



By-Product assessment report

BP142

Industria Atunera Centroamericana S.A

Report code	BP142	Date of issue	August 2026
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1. Application details	
Applicant	Industria Atunera Centroamericana S.A
Applicant country	Guatemala
2. Certification Body details	
Name of Certification Body (CB)	NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd.
Contact information for CB	Fisheries@nsf.org
Assessor name	Ana Ayres
CB internal peer reviewer name	Matthew Jew
Internal peer review evaluation	Agree with evaluation
Number of Assessment days	1

Comments on the assessment	This assessment covers 3 byproduct species (bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin tunas) caught by vessels from: • FAO Area 34: Senegal • FAO area 51 (Western Indian Ocean): Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain and Tanzania • FAO Area 71 (Western Central Pacific Ocean): China, Philippines, and Solomon Islands • FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific): Mexico, Panama, Venezuela • FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific): Panama, Venezuela, and Guatemala • FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific): Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain, Senegal and Philippines are low or medium risk countries and catches with their flags are automatically approved. The remaining countries are considered High Risk flag states, and so all species were subjected to Step 3 assessment. With exception of China flagged countries, all species passed the Step 3 risk assessment via Path 2. Further traceability information was provided for catches associated with China, which then passed the Step 3 via Path 1. All stocks from high risk flag states have also passed the Category C assessment, and were scored as Approved, Source with Caution.	
3. Approval validity	Valid from 08/2026	Valid to 08/2027
4. Assessment cycle	Initial	

5. By-product assessment outcomes			
By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area(s)	MarinTrust approval status
<i>Thunnus obesus</i> - Bigeye tuna	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved
	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved source with caution
<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> - Skipjack tuna	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved
	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved source with caution
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)	Approved source with caution
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)	Approved source with caution
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala	FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)	Approved source with caution
<i>Thunnus albacares</i> - Yellowfin tuna	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved
	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Approved source with caution
	Senegal	FAO 34 (Eastern Central Atlantic)	Approved
	Philippines	FAO 71 (Western Central Pacific)	Approved
	China, Solomon Islands	FAO 71 (Western Central Pacific)	Approved source with caution
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)	Approved source with caution
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)	Approved source with caution
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala	FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)	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	Flag country(ies)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendices	Step 2 risk status	Step 3 required?
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	Tanzania (FAO 51)	Vulnerable	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain (FAO 51)	Vulnerable	Not listed	Medium risk	No
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain (FAO 51)	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
	Tanzania (FAO 51)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela (FAO 77)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela (FAO 87)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala (FAO 77 and 87)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendices	Step 2 risk status	Step 3 required?
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	Senegal (FAO 34)	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
	Mauritius, Seychelles, Spain (FAO 51)	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
	Tanzania (FAO 51)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Philippines (FAO 71)	Least concern	Not listed	Medium risk	No
	China, Solomon Islands (FAO 71)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela (FAO 77)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela (FAO 87)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala (FAO 77 and 87)	Least concern	Not listed	High risk	Yes

Step 3 Assessment Outcomes

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area(s)	Stock name	Category C Assessment Outcome	Traceability information	Step 3 Risk Outcome
Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Indian Ocean bigeye tuna)	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Indian Ocean Skipjack tuna	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)	Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) skipjack tuna	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)		Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala	FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)		Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk

By-product species name	Flag country(ies)	Fishing Area(s)	Stock name	Category C Assessment Outcome	Traceability information	Step 3 Risk Outcome
Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	Tanzania	FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)	Indian Ocean bigeye tuna	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	China	FAO 71 (Western Central Pacific)	WCPO yellowfin tuna	Pass	Path 1- Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Solomon Islands			Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Mexico, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)	Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin tuna	Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Ecuador, Panama, Venezuela	FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)		Pass	Path 2 - Yes	Risk downgraded to Medium Risk
	Panama, Venezuela, Guatemala	FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)		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
China	High	4.21	4.33	3.2	1	1	5	1	36.79%
Ecuador	High	2.58	2.11	2.43	1	3	1	1	35.38%
Guatemala	High	1.83	2.78	2.22	1	1	5		41.51%
Mauritius	Medium	2.13	2.72	1.97	1	1	1	1	84.43%
Mexico	High	2.25	3.06	2.78	2	1	5	1	46.70%
Panama	High	3.75	1.67	1.93	3	3	1	1	55.19%
Philippines	Medium	2.04	2.06	2.53	1	1	1	1	53.77%
Senegal	Medium	2.38	2.72	2.4	1	1	1	1	41.04%
Seychelles	Medium	1.79	2.39	1.57	1	1	1	1	62.26%
Solomon Isl.	High	1.58	3.28	2.07	1	1	5	1	21.70%
Spain	Medium	3.21	3.39	2.03	1	1	1	1	75.94%
Tanzania	High	1.83	2.78	2.3	2	1	5	1	30.19%
Venezuela	High	2.46	2.89	2.83	1	1	5	1	2.36%

