



By-Product assessment report

BP065

SPA International Food Group Co. Ltd

Report code	BP065	Date of issue	August 2025
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1. Application details		
Applicant	SPA International Food Group Co. Ltd	
Applicant country	Thailand	
2. Certification Body details		
Name of Certification Body (CB)	NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd	
Contact information for CB	Fisheries@nsf.org	
Assessor name	Sam Peacock	
CB internal peer reviewer name	Matthew Jew	
Internal peer review evaluation	Agree with evaluation	
Number of Assessment days	1	
Comments on the assessment	This byproduct assessment covers five byproducts. All five byproducts are sourced from at least one High Risk flag state, meaning a Step 3 assessment is required for each. All five byproducts passed the Category C assessment. Traceability information was provided by the applicant for four of the byproduct sources. Of these four, one was downgraded to Medium Risk via path 2. The other byproducts remain high risk and are Not Approved.	
3. Approval validity	Valid from 08/25	Valid until 08/26
4. Assessment cycle	Initial	

5. By-product assessment outcomes			
By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Areas	MarinTrust approval status
Skipjack tuna [<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea, Maldives	FAO 51,57	Not approved
Skipjack tuna [<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 61, 71, 77, 87	Not approved
Yellowfin tuna [<i>Thunnus albacares</i>]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 51,57	Not approved
Yellowfin tuna [<i>Thunnus albacares</i>]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 71, 77, 81	Approved source with caution
Albacore tuna [<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>]	Maldives	FAO 61, 71	Not approved

Guidance for on-site auditor

For the audit, the auditor will check how the facility manages by-products deemed medium risk. Any by-products downrated from high to medium risk will require additional due diligence checks.

It is important that facilities check all raw materials from and verify their suppliers especially if there is a perceived risk of sourcing from known or suspected IUU fishing activity. This requires checking supplier records or procedures in place to understand how the supplier can ensure there is no IUU in the raw material they provide. For raw materials risk rated medium, additional or more frequent checks may be required until the facility is certain that the raw materials are not from IUU fishing activity.

The audit requirements are covered in clause 2.11.3 of the MarinTrust Global Standard for Responsible Supply of Marine Ingredients (the MarinTrust Standard) and associated interpretation guidance.

Approved by-products

- No further checks are required beyond those included in the MarinTrust Standard.

Additional checks of Approved Source with Caution by-products

- Review supplier records or procedures in place.

Additional checks of by-products Approved Source with Caution via Step 3 assessment

- In addition to checks for medium risk Approved Source with Caution by-products, by-products that have had risk downgraded from high to medium at Step 3 (use **Appendix 1** to identify these by-product species), confirm that the relevant traceability information continues to be collected for this by-product. During the audit, a traceability check on any by-products downgraded from high to medium risk shall be included as part of the required traceability checks (Section 4).

Guidance for the applicant/certificate holder

The applicant/certificate holder is responsible for ensuring the relevant actions are taken to comply with the MarinTrust Standard.

The certificate holder is responsible for communicating any changes to the by-products sourced by submitting a scope extension request through the MarinTrust online Application Portal.

Appendix 1 – assessment outcomes

Step 2 Assessment Outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendices	Step 2 risk status	Step 3 required
Skipjack tuna [Katsuwonus pelamis]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea, Maldives	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
Skipjack tuna [Katsuwonus pelamis]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
Yellowfin tuna [Thunnus albacares]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
Yellowfin tuna [Thunnus albacares]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
Albacore tuna [Thunnus alalunga]	Maldives	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes

Step 3 Assessment Outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area	Stock name	Category C Assessment Outcome	Traceability information	Step 3 Risk Outcome
Skipjack tuna [Katsuwonus pelamis]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea, Maldives	FAO 51,57	Indian Ocean skipjack tuna	Pass	Path 2 – Not downgraded	Remains High Risk
Skipjack tuna [Katsuwonus pelamis]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 61, 71, 77, 87	East and West Pacific skipjack tuna	Pass	Path 2 – Not downgraded	Remains High Risk
Yellowfin tuna [Thunnus albacares]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 51,57	Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna	Pass	Insufficient	Remains High Risk
Yellowfin tuna [Thunnus albacares]	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	FAO 71, 77, 81	East and West Pacific yellowfin tuna	Pass	Path 2 – Downgraded to Medium Risk	Downgraded to Medium Risk
Albacore tuna [Thunnus alalunga]	Maldives	FAO 61, 71	North and South Pacific albacore tuna	Pass	Path 2 – Not downgraded	Remains High Risk
Comments on Step 3 Assessment: Catch locations and port states were provided for all byproducts.						

Appendix 2 – detailed assessment outcomes

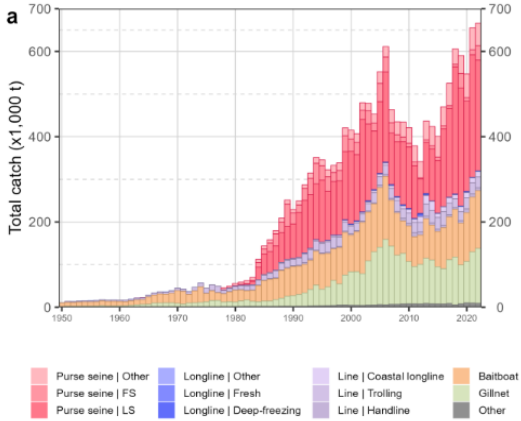
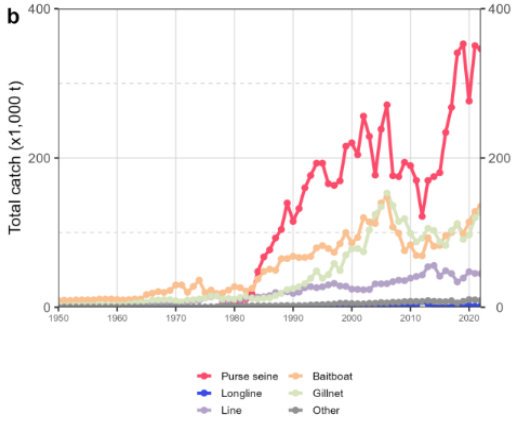
(step 2 and step 3 if applicable)

Step 2 outcomes

Flag state	Risk rating	Flag score	Port score	General score	Flag State is contracting party or cooperating non-contracting party to all relevant RFMOs	'Carded' under EU Carding system	Flag state party to PSMA	Flag state mandatory vessel tracking for commercial seagoing fleet	WGI Governance rank
China	High	4.21	4.33	3.2	1	1	5	1	36.79%
Japan	Medium	2.92	2.06	1.93	1	1	1	1	91.51%
Korea (Rep. South)	Medium	3.67	3.11	1.97	1	1	1	1	83.96%
Taiwan	High	4.17	3.06	2.27	1	1	5	1	90.57%
Maldives	High	2.25	1.67	2.13	1	1	1	1	26.89%

