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Global Standard for Responsible Supply of Marine Ingredients Fishery Assessment Methodology and Template Report V2.0



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Fishery Under Assessment	Skipjack Tuna Atlantic Southwest
Date	March 2020
Report Code	2020-252
Assessor	Jim Daly
Stock Pass	FAO 41 Atlantic Southwest
Stock Fail	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome				
Name: Marine Biotechnology Limited Ivory Coast				
Address: Abidjan				
Country: Ivory Coast		Zip:		
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:		
Email address:		Applicant Code:		
Key Contact:		Title:		
Certification Body Details				
Name of Certification Body:		SAI Global Ltd		
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval	Whole fish/ By-product
Jim Daly	Conor Donnelly	0.5	Initial	By-product
Assessment Period	2020			

Scope Details	
Management Authority (Country/State)	ICCAT
Main Species	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
Stock:	FAO 41
Fishery Location	Atlantic Southwest
Gear Type(s)	Longline, pole-lines, purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	AGREE
Recommendation	APPROVE

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 IFFO RS raw material. Skipjack tuna does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Skipjack tuna is eligible for approval for use as IFFO RS by-product raw material.

One stock forms part of this assessment:

- 1) FAO 41 Atlantic Southwest

Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the various stock assessment processes so the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1.

For Skipjack tuna in the assessment area the most recent estimated spawning stock biomass (SSB) is above Blim and removals are not considered to be negligible therefore, the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.2.

In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore:

Skipjack tuna is **APPROVED** by SAI Global assessors in the assessment area for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current IFFO RS v 2.0 by-products standard.

Peer Review Comments

Notes for On-site Auditor

HOW TO COMPLETE THIS ASSESSMENT REPORT

By-products

The process for completing the template for **by-product raw material** is as follows:

1. **ALL ASSESSMENTS:** Complete the Species Characterisation table with the names of the by-product species and stocks under assessment. The '% landings' column can be left empty; all by-products are considered as Category C and D.
2. **IF THERE ARE CATEGORY C BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT:** Complete clause C1 for **each** Category C by-product.
3. **IF THERE ARE CATEGORY D BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT:** Complete Section D.
4. **ALL OTHER SECTIONS CAN BE DELETED.** Clauses M1 - M3, F1 - F3, and Sections A and B do not need to be completed for a by-product assessment.

By-product approval is awarded on a species-by-species basis. Each by-product species scoring a pass under the appropriate section may be approved against the IFFO RS Standard.

SPECIES CATEGORISATION

The following table should be completed as fully as the available information permits. Any species representing more than 0.1% of the annual catch should be listed, along with an estimate of the proportion of the catch each species represents. The species should then be divided into Type 1 and Type 2 as follows:

- **Type 1 Species** can be considered the 'target' or 'main' species in the fishery. They make up the bulk of annual landings and are subjected to a detailed assessment.

- **Type 2 Species** can be considered the ‘bycatch’ or ‘minor’ species in the fishery. They make up a small proportion of the annual landings and are subjected to relatively high-level assessment.

Type 1 Species must represent 95% of the total annual catch. Type 2 Species may represent a maximum of 5% of the annual catch (see Appendix B).

Species which make up less than 0.1% of landings do not need to be listed (NOTE: ETP species are considered separately). The table should be extended if more space is needed. Discarded species should be included when known.

The ‘stock’ column should be used to differentiate when there are multiple biological or management stocks of one species captured by the fishery. The ‘management’ column should be used to indicate whether there is an adequate management regime specifically aimed at the individual species/stock. In some cases, it will be immediately clear whether there is a species-specific management regime in place (for example, if there is an annual TAC). In less clear circumstances, the rule of thumb should be that if the species meets the minimum requirements of clauses A1-A4, an adequate species-specific management regime is in place.

NOTE: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it **cannot** be approved for use as an IFFO RS raw material. This applied to whole fish as well as by-products.

TYPE 1 SPECIES (Representing 95% of the catch or more)

Category A: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category B: No species-specific management regime in place.

TYPE 2 SPECIES (Representing 5% OF THE CATCH OR LESS)

Category C: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category D: No species-specific management regime in place.

Common name	Latin name	Stock	% of landings	Management	Category
Skipjack tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Atlantic Southwest	N/A	ICCAT	C

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment. 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. A Category C species does not meet the minimum requirements of clause C1 should be re-assessed as a Category D species.