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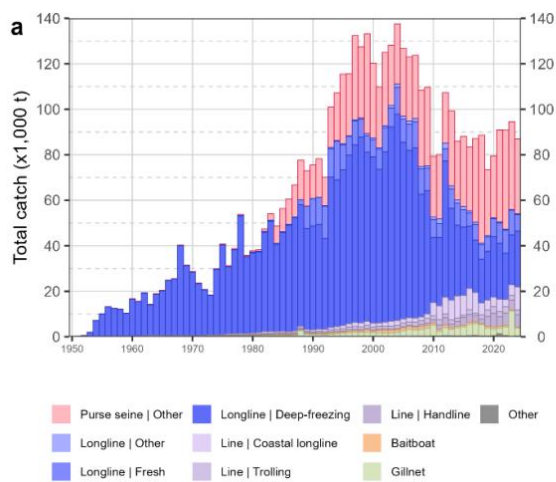
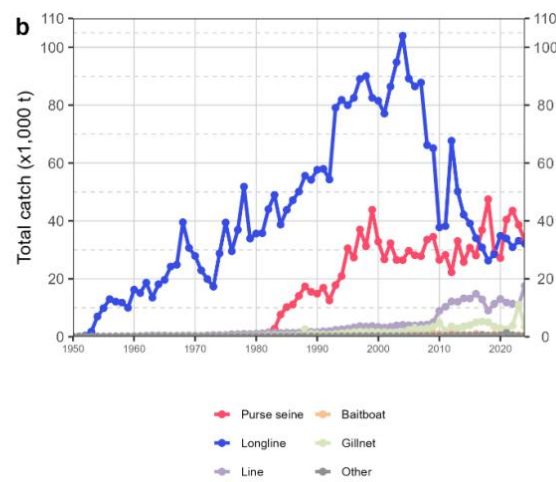
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Step 3 outcomes

Category C assessment

Species name		Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	
Fishing area and stock		FAO 51 (Indian Ocean bigeye 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.		
Bigeye tuna in the Indian Ocean is subject to regular stock assessment by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). A new stock assessment for bigeye tuna was completed in 2025 using the SS3 framework to support scientific advice. This assessment retained the structural basis of the 2022 model, while incorporating updated estimates of growth and natural mortality. The model was calibrated using regional combined longline CPUE indices together with the European Union (EU) purse seine CPUE index. The reported stock status relies on a set of 36 alternative model configurations, developed to account for uncertainties related to the stock–recruitment relationship, longline selectivity patterns, natural mortality, and catchability dynamics (Figure 1) (IOTC 2025b).			
a  b 			
Figure 1. 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 bigeye tuna during 1950-2024 (IOTC 2025b).			

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met.

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 general, the assessment findings indicate that bigeye tuna biomass has almost reached the target spawning biomass associated with MSY (Figure 2). There is a 54% likelihood that spawning biomass in 2024 remains below SBMSY, with median spawning biomass in 2024 estimated at 0.98 (0.71-1.25) times the level that can support MSY. There is a 62% probability that F2024 is below FMSY, with median fishing mortality (in 2024) estimated at 0.94 (0.69-1.18) times the FMSY level. Based on the overall body of evidence available in 2025, the bigeye tuna stock is classified as overfished, although it is not currently experiencing overfishing. Based on that information it seems that the stock is closed to the target point and therefore over any potential limit point.

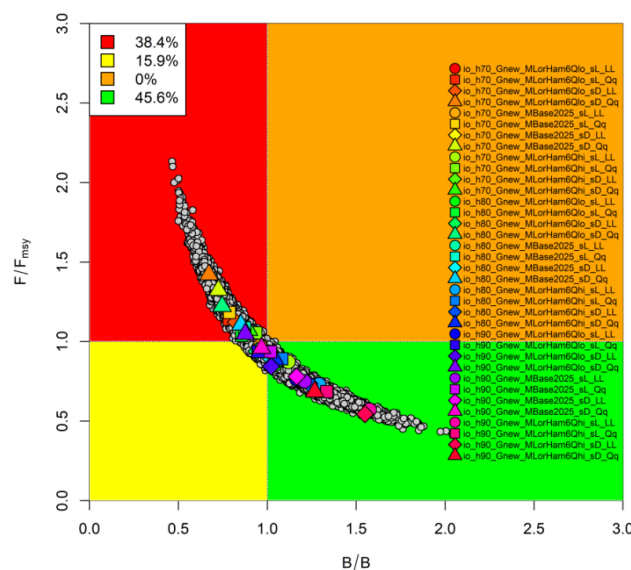


Figure 2. Bigeye tuna: SS3 Aggregated Indian Ocean assessment Kobe plot. The coloured points represent stock status estimates from the 36 model options. Coloured symbols represent Maximum Posterior Density (MPD) estimates from individual models which varied in terms of steepness (h), natural mortality (M), selectivity on the LL2+LL3 fleets (s_L vs s_D), and gear creep applied to the LL CPUE indices (LL vs Qq, where Qq represents 0.5% of effort creep adjustment on the indices). (IOTC, 2025b).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference points (or proxy), C1.2 is met.