Step 3 outcomes

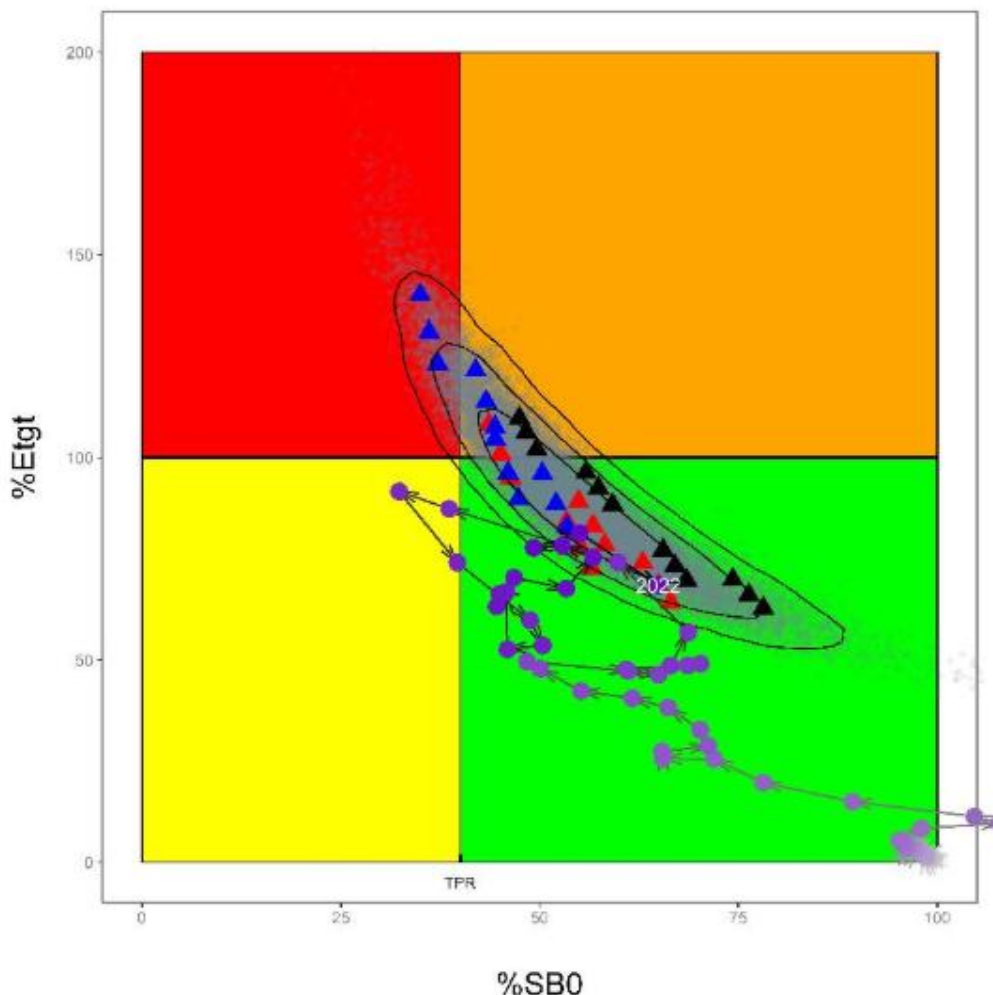
Category C assessment

Species name		<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> - Skipjack tuna
Fishing area and stock		Indian Ocean skipjack tuna
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. The stock assessment conducted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) takes all fishery removals into account. The most recent assessment was conducted in 2023. Landings in recent years were reported as a total catch in 2022 of 666,408t, and an average catch 2018-2022 of 613,061t (IOTC 2024). Full catch datasets, including catch and effort by month, species, gear, and vessels flag, and size-frequency datasets, are made available on the IOTC website (IOTC 2025).   Annual time series of (a) cumulative nominal catches (metric tonnes; t) by fishery and (b) individual nominal catches (metric tonnes; t) by fishery group for Indian Ocean skipjack tuna during 1950-2022 (IOTC 2024)		
Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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 most recent stock assessment was carried out in 2023, as reported in a 2023 stock status report published by the IOTC (IOTC 2024). The stock assessment conclusion states that “The outcome of the 2023 stock assessment model is more optimistic than the previous assessment (2020) despite the high catches recorded in the period 2021-2022, which exceeded the catch limits established in 2020 for this period” (IOTC 2024).

Biomass was estimated to be around 53% of the unfished level, which is above SB_{MSY} . The IOTC also notes that “Over the history of the fishery, biomass has been well above the adopted limit reference point (20% SB_0)” (IOTC 2024).



Indian Ocean skipjack tuna, Kobe plot of the 2023 stock assessment. Triangles represent outputs from individual models, grey dots represent uncertainty from individual models (IOTC 2024)

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

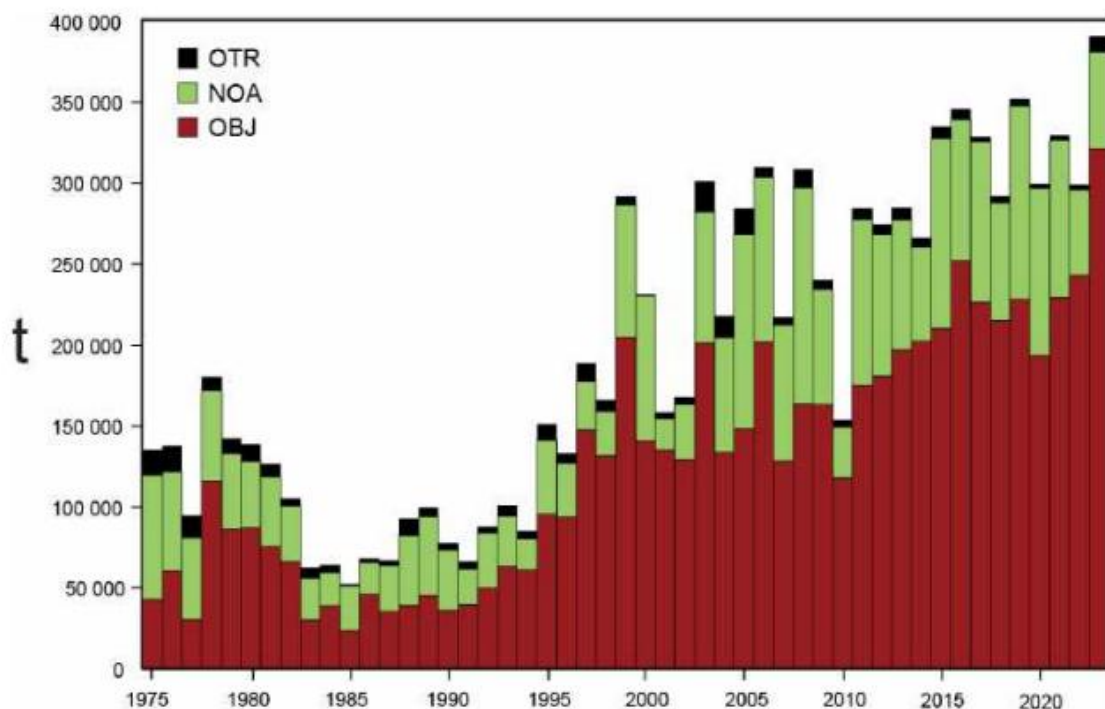
References

IOTC (2024). Indian Ocean Skipjack Tuna Stock Status: Executive Summary.

https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2024/English/IOTC-2024-SC27-ES03_SKJE.pdf

IOTC (2025). Available datasets. <https://www.iotc.org/data/datasets>

Species name		Katsuwonus pelamis - Skipjack tuna	
Fishing area and stock		East Pacific skipjack tuna	
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.			
EPO skipjack has historically been subject to “interim” integrated statistical age-structured catch-at-length stock assessments carried out by the IATTC. In 2023, a benchmark stock assessment was conducted using an integrated statistical age-structured catch-at-length model in Stock Synthesis, which is considered by the IATTC to represent “a significant improvement from the initial interim assessment conducted in 2022” (IATTC 2024). The assessment incorporates all available data from across the EPO, including catch data but also size and age frequency data and other sources.			

