



By-Product assessment report

BP070

St Helena Bay (Lucky Star Ltd)

Document TEM-003 (prev. FISH-1) - Version 3.1

Issued April 2025 – Effective April 2025

Report code	BP070	Date of issue	April 2025
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1. Application details		
Applicant	St Helena Bay (Lucky Star Ltd)	
Applicant country	South Africa	
2. Certification Body details		
Name of Certification Body (CB)	LRQA	
Contact information for CB	mt-ca@lrqa.com	
Assessor name	Blanca Gonzalez	
CB internal peer reviewer name	Jose Peiro Crespo	
Internal peer review evaluation	Agree with evaluation	
Number of Assessment days	2	
Comments on the assessment	<p>The three byproduct species listed in this report are not considered and ETP species according to Marin Trust definition fulfilling this requirement for the assessment.</p> <p>Two of them, European pilchard and Japanese pilchard, have a medium risk flag states approving the assessment, but should be source with caution, and do not require a step 3 assessment.</p> <p>California pilchard did require a step 3 assessment evaluation due to a high-risk flag state. Additional information was requested to the applicant and provided data included the fishing areas which was necessary for the Category C assessment. This allowed this species to be downgraded to medium risk approving this byproduct, but should be source with caution.</p>	
3. Approval validity	Valid from 04/2025	Valid until 04/2025
4. Assessment cycle	Initial	

5. By-product assessment outcomes			
By-product species name <i>Common and Latin names</i>	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Areas <i>Only applicable to Step 3 assessed species</i>	MarinTrust approval status
European pilchard - <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Morocco, Spain, Portugal	NA	Approved source with caution
Californian pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax caeruleus</i>	Mexico	FAO 77 – Eastern Central Pacific	Approved source with caution
Japanese pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax melanostictus</i>	Thailand, Japan	NA	Approved source with caution
<p>Guidance for on-site auditor</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Approved by-products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further checks are required beyond those included in the MarinTrust Standard. <p>Additional checks of Approved Source with Caution by-products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review supplier records or procedures in place. <p>Additional checks of by-products Approved Source with Caution via Step 3 assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). <p>Guidance for the applicant/certificate holder</p>			

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 <i>Common and Latin names</i>	Flag country(ies)	IUCN Red List <i>Select IUCN red list category from dropdown</i>	CITES Appendices <i>Select CITES appendix status from dropdown</i>	Step 2 risk status <i>Low risk/ Medium risk/ High risk</i>	Step 3 required <i>Yes / No</i>
European pilchard - <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Morocco, Spain, Portugal	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
Californian pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax caeruleus</i>	Mexico	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
Japanese pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax melanostictus</i>	Thailand, Japan	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No

Step 3 Assessment Outcomes

Assessor note: All species identified as requiring Step 3 in Table above, will have additional assessment information presented here.

By-product species name Common and Latin names	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area	Stock name (If applicable e.g. Eastern Pacific stock)	Category C Assessment Outcome Pass/Fail	Traceability information Path 1 – Yes OR Path 2 – Yes/No OR MT Approved Whole Fish	Step 3 Risk Outcome Risk downgraded to Medium Risk/ Remains High Risk
Californian pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax caeruleus</i>	Mexico	FAO 77 – Eastern Central Pacific	Western coast of the Baja California Peninsula	Pass	Path 2 – Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
Comments on Step 3 Assessment: Assessor note: Optional, write N/A if not applicable. Can include details on information provided by the client, reasons for outcomes, clarifications on by-products stemming from MT Approved Whole Fish which allows adjustments of Risk Outcomes and any other details related to the assessment as applicable.						

Appendix 2 – detailed assessment outcomes

(step 2 and step 3 if applicable)

Step 2 outcomes

Assessor note: Copy and paste from Spreadsheet .

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
Morocco	Medium	2.29	1.78	2.17	1	1	1	1	49.06%
Spain	Medium	3.21	3.39	2.03	1	1	1	1	75.94%
Portugal	Medium	3	2.44	1.53	1	1	1	1	75.00%
Mexico	High	2.25	3.06	2.78	2	1	5	1	46.70%
Thailand	Medium	1.96	2.22	2.23	1	1	1	1	58.49%
Japan	Medium	2.92	2.06	1.93	1	1	1	1	91.51%

Step 3 outcomes

Category C assessment

Assessor note: Duplicate for each species/stock

Species name		Californian pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax caeruleus</i>	
Fishing area and stock		FAO 77 – Eastern Central Pacific Western coast of the Baja California Peninsula	
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.	Passs
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 Clause is met considering that:			
The last official stock assessment was published in 2023 as part of the update of the fisheries management plan for the small pelagic fishery of northwest Mexico. This assessment includes catch data from 1989- 2020 from the landing ports in Ensenada and Bahía Magdalena, where this stock is fished. (DOF 2023) (Figure1).			