References

IOTC. 2025b. APPENDIX 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: BIGEYE TUNA (2025). https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2025/English/IOTC-2025-SC28-ES02_BETE.pdf

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
Fishing area and stock		FAO 51 (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.

No new stock assessment was carried out for skipjack tuna in 2025 and so the advice is based on the 2023 assessment using Stock Synthesis with data up to 2022. The stock assessment conducted by IOTC takes all fishery removals into account (Figure 3).

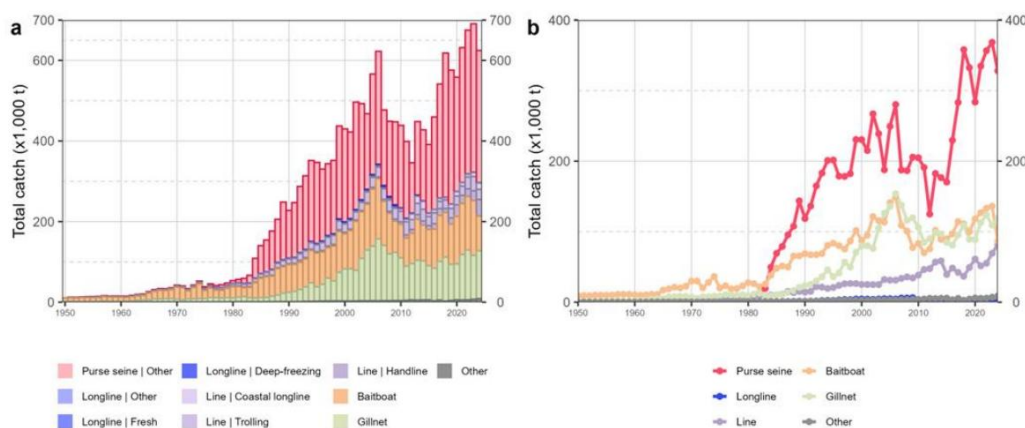


Figure 3. Annual time series of (a) cumulative nominal catches (metric tonnes; t) by fishery group and (b) individual nominal catches (metric tonnes; t) by fishery group for skipjack tuna during 1950-2023 (IOTC, 2025c).

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met.

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.

Current spawning biomass was considered to be above the target reference point of 40% of SB₀, and above the limit reference point of 0.2*SB₀ as per Resolution 16/02. Current spawning biomass relative to unexploited levels is estimated at 53%. Over the history of the fishery, biomass has been well above the adopted limit reference point. Current exploitation rate is below the target

exploitation rate with the probability of 70% and the fishing mortality remains below FMSY with a probability of 98.4 %. Subsequently, based on the weight-of-evidence available in 2023, the skipjack tuna stock is determined to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing (Figure 4)(IOTC, 2025c).