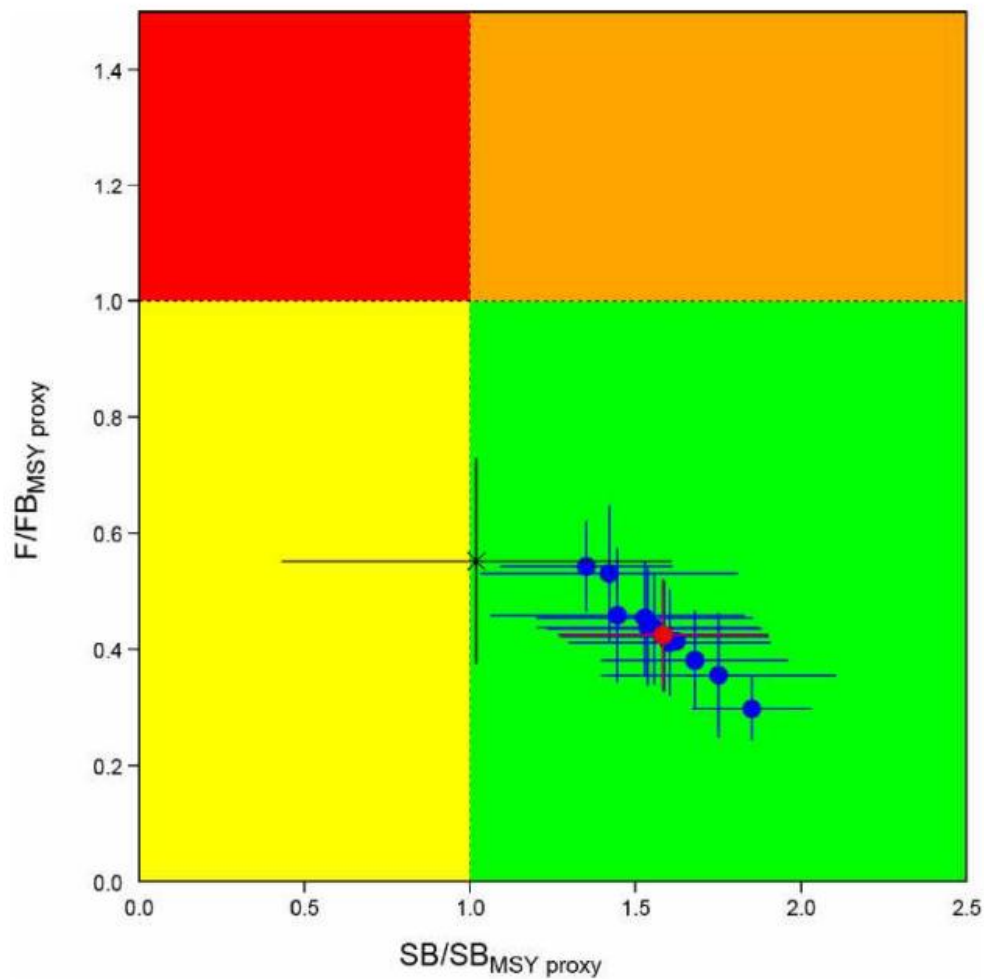


Skipjack catches (retained plus discards) in the EPO, 1975-2023 (IATTC 2024).

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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.

MSY-based estimates and reference points cannot be estimated for EPO Skipjack due to the nature of the model used. Instead, the IATTC management process utilises a conservative proxy for target biomass of $SBR = 0.3$, with the fishing mortality corresponding to that target biomass used as the target reference point for fishing mortality (IATTC 2024). The reference model and most of the sensitivity analyses conducted in 2023 indicated that biomass is above the target reference point and fishing mortality is below the target level. None of the model scenarios concluded that stock biomass is below the limit reference point level.



Kobe plot for skipjack tuna in the EPO (IATTC 2024).

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

References

IATTC (2024). The tuna fishery in the Eastern Pacific Ocean in 2023.

https://www.iattc.org/GetAttachment/1ed36788-07ce-4bf4-80e4-10c6c3b2b14d/No-22-2024_Tunas-stocks-and-ecosystem-in-the-eastern-Pacific-Ocean-in-2023.pdf

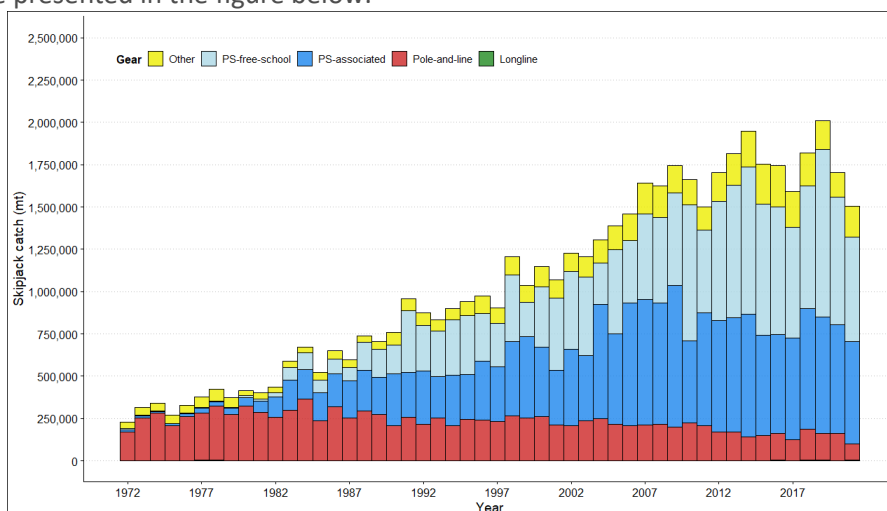
Species name	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> - Skipjack tuna
Fishing area and stock	West Pacific skipjack tuna
Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements	

C1	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.

WCPO skipjack tuna is subjected to regular stock assessments by the WCPFC. The most recent of these was carried out in 2022, using data up to 2021. The assessment incorporated catch, effort- and length-frequency estimates, and tag-recapture data (WCPFC 2022). The stock assessment report includes a discussion of structural uncertainties and needs for further data gathering; however, it does not raise major concerns.