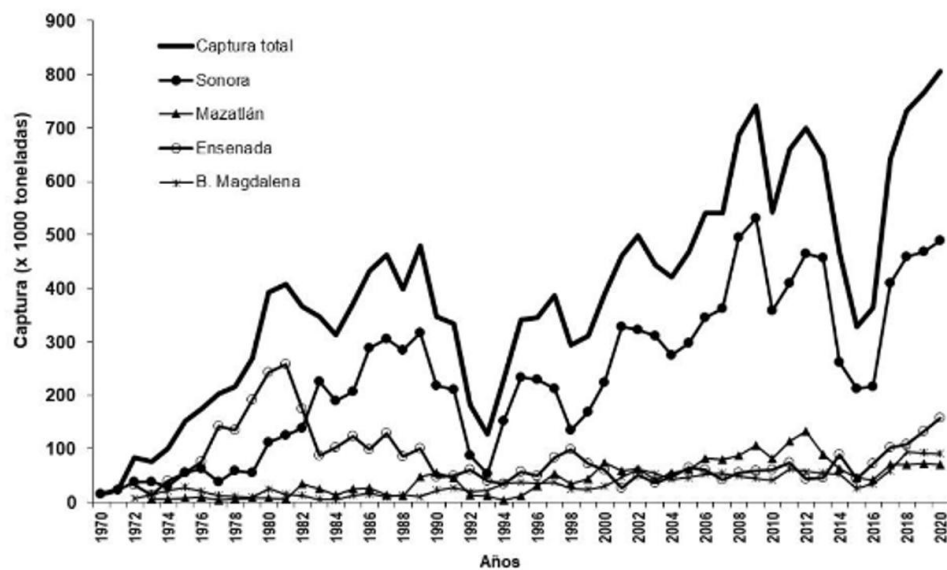


Figure 1. Total annual catch of small pelagic fish from 1970 to 2020 (Captura total), as well as the breakdown for the Western coast of the Baja California Peninsula stock which includes Ensenada and Bahía Magdalena (stock assessed in this report); and the Gulf of California stock (not part of this assessment), Sonora and Mazatlán. (DOF 2023).

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 Clause is met considering that:

The total biomass has ranged between 673,143 and 1,527,488 t, with an average of 957,875 t; all exploitable biomass values have been above the maximum sustainable yield biomass, which was estimated at 385,000 t. The Kobe plot shows that the stock biomass level has been maintained at sustainable exploitation levels throughout the entire period evaluated (Figure 2). (DOF 2023).

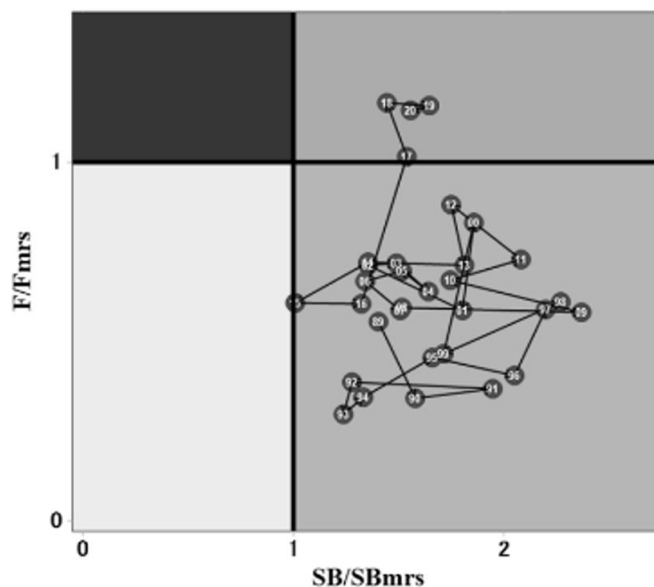


Figure 2. Kobe plot showing the evolution and current status of the west coast of the Baja California Peninsula Californian pilchard stock (DOF 2023)

References

DOF. 2023. Diario Oficial de la Federación. Agreement announcing the update of the Fisheries Management Plan for the small pelagic fishery (sardines, anchovies, mackerel and related species) in northwestern Mexico. <https://www.gob.mx/imipas/documentos/plan-de-manejo-pesquero-para-la-pesqueria-de-pelagicos-menores-del-noroeste-de-mexico>

Traceability information

Information provided for Step 3 Path 1 or Path 2

Assessor note: Duplicate for each species/stock

Species name	Californian pilchard - <i>Sardinops sagax caeruleus</i>			
Path 1	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Confirm all KDEs are provided	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Path 2	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> <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 Mexico	Coastal score 2.86	Port score 3.06	Risk outcome Downgraded to medium 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.