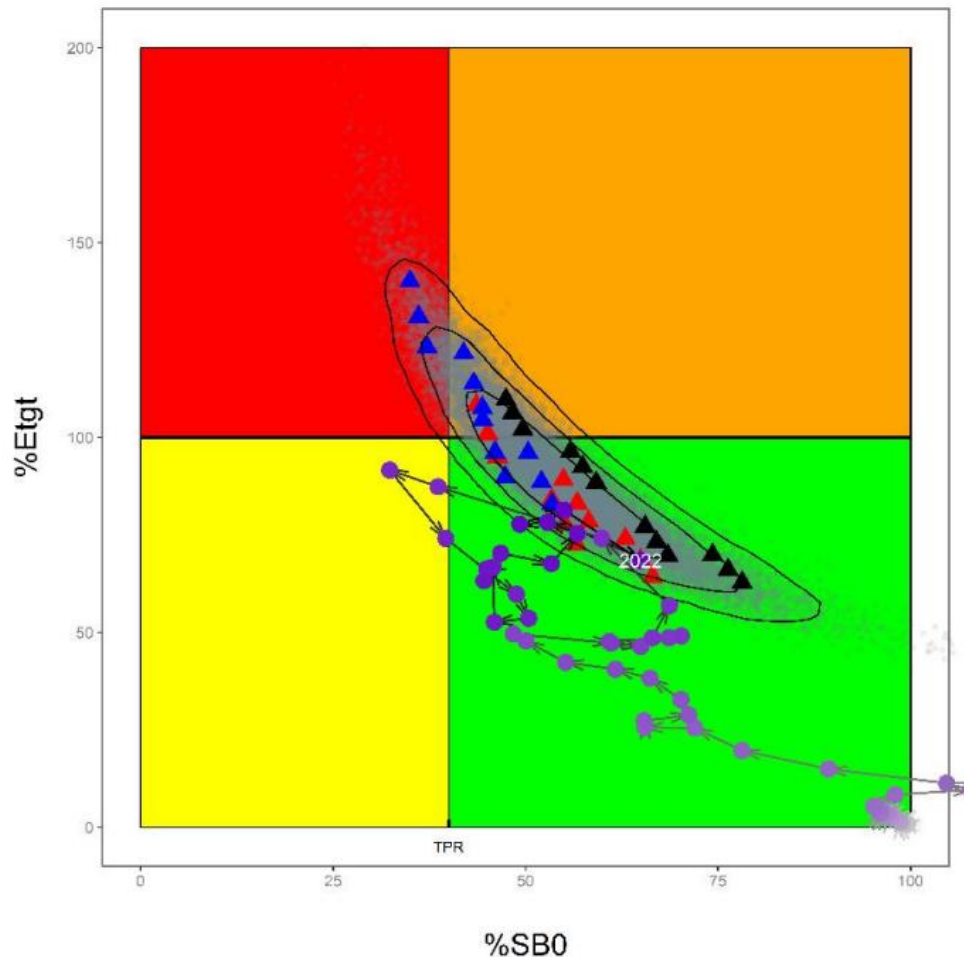


Figure 4. Skipjack tuna: SS3 Aggregated Indian Ocean assessment Kobe plot of the 2023 uncertainty grid: current stock status, relative to SB0 and F (x-axis) and F40%B0 (y-axis) reference points for the final model grid. The middle vertical line indicates 40% B0. The middle horizontal line indicates the 100% of the target fishing mortality. Triangles represent Maximum Posterior Density estimates from individual models (black, models based on pole-and-line (PL) index; red, models based on floating object associated purse seine fishery (PSLS) index; blue, models based on both PSLS and ABBI index). Grey dots represent uncertainty from individual models. The arrowed line represents time series of historical stock trajectory for model PSLS. Contours represent 50, 80, and 90% confidence region (IOTC, 2025c).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference points (or proxy), C1.2 is met.

References

IOTC. 2025c. APPENDIX 3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SKIPJACK TUNA (2025). https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2025/English/IOTC-2025-SC28-ES03_SKJE.pdf

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)	
Fishing area and stock		FAO 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific) - Eastern Pacific Ocean – EPO 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.			
One stock of skipjack is defined in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO). Catch data is available and it is used by the IATTC to assess the stock status of skipjack tuna in the EPO. In 2024, a benchmark stock assessment was conducted using an integrated statistical age-structured catch-at-length model in Stock Synthesis. Several data sources were used to fit the model, including data from sixteen defined fisheries and five “surveys”. The fisheries are classified by gear type (purse-seine, longline) and purse-seine set. The "surveys" data included: a) catch-per-set indices for purse-seine sets, by set type (OBJ, NOA), where the relationship between catch-per-set and abundance remains uncertain; b) an index based on recently developed echosounder buoy data; c) absolute biomass from a spatiotemporal Petersen-type model applied to tag-recapture data; and d) an index of relative biomass from a tagging biomass model that uses a flexible effort assumption. A reference model was developed based on the most plausible assumptions and sensitivity analyses were conducted by changing the assumptions of the reference model (IATCC, 2024a).			

Table 1. Total annual catches (t) of yellowfin, skipjack, and bigeye tunas, by all types of gear combined, in the Pacific Ocean. The EPO totals for 1996–2025 include discards from purse-seine vessels with carrying capacities greater than 363 t (WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02, 2026).