Catches are presented in the figure below:



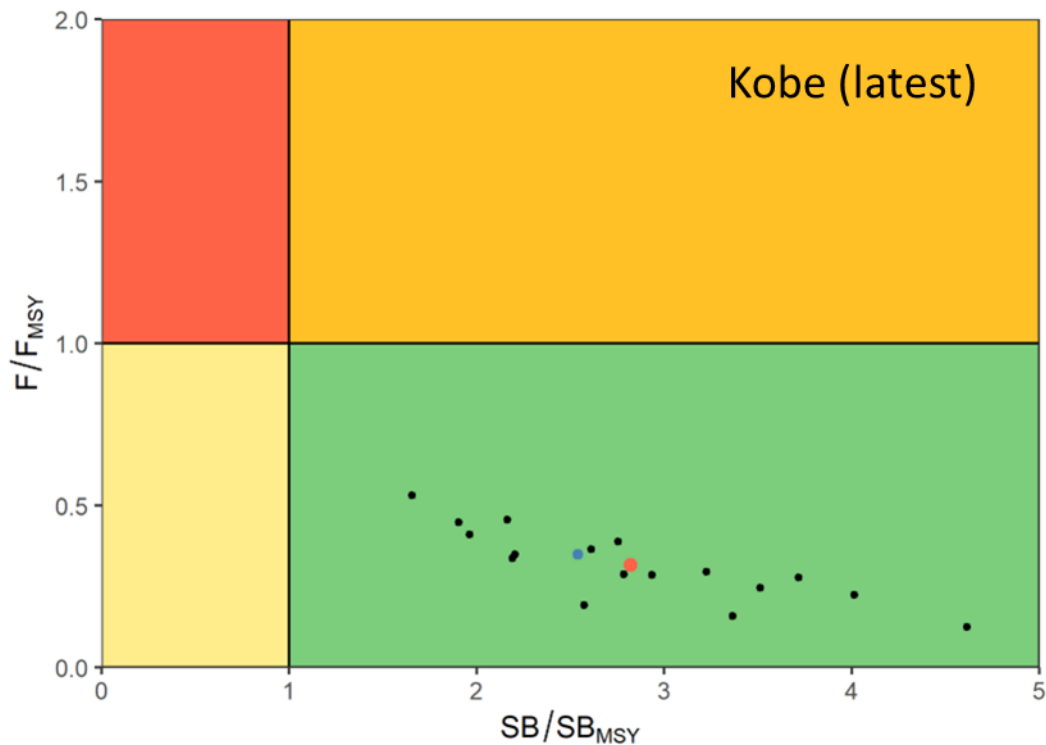
Annual catches of skipjack by gear type in the WCPO area covered by the stock assessment (WCPO 2023)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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 2022 stock assessment for WCPO skipjack concluded that “according to WCPFC reference points the stock is not overfished, not undergoing overfishing” (WCPFC 2023). None of the model outcomes produced by the stock assessment indicated that the stock biomass was below the limit

reference point of $0.2 \times SB_{F=0}$. The median model outcome indicated that stock biomass is very close to the interim target reference point of $SB_{recent}/SB_{F=0} = 0.5$.



Kobe plot summarising the results for each of the models in the “latest” period (i.e. 2021). The black dots represent model outcomes, the blue point is the diagnostic model, and the red point is the median (WCPFC 2023).

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

References

WCPFC (2022). WCPO skipjack tuna stock assessment, 2022.

<https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/16242>

WCPFC (2023). Skipjack tuna, current stock status and advice. <https://www.wcpfc.int/file/987813>

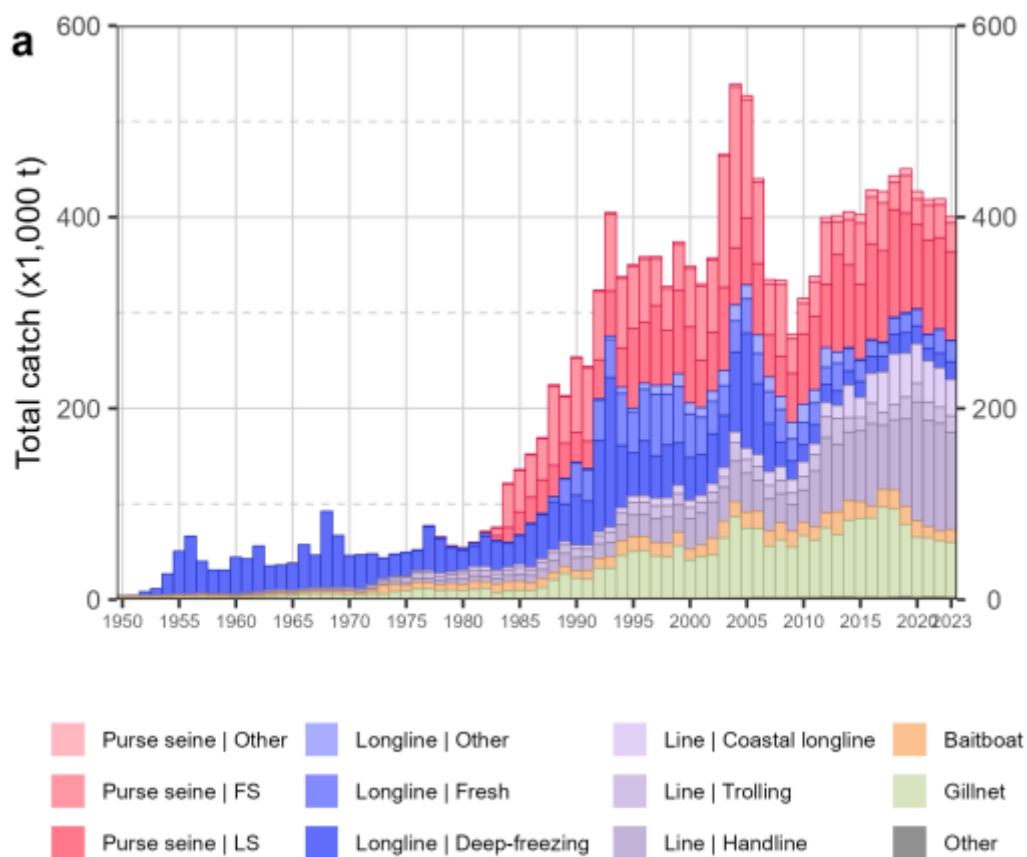
Species name		<i>Thunnus albacares</i> - Yellowfin Tuna
Fishing area and stock		Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements	
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific 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
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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.

The stock assessment conducted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) takes all fishery removals into account. The most recent assessment was conducted in 2024. Landings in recent years were reported as a total catch in 2023 of 400,950t, and an average catch 2019-2023 of 423,142t (IOTC 2024). Full catch datasets, including catch and effort by month, species, gear, and vessels flag, and size-frequency datasets, are made available on the IOTC website (IOTC 2025).

