



By-Product assessment report

BP083 – Agustiner SA, Argentina

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

Issued April 2025 – Effective April 2025

Report code	BP083	Date of issue	September 2025
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1. Application details		
Applicant	Agustiner SA	
Applicant country	Argentina	
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	Sam Peacock	
Internal peer review evaluation	Agree with evaluation	
Number of Assessment days	0.2	
Comments on the assessment	The byproduct species listed in this report is not considered and ETP species according to Marin Trust definition fulfilling this requirement for the assessment. This species required a step 3 assessment evaluation due to a high-risk flag state. Additional information was requested to the applicant and provided data included the FAO fishing area which was necessary for the Category C assessments. This allowed this species to be downgraded to medium risk approving this byproduct, but should be source with caution.	
3. Approval validity	Valid from 09/2025	Valid until 09/2026
4. Assessment cycle	Initial	

5. By-product assessment outcomes
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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
Argentine hake / merluza - <i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>	Argentina	FAO Area 41 – Atlantic Southwest	Approved source with caution

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 <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>
Argentine hake / merluza - <i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>	Argentina	Not Evaluated	Not listed	High risk	Yes

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 <i>Common and Latin names</i>	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area	Stock name <i>(If applicable e.g. Eastern Pacific stock)</i>	Category C Assessment Outcome <i>Pass/Fail</i>	Traceability information <i>Path 1 – Yes OR Path 2 – Yes/No OR MT Approved Whole Fish</i>	Step 3 Risk Outcome <i>Risk downgraded to Medium Risk/ Remains High Risk</i>
Argentine hake / merluza - <i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>	Argentina	FAO Area 41 – Atlantic Southwest	Argentina effective south of 41°S	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
Comments on Step 3 Assessment: N/A						

Appendix 2 – detailed assessment outcomes

(step 2 and step 3 if applicable)