	YFT			SKJ			BET			Total		
	EPO	WCPO	Total	EPO	WCPO	Total	EPO	WCPO	Total	EPO	WCPO	Total
1996	266,928	425,669	692,597	132,335	999,701	1,132,036	114,706	107,168	221,874	513,969	1,532,538	2,046,507
1997	277,575	481,019	758,594	188,285	939,497	1,127,782	122,274	133,495	255,769	588,134	1,554,011	2,142,145
1998	280,606	536,845	817,451	165,489	1,244,132	1,409,621	93,954	152,415	246,369	540,049	1,933,392	2,473,441
1999	304,638	474,648	779,286	291,249	1,070,280	1,361,529	93,078	162,524	255,602	688,965	1,707,452	2,396,417
2000	286,863	506,028	792,891	230,479	1,194,139	1,424,618	148,557	148,094	296,651	665,899	1,848,261	2,514,160
2001	425,008	504,501	929,509	157,676	1,100,714	1,258,390	130,546	134,459	265,005	713,230	1,739,674	2,452,904
2002	443,458	489,995	933,453	167,048	1,253,634	1,420,682	132,806	157,958	290,764	743,312	1,901,587	2,644,899
2003	415,933	563,926	979,859	300,470	1,245,155	1,545,625	115,175	143,471	258,646	831,578	1,952,552	2,784,130
2004	296,847	595,888	892,735	217,249	1,354,765	1,572,014	110,722	182,599	293,321	624,818	2,133,252	2,758,070
2005	286,492	551,822	838,314	283,453	1,418,105	1,701,558	110,514	154,748	265,262	680,459	2,124,675	2,805,134
2006	180,519	537,076	717,595	309,090	1,479,366	1,788,456	117,328	165,386	282,714	606,937	2,181,828	2,788,765
2007	182,141	565,930	748,071	216,324	1,663,353	1,879,677	94,260	165,365	259,625	492,725	2,394,648	2,887,373
2008	197,328	644,365	841,693	307,699	1,649,067	1,956,766	103,350	171,317	274,667	608,377	2,464,749	3,073,126
2009	250,413	558,914	809,327	239,408	1,761,272	2,000,680	109,255	169,294	278,549	599,076	2,489,480	3,088,556
2010	261,871	564,607	826,478	153,092	1,680,215	1,833,307	95,408	139,796	235,204	510,371	2,384,618	2,894,989
2011	216,720	530,946	747,666	283,509	1,536,806	1,820,315	89,460	168,119	257,579	589,689	2,235,871	2,825,560
2012	213,310	625,697	839,007	273,519	1,731,944	2,005,463	102,687	167,245	269,932	589,516	2,524,886	3,114,402
2013	231,170	578,467	809,637	284,043	1,831,413	2,115,456	86,029	154,783	240,812	601,242	2,564,663	3,165,905
2014	246,784	618,262	865,046	265,490	1,985,110	2,250,600	96,054	169,046	265,100	608,328	2,772,418	3,380,746
2015	260,265	589,128	849,393	334,049	1,788,545	2,122,594	104,820	145,709	250,529	699,134	2,523,382	3,222,516
2016	255,465	658,112	913,577	345,163	1,791,373	2,136,536	92,952	156,495	249,447	693,580	2,605,980	3,299,560
2017	224,800	704,628	929,428	327,629	1,615,560	1,943,189	102,860	130,533	233,393	655,289	2,450,721	3,106,010
2018	253,305	695,759	949,064	291,352	1,843,397	2,134,749	94,479	153,017	247,496	639,136	2,692,173	3,331,309
2019	242,248	682,704	924,952	350,992	2,044,247	2,395,239	97,145	131,124	228,269	690,385	2,858,075	3,548,460
2020	231,693	736,547	968,240	298,583	1,714,513	2,013,096	105,183	139,923	245,106	635,459	2,590,983	3,226,442
2021	263,842	755,978	1,019,820	328,616	1,714,670	2,043,286	80,177	140,586	220,763	672,635	2,611,234	3,283,869
2022	298,862	660,975	959,837	298,136	1,750,324	2,048,460	68,265	146,065	214,330	665,263	2,557,364	3,222,627
2023	306,108	746,359	1,052,467	390,554	1,668,328	2,058,882	67,240	143,704	210,944	763,902	2,558,391	3,322,293
2024	308,200	716,282	1,024,482	646,643	2,051,550	2,698,193	55,415	141,338	196,753	1,010,258	2,909,170	3,919,428
2025	445,756	*	445,756	471,708	*	471,708	63,753	*	63,753	981,217	*	981,217

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met.

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.

According to the reference model, current fishing mortality remains below the threshold associated with the MSY proxy, while the spawning biomass exceeds the dynamic level linked to the same benchmark. Furthermore, there is less than a 10% chance that the spawning biomass surpasses the established limit reference point. This conclusion holds true across all sensitivity models as well.