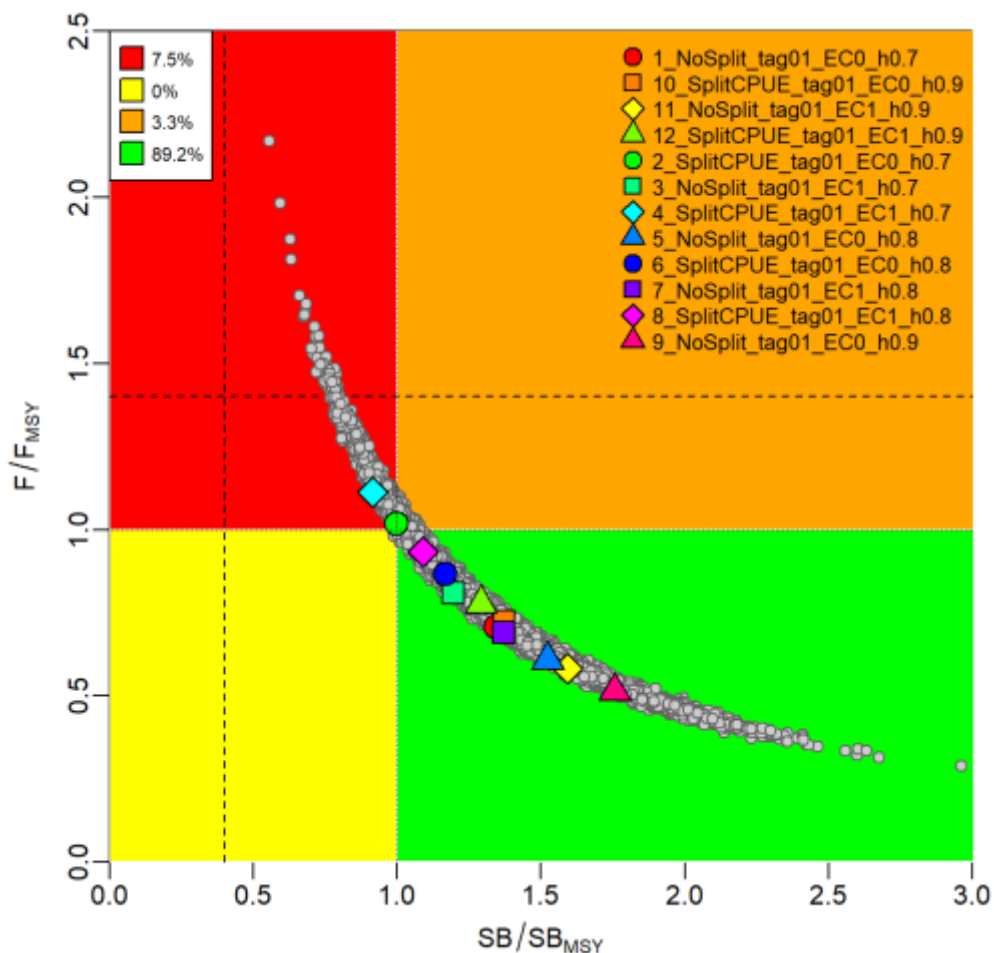


Catches of yellowfin tuna in the Pacific Ocean by gear type, 1950 – 2023 (IOTC 2024)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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 most recent stock assessment was carried out in 2024 using data from 1975-2023, as reported in a 2024 stock status report published by the IOTC (IOTC 2024). The stock assessment conclusion states that “overall stock status estimates do not differ substantially from the previous assessment”. Spawning biomass in 2023 was estimated to be around 44% of the unfished level and 32% higher than B_{MSY} . The biomass is therefore estimated to be above the target reference point, and therefore the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point in its most recent stock assessment (IOTC 2024).



Yellowfin tuna in the Pacific Ocean: Kobe chart estimating current stock status. Coloured symbols represent estimates from individual models. Grey dots represent statistical uncertainty from individual models. Dashed lines represent limit reference points (IOTC 2024)

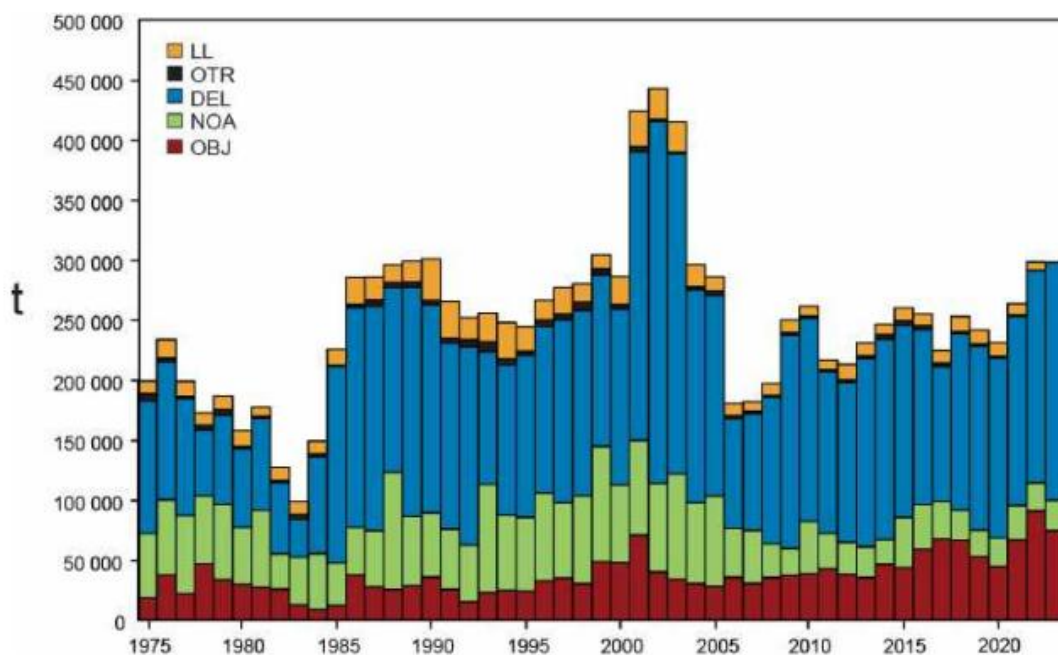
Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy) and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

IOTC (2025). Available datasets. <https://www.iotc.org/data/datasets>

IOTC (2024). Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock Status: Executive Summary. https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2024/English/IOTC-2024-SC27-ES04_YFTE.pdf

Species name		<i>Thunnus albacares</i> - Yellowfin Tuna
Fishing area and stock		East Pacific yellowfin tuna
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. The Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin tuna stock is managed and assessed by the Inter-American Tropical Tunas Commission (IATTC). A new risk-based approach was introduced to the management of the stock in 2022, with Stock Status Indicators (SSIs) developed using catch and other data collected from the EPO as a whole. This approach continued in 2023 (IATTC 2024). SSIs are considered to be important alternatives to formal stock assessments, particularly where those stock assessments may be too unreliable to form the basis for management advice (IATTC 2022). Fishery removals are a key component of the modelling used to generate SSI's, and their development and use is evidence that managers have sought out alternative mechanisms where stock assessment uncertainty is high. The most recent full stock assessment was conducted in 2020.		