Species Name		Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	
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

Evidence

This assessment covers Skipjack harvested from the areas outlined in **Figure 1**:

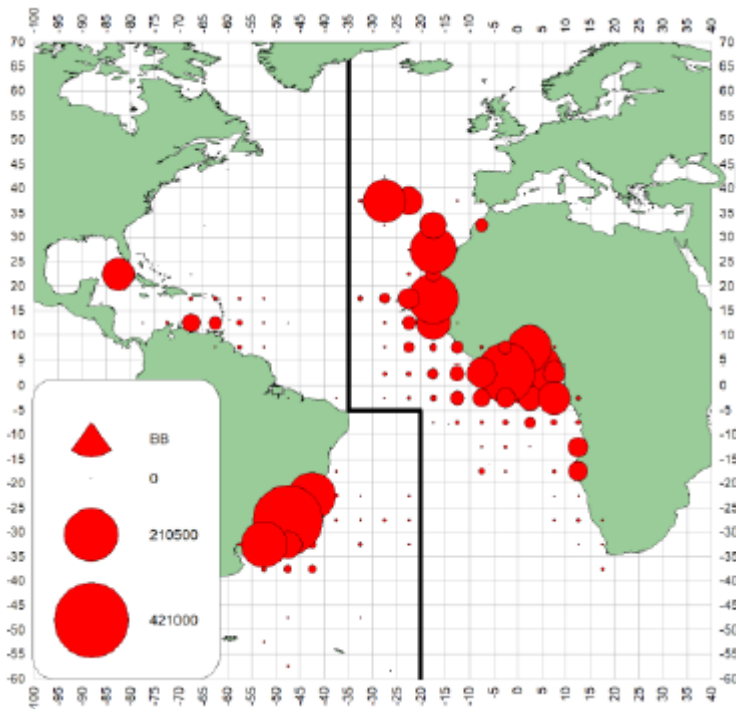


Figure 1: Skipjack tuna total catch (1950-2014) Western Atlantic (baitboat). **R1**

The average weight of skipjack caught in the West Atlantic is higher than in the East (3 to 4.5 kg compared to 2 to 2.5 kg), at least for the Brazilian baitboat fishery (**Figure 2**). Preliminary estimates of catches in 2018 made in the West Atlantic amounted to 22,873 t (there still remains an estimate 10.1% non-reported catch, for which in general average of the last three years has been assumed). The 2018 catch is lower than the historic record of 40,272 t in 1985:

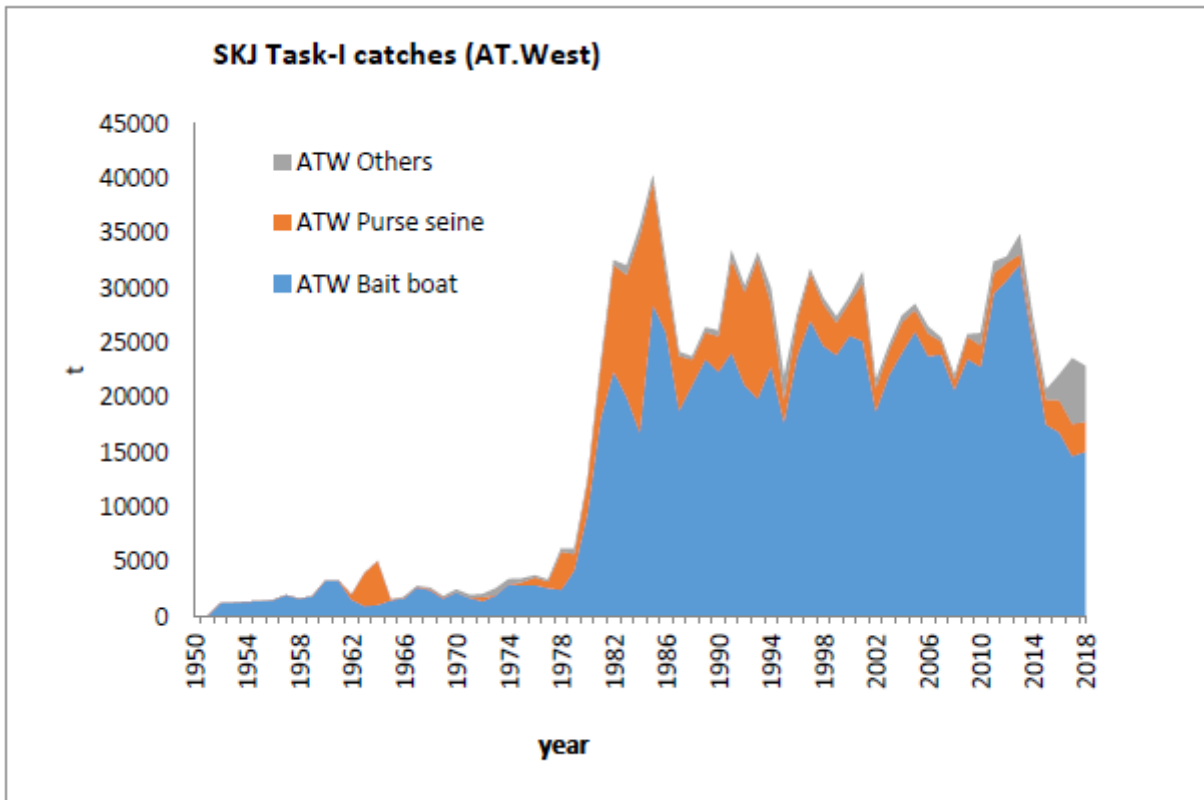


Figure 2: Skipjack catches in the western Atlantic, by gear (1950-2017). The values for 2018 are preliminary **R1**

Stock assessment models based on catch and the non-equilibrium surplus biomass production model have provided estimates of MSY. A fishing mortality vector estimated by a method based on the development of average size of individuals captured over time (mainly from Brazilian catches) shows profiles which are very close to that estimated by the non-equilibrium surplus biomass model.

C1.2 Evidence

All analyses rest on the assumption of a single western stock from the US coast to Brazil and correspond to current geographic coverage of this fishery. MSY for this stock has been estimated at 30,000 t - 32,000 t (close to previous estimates of 34,000 t).

For the western Atlantic stock, in light of the information provided by the trajectory of B/BMSY and F/FMSY ratios (SKJ-Figure 19), it is unlikely that the current catch is larger than the replacement yield:

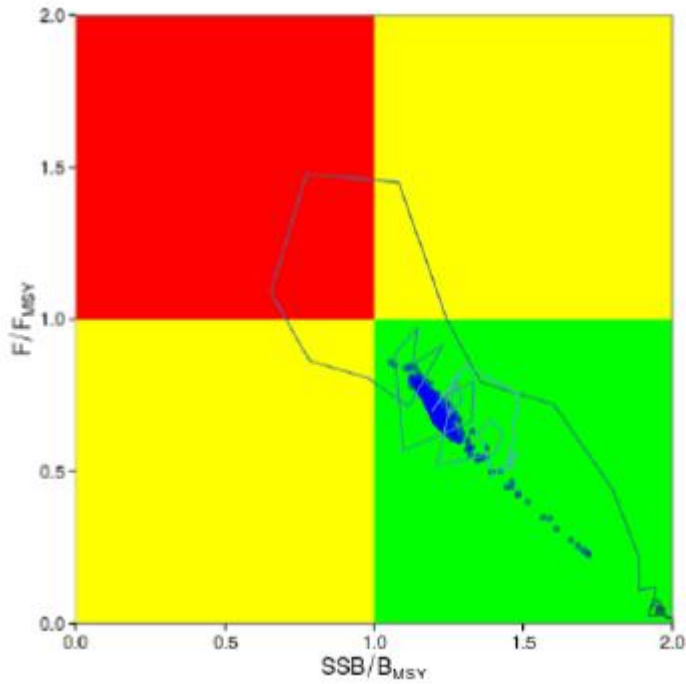


Figure 3: Western skipjack stock status: trajectories of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} from the ASPIC surplus production model (Schaefer type). **R1**

The Committee recommends improvements in the estimation of faux poissons (mainly composed of skipjack) so that uncertainty of the total skipjack catches is reduced.

Table 2: Atlantic West Skipjack Stock Summary **R1:**

Maximum Sustainable Yield (t)	30,000-32,000
Current Yield (t)	22,873
Current Replacement Yield (t)	Below 32,000
Relative Biomass B_{2013}/B_{MSY}	1.3
Overfished	No
Overfishing	No

References

R1: ICCAT Stock Assessments and Executive Summaries: Atlantic Skipjack:
https://iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/SKJ_ENG.pdf

Standard clauses 1.3.2.2