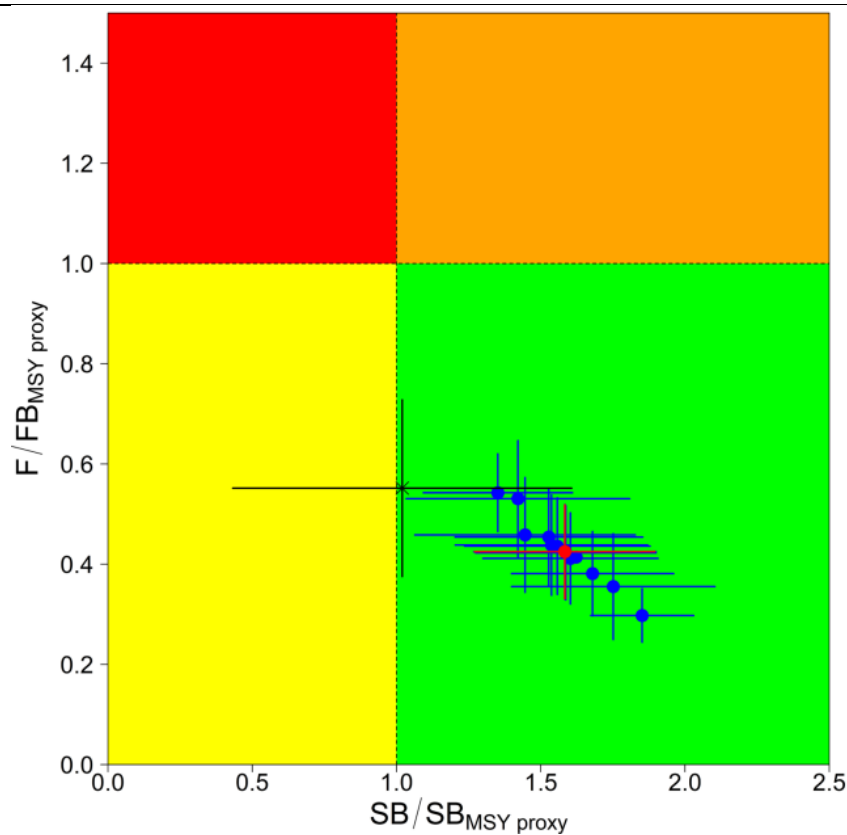


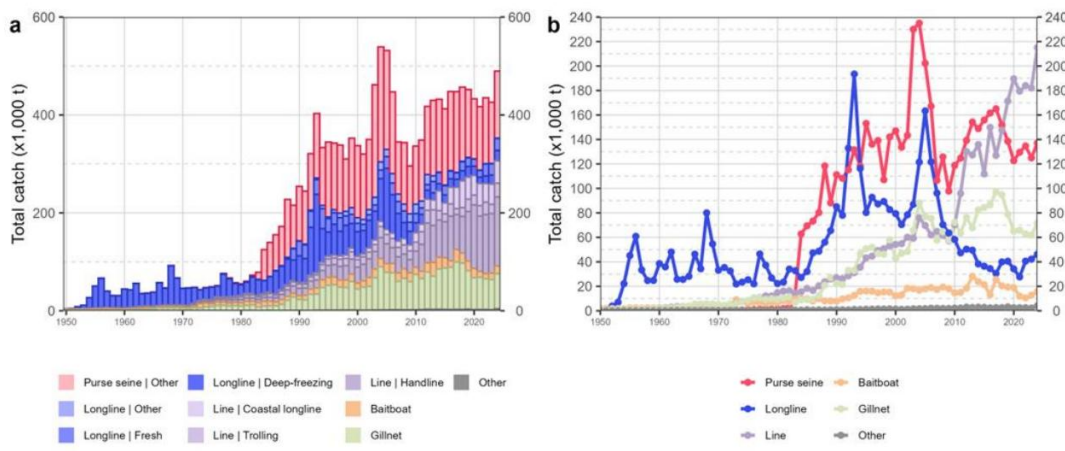
Figure 5. Kobe plot showing the most recent stock status estimates from all the models for skipjack tuna. The x-axis is $SB_{current}/0.3 \times \text{dynamic } SB_0$. Each dot is based on the average F over the most recent three years, 2021–2023, and the error bars represent the 80% confidence intervals of model estimates. The red dot and error bars represent the estimates from the reference model. The black cross and error bars represent the estimates from the model that removed the ECHO index (IATCC, 2024a).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference points (or proxy), C1.2 is met.

References

IATCC. 2024a. DOCUMENT SAC-15-04 REV STOCK ASSESSMENT OF SKIPJACK TUNA IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN: 2024 BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT. https://www.iatcc.org/GetAttachment/f57dece1-81ba-4771-8fa8-3362320a368a/SAC-15-04_Skipjack-tuna-benchmark-assessment-2024.pdf

WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02. 2026. THE TUNA FISHERY IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN IN 2025. Submitted by IATCC. <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/32488>

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
Fishing area and stock		FAO 51 (Indian Ocean yellowfin)
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. No new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin tuna in 2025. The stock status for yellowfin tuna was estimated based on the stock assessment carried out in 2024, which used Stock Synthesis III (SS3), a fully integrated model that is currently used to provide scientific advice for the three tropical tunas stocks in the Indian Ocean. The model uses four types of data: catch, size frequency, tagging and CPUE indices (IOTC 2025a). Figure 6 shows the accumulative catches of the stock.  Figure 6. 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 yellowfin tuna during 1950-2024. FS = free-swimming school; LS = school associated with drifting floating objects. Purse seine Other: coastal purse seine, purse seine of unknown association type, ring net; Longline Other: swordfish and sharks-targeted longlines; Other: all remaining fishing gears (IOTC, 2025a). Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met. 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.		

2023 spawning biomass is considered to be 32% above the interim target reference point of SBMSY and above the interim limit reference point of $0.4 \times \text{SBMSY}$. 2023 fishing mortality is considered to be 25% below the interim target reference point of FMSY, and below the interim limit reference point of $1.4 \times \text{FMSY}$