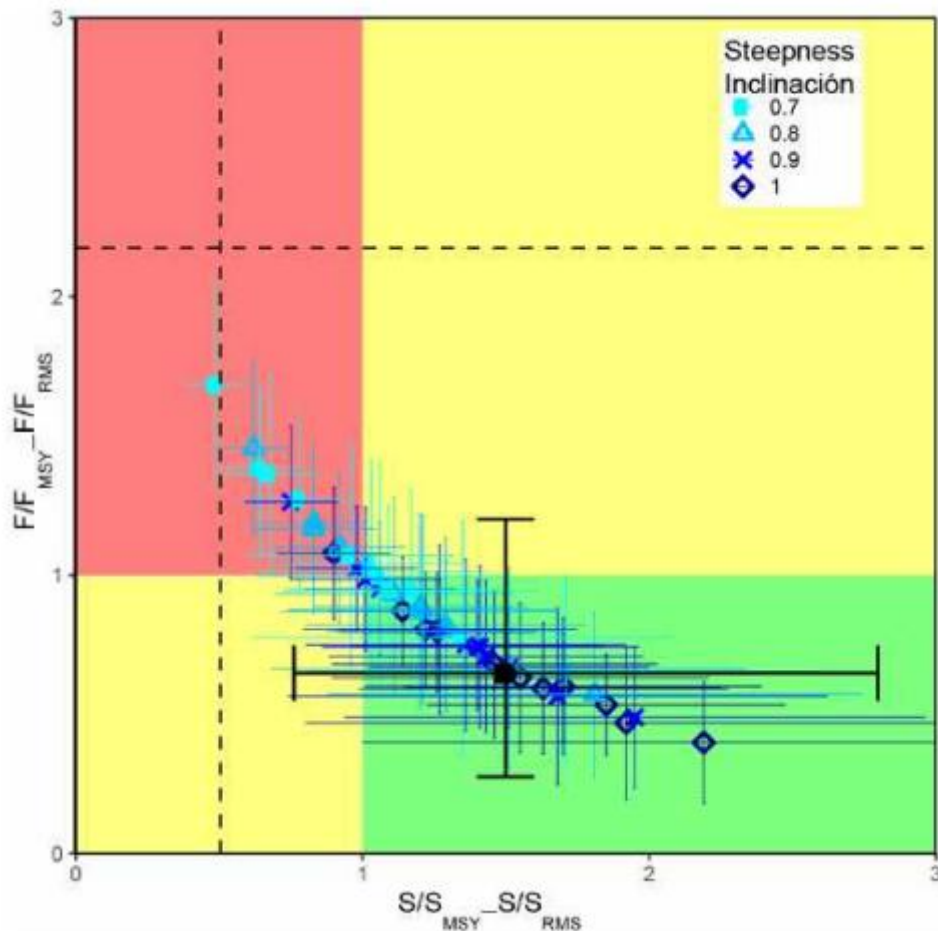


Total catches of yellowfin tuna in the EPO by set type (IATTC 2024)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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.

In the full stock assessments for this stock, multiple reference models are utilised to create a risk-based understanding of stock status. The most recent results, from 2020, indicated that “the probability of the spawning biomass being below S_{MSY_d} [i.e. the target reference point] is low (12%)” (IATTC 2024), and that the probability of the biomass being below the limit reference point S_{LIMIT} is zero. There was therefore a low probability that biomass is currently below the target reference point and almost no possibility it was below the limit reference point.

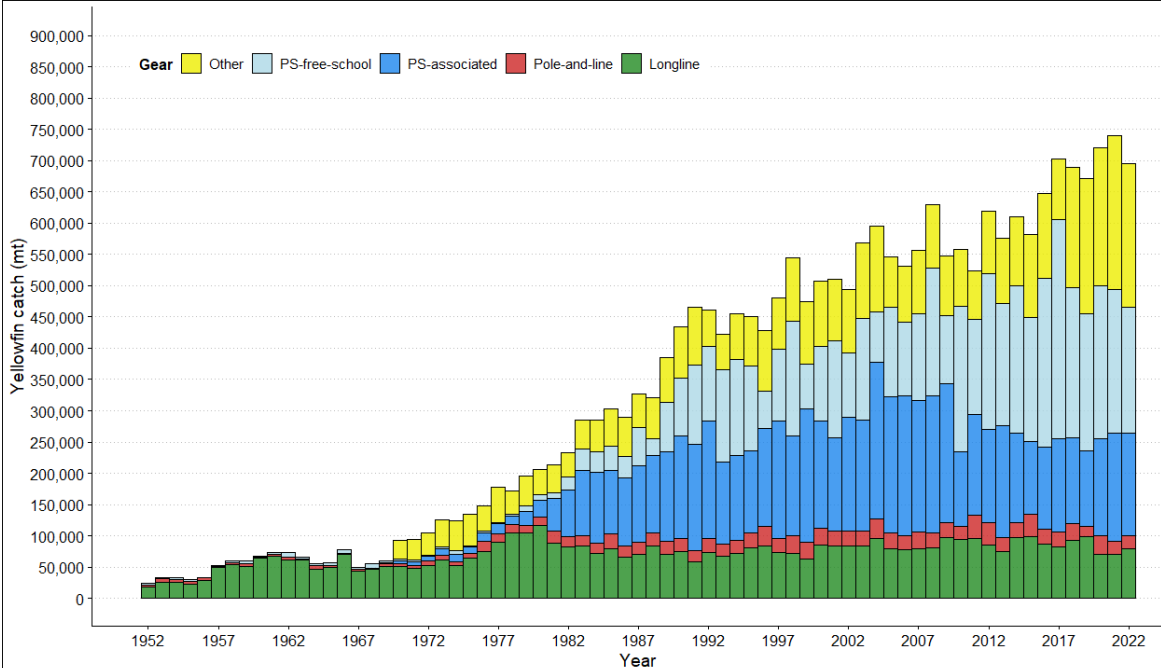


Kobe plot for yellowfin tuna in the EPO of estimates of spawning stock size (S) and fishing mortality (F). Coloured panels are separated by the target reference points S_{MSY} and F_{MSY} . Limit reference points are approximately indicated by the dashed lines, although these vary between models. The solid black circle represents all models combined (IATTC 2024).

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

References

- IATTC (2022). Stock Status Indicators (SSIs) for tropical tunas in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. 13th Meeting of the IATTC Scientific Advisory Committee, Document SAC-13-06 Corr.
[https://www.iattc.org/GetAttachment/22511b5b-ba2b-4126-9ba2-0bffee89f4d5/SAC-13-06%20-%20Stock%20status%20indicators%20\(SSIs\)%20for%20tropical%20tunas%20in%20the%20EPO](https://www.iattc.org/GetAttachment/22511b5b-ba2b-4126-9ba2-0bffee89f4d5/SAC-13-06%20-%20Stock%20status%20indicators%20(SSIs)%20for%20tropical%20tunas%20in%20the%20EPO)
- IATTC (2024). The tuna fishery in the Eastern Pacific Ocean in 2023.
https://www.iattc.org/GetAttachment/1ed36788-07ce-4bf4-80e4-10c6c3b2b14d/No-22-2024_Tunas-stocks-and-ecosystem-in-the-eastern-Pacific-Ocean-in-2023.pdf

Species name		<i>Thunnus albacares</i> - Yellowfin Tuna
Fishing area and stock		Western and Central Pacific yellowfin tuna
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. Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) yellowfin tuna is subject to regular stock assessments by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The most recent stock assessment was conducted in 2023 and utilised all available catch data, as summarised in the graph below. 54 models were used to provide a range of potential outcomes based on different key variables, a process which reduces the inherent level of uncertainty. Catches are presented in the figure below:		
 WCPO yellowfin catches, 1952-2022 (WCPFC 2023)		

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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 2023 stock assessment produced a series of estimates of the current status of the stock relative to the target reference point BMSY. Biomass in 2021 was estimated to be between 1.91 and 3.11 times larger than BMSY with an 80% certainty; none of the model results indicated that biomass was below BMSY. Biomass is estimated by the most recent stock assessment to be above the target reference point with a high degree of certainty, and therefore also above any potential limit reference point (WCPFC 2023).

