesus* in FAO 77, 71 Pacific Eastern Central, Western Central is **APPROVED** by the assessor for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standard.
Peer Review Comments
The assessor correctly Pacific Eastern Central and Western Central bigeye tuna stock as category C, the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against. Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point. Pacific Eastern Central and Western Central bigeye tuna passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and is therefore approved.
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]
Bigeye tuna	*Thunnus obesus*	Pacific Eastern Central, Western Central FAO 77, 71	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and domestically Department of Fisheries of Thailand	C	Globally VU	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		Bigeye tuna, (*Thunnus obesus*)	
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.

Stock assessments of bigeye tuna in the WCPO have been conducted regularly since 1999. The most recent assessment was conducted in 2017 and included catch, effort, length-frequency and weight-frequency data from 1952-2015. This updated model included the following changes from the 2014 assessment:

- Standardised catch per unit effort (CPUE) indices calculated from the recently collated operational longline CPUE catch per unit effort dataset; Investigating alternative spatial structure; Investigate use of a new growth model and implementation of new features developed in the Multi-Fan CL model.

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 last Scientific Committee (SC15) noted that under recent fishery conditions, the bigeye stock is initially projected to increase as recent estimated recruitments support adult stock biomass. Adult stock biomass is then projected to decline slightly before again increasing. Projected fishing mortality is below FMSY (median F2020/FMSY = 0.62, the risk of F2020 > FMSY = 0%) and projected median spawning biomass is above the LRP (SB2020/SBF=0 = 0.2) (median SB2020/SBF=0 = 0.41; median SB2020/SBMSY = 1.79. Risk that SB2020 < LRP = 0%). Projections are from the updated model runs of Vincent et al. (2018). (Figure 1)

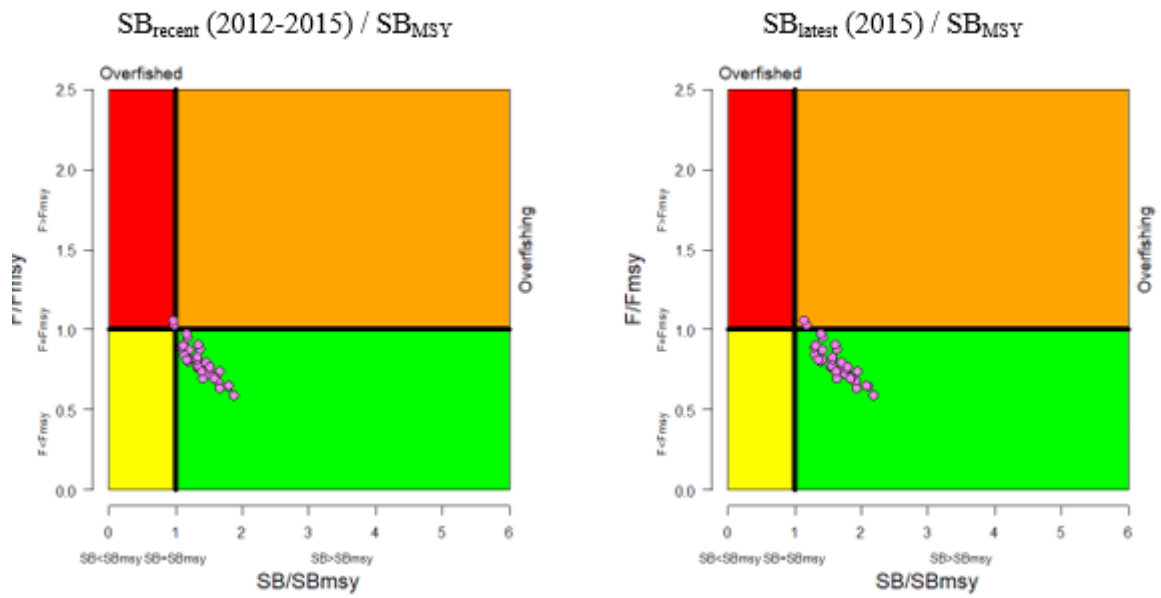

Figure 1. Kobe plot summarising the results for each of the models in the structural uncertainty grid. In the upper panel, the points represent SBrecent/SBMSY, where SBrecent is the mean SB over 2012-2015. In the lower panel, the points represent SBlatest/SBMSY, where SBlatest is from 2015. Source: WCPO, 2019.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above reference points (or proxy) and it **PASSES** clause C1.2.

References

Vincent, M. T., G. Pilling, and J. Hampton. 2018. Incorporation of updated growth information within the 2017 WCPO bigeye stock assessment grid, and examination of the sensitivity of estimates to alternative model spatial structures. WCPFC-SC14-2018/SA-WP-03.

WCPFC. 2018c. Bigeye Tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) Stock Status & Trends plus Management Advice and Implications. https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/01/bigeye-tuna

WCPFC. 2018d. Bigeye Tuna | WCPFC. https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/01/bigeye-tuna

WCPO, 2019. Bigeye Tuna (*Thunnus obesus*). Stock Status and Management Advice. https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/01/bigeye-tuna. The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.

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 gfio
5. EU Commission
6. IUCN