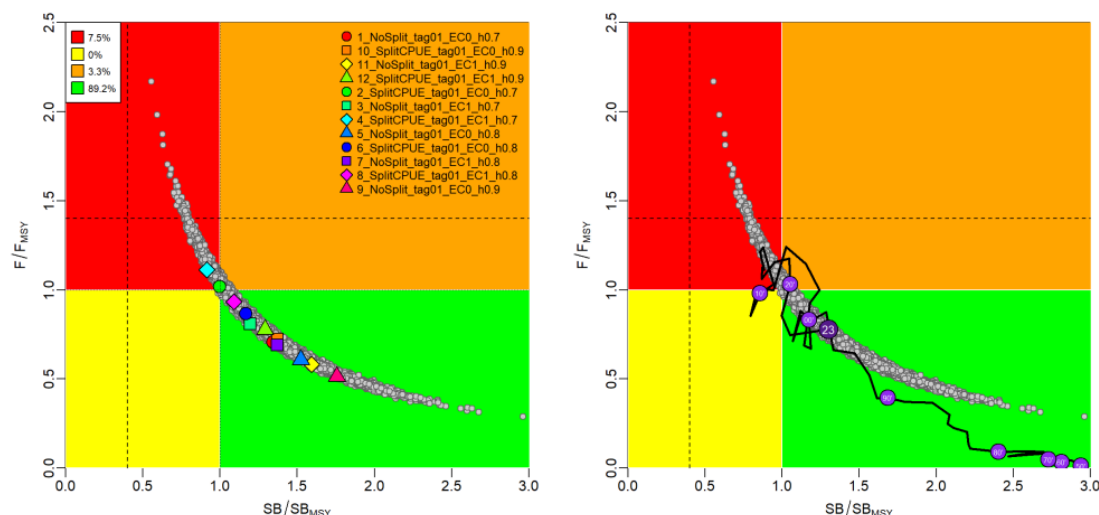


Figure 7. Yellowfin tuna: SS3 Indian Ocean assessment Kobe plot: (left): current (2023) stock status, relative to SBMSY (x-axis) and FMSY (y-axis) reference points for the final model options. Coloured symbols represent Maximum posterior density (MPD) estimates from individual models. Grey dots represent the statistical uncertainty from individual models (20,000 replicates from each). The dashed lines represent limit reference points for IO yellowfin tuna ($\text{SBlim} = 0.4 \text{ SBMSY}$ and $\text{Flim} = 1.4 \text{ FMSY}$); (right) mean stock trajectory from the model grid (IOTC, 2025a).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference points (or proxy), C1.2 is met

References

IOTC 2025. APPENDIX 4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: YELLOWFIN TUNA (2025). https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2025/English/IOTC-2025-SC28-ES04_YFTE.pdf

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	
Fishing area and stock		FAO 71 (Western and Central Pacific Ocean - WCPO 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.			
Updated catches of WCPO yellowfin tuna are provided in Table 1 above (WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02, 2026).			
Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, C1.1 is met.			
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 2024).			

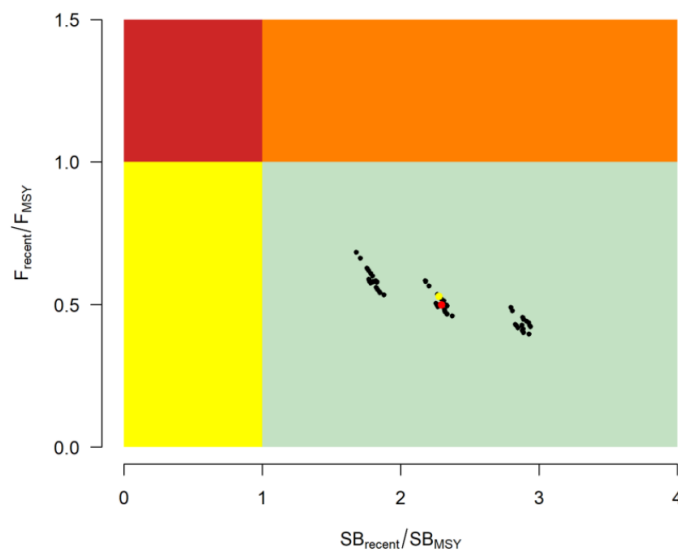


Figure 8. WCPO yellowfin tuna, Kobe plot summarising the results of each of the stock assessment models. The yellow dot is the 2023 diagnostic model and the red dot is the median (WCPFC 2024).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference points (or proxy), C1.2 is met.

References

- WCPFC. 2024. WCPO Yellowfin Tuna, Stock Status and Management Advice. <https://www.wcpfc.int/file/1008665/download?token=wFUhc7q7>
- WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02. 2026. THE TUNA FISHERY IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN IN 2025. Submitted by IATTC. <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/32488>

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
Fishing area and stock		FAO 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific EPO 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 assessment and management of the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin tuna stock fall under the responsibility of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). The scientific staff reported the results of a new benchmark stock assessment and risk analysis for yellowfin tuna (Minte-Vera et al 2025). The 2025 benchmark assessment builds on IATTC's risk analysis framework (SAC-16-03), which explicitly incorporates uncertainty into stock status evaluation and management advice. The approach considers alternative hypotheses regarding the spatial structure of the stock across the eastern Pacific Ocean and its northeastern and southwestern regions, as well as biological uncertainties related to growth and natural mortality. In addition, a gradual increase in catchability over time, represented as a 1% annual effort creep, is included, along with different assumptions about the steepness of the stock–recruitment relationship. Together, these elements generate a total of 72 reference models. The assessment also introduces important methodological advances, including improved spatial modelling based on new cluster analyses of length composition data that define northeastern and southwestern regions with limited movement between them, leading to the use of separate regional models. Biological parameters such as growth, natural mortality, and reproductive dynamics were updated using information from otoliths, tagging studies, and spawning data, and effort creep was incorporated to better reflect increasing fishing efficiency over time (Minte-Vera et al, 2025). Updated catches of EPO yellowfin tuna are provided in Table 1 above (WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02, 2026).		
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. Across all spatial hypothesis, yellowfin tuna spawning biomass has consistently remained well above the limit reference point (Minte-Vera et al 2025). The likelihood of the stock being below the target spawning biomass is close to zero in nearly all risk assessment scenarios and spawning stock abundance exceeds the limit reference point in every scenario, with an estimated probability of falling below the limit equal to zero in all cases. Fishing mortality is well below MSY and limit reference points. These outcomes are graphically represented in Figure 9.		