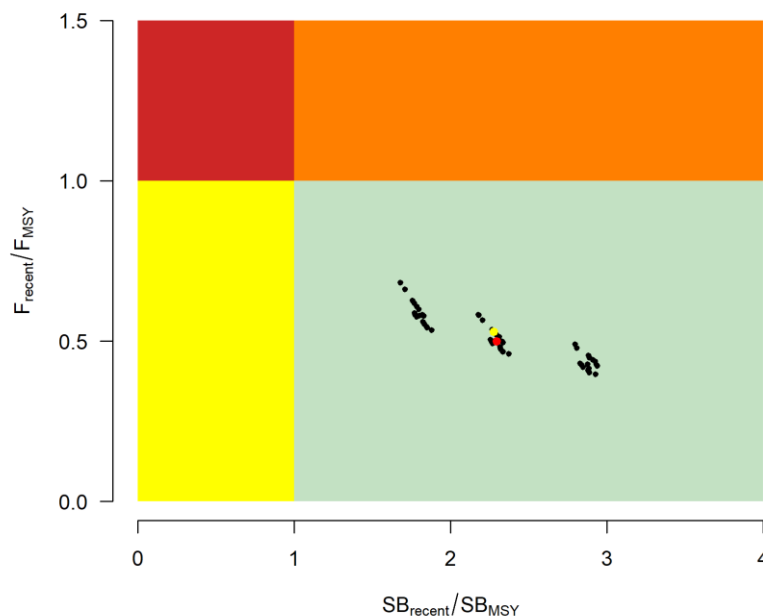


Figure 1. WCPO yellowfin tuna, Kobe plot summarising the results of each of the stock assessment models. The yellow dot is the 2023 diagnostic model and the red dot is the median (WCPFC 2023).

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

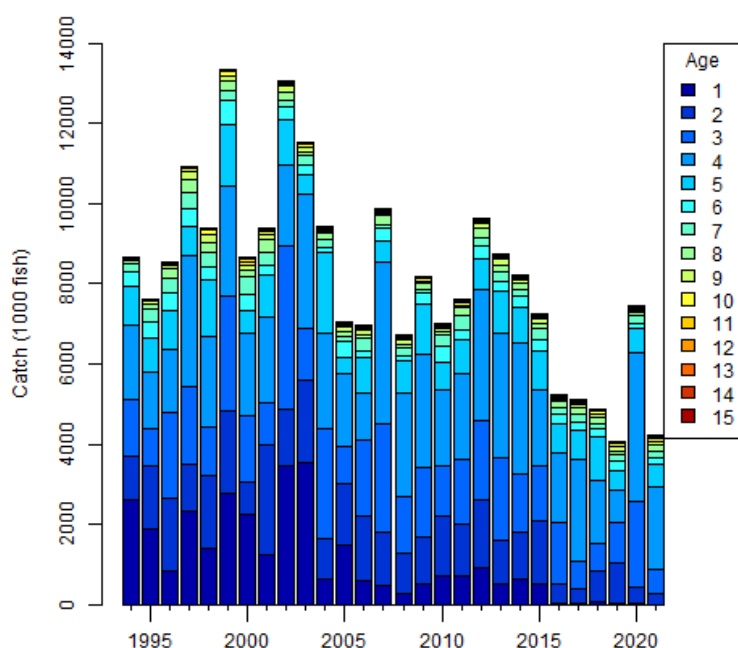
References

WCPFC (2023). WCPO Yellowfin Tuna, Stock Status and Management Advice. <https://www.wcpfc.int/file/1008665/download?token=wFUhc7q7tern>

Species name		<i>Thunnus alalunga</i> - Albacore tuna
Fishing area and stock		North Pacific albacore
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.

The most recent available stock assessment for the northern Pacific albacore stock was conducted in 2023 and utilised all available data up to 2021. Catch and size composition data were used to inform a length-based, age- and sex-structured Stock Synthesis model. No concerns were raised in the reporting documentation as to the completeness of the catch data (WCPFC 2024).

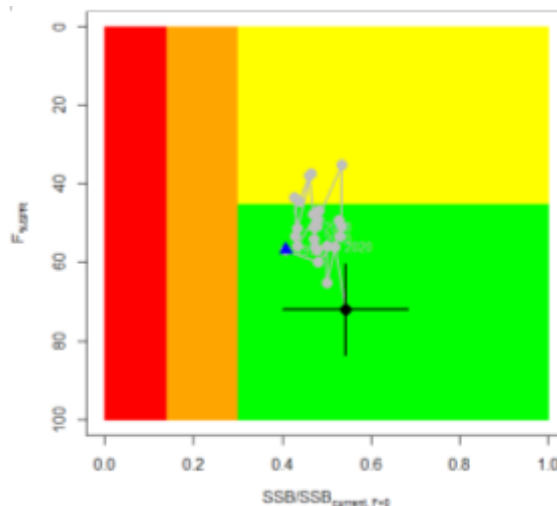


Historical catch-at-age of North Pacific Albacore estimated by the base case stock assessment model (WCPFC 2024)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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.

A limit reference point is established for the northern Pacific albacore stock, and is based on dynamic biomass estimates and therefore fluctuates according to changes in recruitment. The limit reference point $14\%SSB_{current, F=0}$ is calculated as 14% of the unfished dynamic female spawning biomass in the terminal year of the assessment (WCPFC 2024). SSB in the most recent stock assessment, conducted in 2023 and providing an indication of stock status in 2021, was estimated to be 54% of $SSB_{current, F=0}$, considerably above the limit reference point. The conclusion reached at the time of the stock assessment was that the stock is likely not overfished relative to the limit reference point.



Stock status phase plot showing the status of the north Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) stock relative to the biomass-based threshold and limit reference points, and fishing intensity-based target reference point ($F_{45\%SPR}$) over the modelling period (1994 – 2021). (WCPFC 2024).