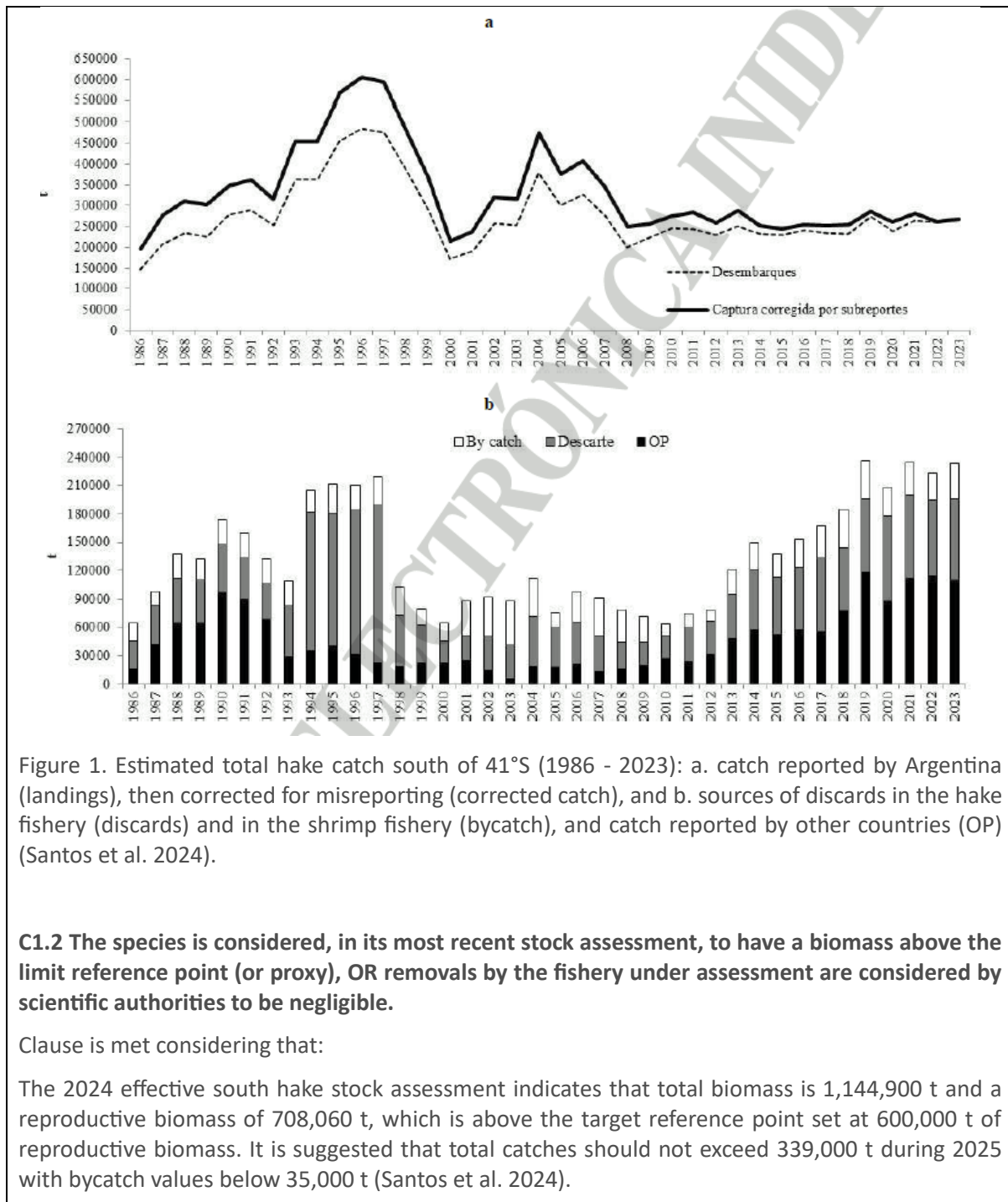
Step 2 outcomes

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
Argentina	High	1.1	1.86	2.19	1	1		1	25.94%

Step 3 outcomes

Category C assessment

Species name		Argentine hake / merluza - <i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>	
Fishing area and stock		FAO Area 41 – Atlantic Southwest Argentina effective south of 41°S	
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.			
Clause is met considering that:			
The Instituto Nacional de Desarrollo Pesquero (INIDEP) assesses the hake stock in the Argentine effective south of 41°S area annually. The stock assessment is based on a statistical catch-at-age model (ECE). Assessment uses catch data reported from landings in Argentina, including discards and bycatch in the shrimp fishery; thus, the stock assessment process includes removals of the species (Figure 1) (Santos et al. 2024).			



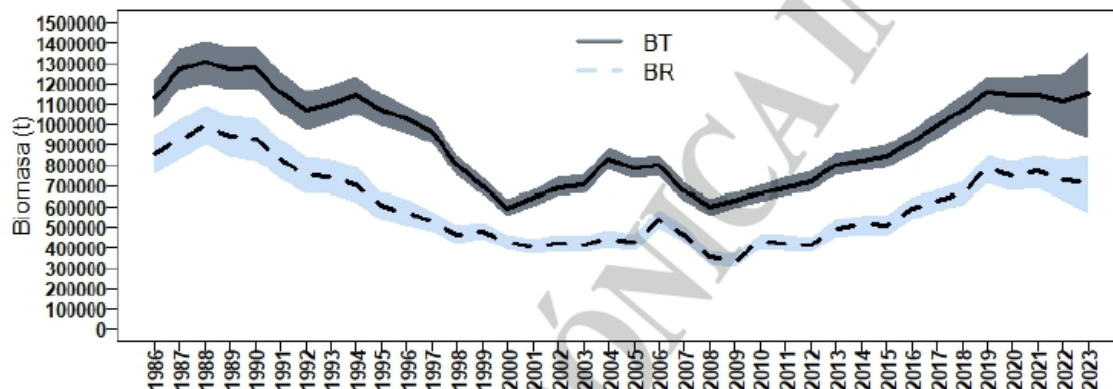


Figure 2. Total biomass (BT) and reproductive biomass (BR) (and confidence intervals) of hake estimated by the ECE model at the beginning of each year. (Santos et al. 2024)

References

Santos, B.A.; Villarino, M.F.; Pedernera, M.F.; Suby, A. (2024). Evaluación del estado de explotación del efectivo sur de 41° s de merluza (*Merluccius hubbsi*) y estimación de la captura biológicamente aceptable para 2025 (Informe Técnico Oficial, No. 32). Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero (INIDEP). <https://marabierto.inidep.edu.ar/items/604d35e3-7ca0-41dc-953a-5fa698d3410d>

Traceability information

Information provided for Step 3 Path 1 or Path 2

Species name		Argentine hake / merluza - <i>Merluccius hubbsi</i>		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes for Path 2, complete the next section			
Path 2 outcome Countries may be different for Coastal State and Port State.	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Argentina	Argentina Medium risk 2.25	Argentina Low risk 1.86	Downgraded to medium risk