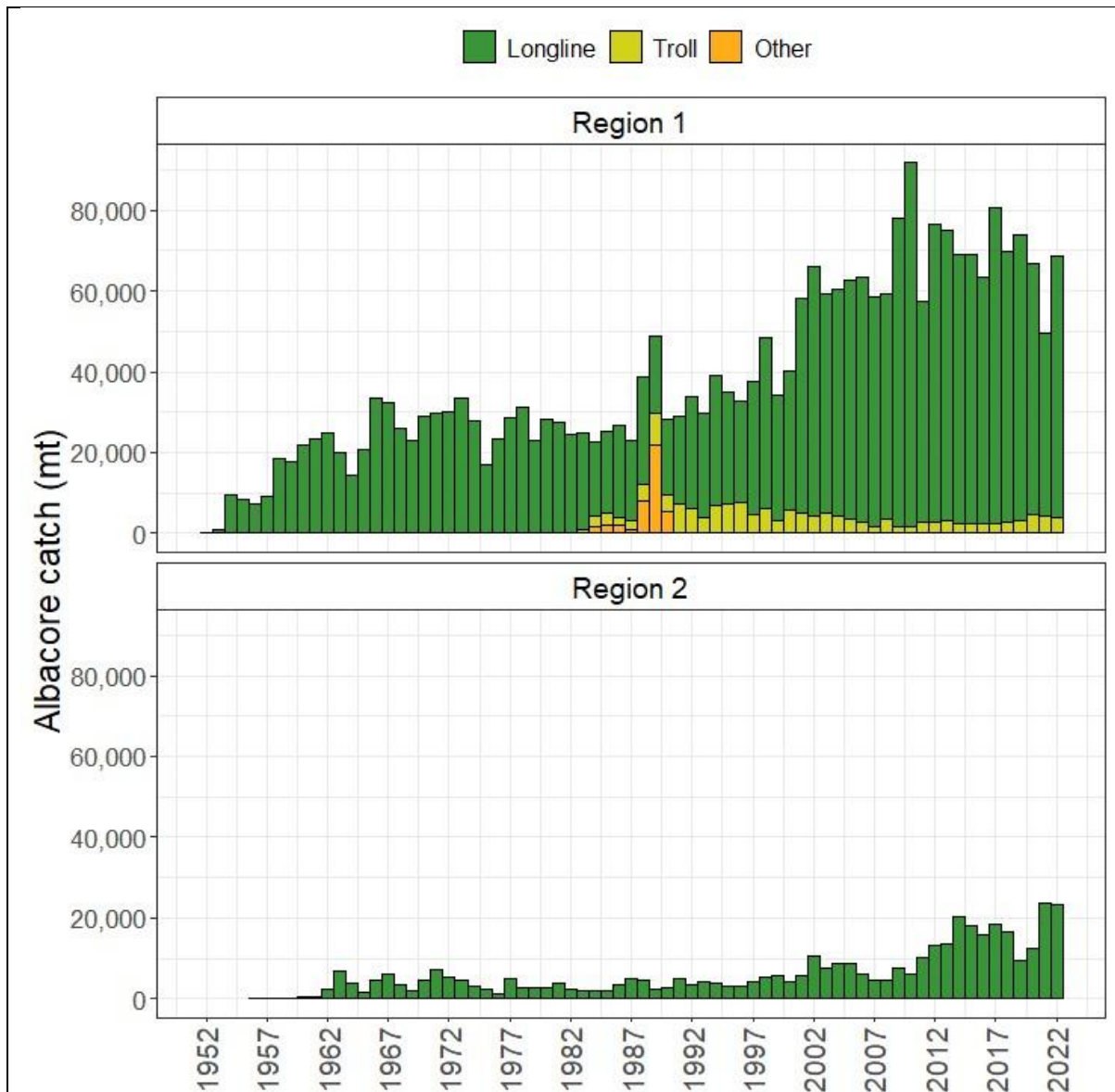
Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy) and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

WCPFC (2024). North Pacific albacore tuna, stock assessment summary. <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/05/north-pacific-albacore-tuna>

Species name	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i> - Albacore tuna
Fishing area and stock	South Pacific albacore
Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements	

C1	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. The most recent stock assessment for albacore tuna in the south Pacific was conducted in 2024, using data up to 2022. The assessment used catch data including international catches by fishing gear. The published stock assessment summary (WCPFC 2025) does not appear to include any concerns relating to the availability of catch data.			



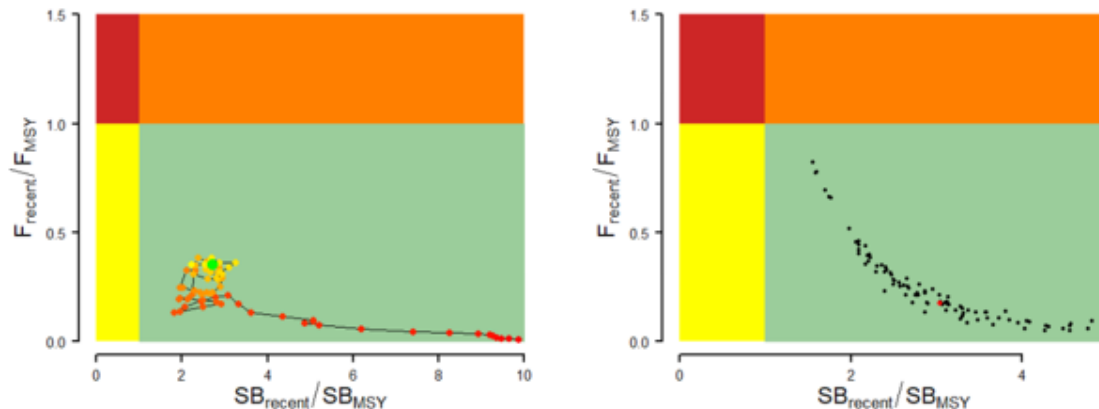
Historical catches of South Pacific albacore in each model region (WCPFC-CA = region 1, EPO = region 2) from 1952-2022 by gear type (WCPFC 2025)

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock 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 stock is assessed relative to a range of potential reference points (WCPFC 2025), with the key reference point used to determine whether the stock was overfished being 20%SB_{F=0}. The 2024 stock

assessment concluded that “the median recent spawning biomass from the model ensemble with estimation uncertainty is well above the spawning biomass to achieve MSY” (WCPFC 2025), and that in “all models... $SB_{recent}/SB_{F=0}$ was above the limit reference point of 0.2” (WCPFC 2025). The most recent stock assessment concluded that the stock biomass is highly likely above the target and limit reference points.



Kobe plots for Southern Pacific albacore tuna the results for the dynamic MSY analysis (left) and each of the models in the model ensemble for the recent period (2019– 2022; right). Colours for dynamic MSY go from red to green over time. The red point in the model ensemble (right) represents the median (WCPFC 2022).

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

References

WCPFC (2025). Stock status and advice key documents, South Pacific albacore tuna. <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/04/south-pacific-albacore-tuna>

Traceability information

Basic traceability information was provided by the applicant. This was sufficient to complete a Path 2 assessment for every byproduct except Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna, for which no traceability information was provided.

Species name	Indian Ocean skipjack tuna			
Path 1	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes ☐ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea, Maldives	Many potential coastal states, highest risk of which is Yemen, High Risk	Maldives: Low Risk	Remains high risk

Species name	Pacific Ocean skipjack tuna			
Path 1	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes ☐ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	Many potential coastal states, highest risk of which are Medium Risk	Taiwan, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu: Medium Risk China: High Risk	Remains high risk

Species name	Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna			
Path 1	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes ☐ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☐ No ☒ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome

Species name	Pacific Ocean yellowfin tuna			
Path 1	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes ☐ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Taiwan, Japan, China PPR, South Korea	Multiple potential coastal states, the highest risk of which is Medium Risk	Korea, Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu: Medium Risk	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name	Indian Ocean albacore tuna			
Path 1	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes ☐ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐ <i>If yes for Path 2, complete the next section</i>			
Path 2 outcome <i>Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.</i>	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Maldives	Many potential coastal states, highest risk of which is Yemen, High Risk	Maldives: Low Risk	Remains high risk

Guidance for Applicants/Certificate holders on improved traceability

When by-product origin cannot be made more granular than major FAO Areas, or when the source fishery is taking place in the High Seas (i.e. outside of EEZs of all relevant nations), an assessor must evaluate the Coastal and Port scores for each nation that straddles that FAO Area. This may lead to higher risk outcomes for an applicant. To mitigate that risk, better practice involves securing KDEs from the source fishery of the by-products, thereby meeting Path 1 instead of Path 2.

What does better practices look like?

Comprehensive data collection and sharing: Collect detailed information using Key Data Elements (KDEs) including vessel identification and authorisation, species, catch areas, fishing method and dates. These are defined in the MarinTrust Standard clauses 2.11.2.2 and 3.2.5.

Supply chain transparency: Maintain detailed records at each step of the supply chain, from capture to final sale, to ensure traceability.

Interoperable systems and technologies to support the collection and transfer of this information.