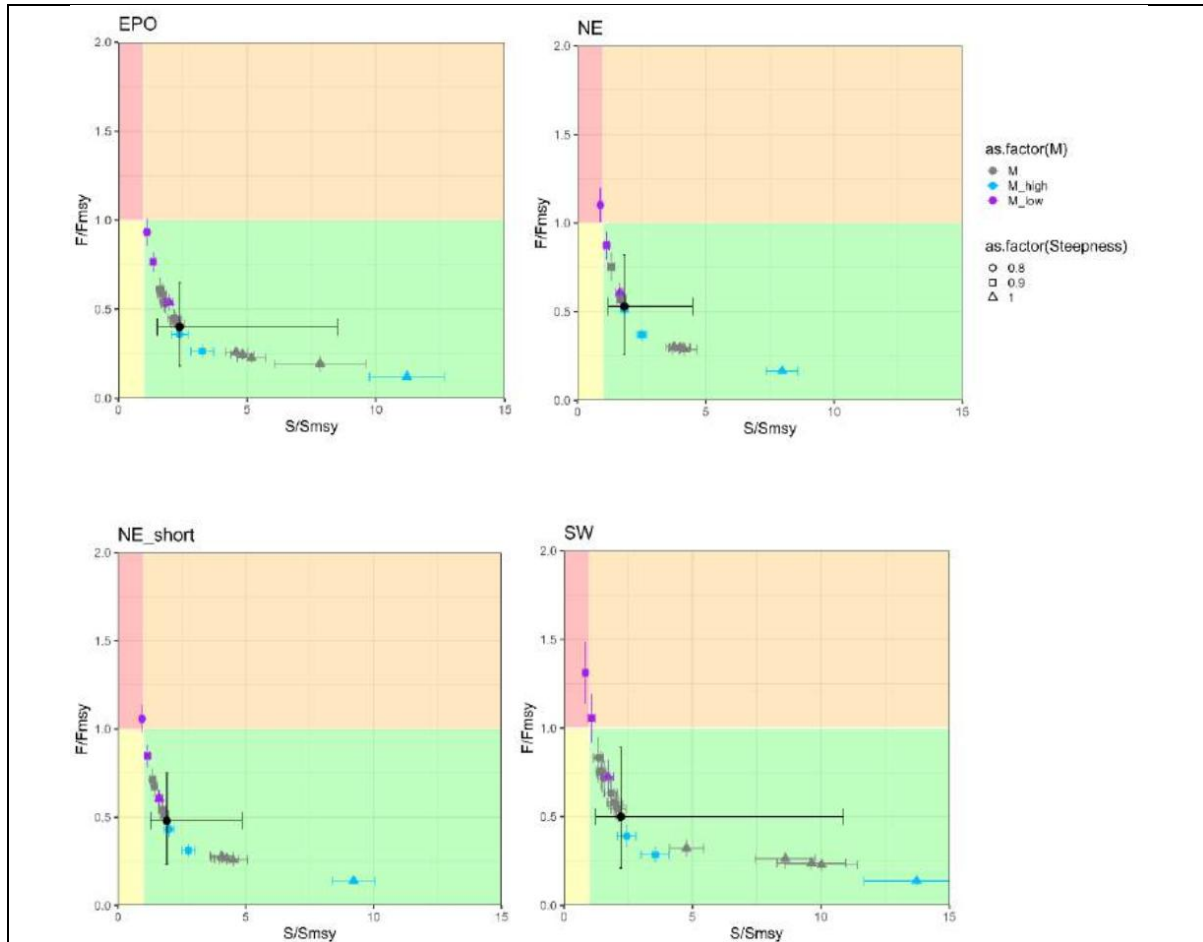


Figure 9. Kobe plots showing the most recent stock assessment status of yellowfin tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and subregions relative to the dynamic level producing MSY and fishing mortality relative to the level producing the same biomass dynamic level associated with MSY. Each dot is based on the average F over the most recent three years, 2021-2023, and the S for the first quarter of 2024 and the error bars represent the 80% confidence interval of model estimates. The black dot and error bars represent the medium and 80% confidence interval of combined values, respectively. Minte-Vera et al. (2025).

References

Minte-Vera, C., M.N. Maunder, H. Xu and R. Bi. 2025. Stock assessment of yellowfin tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean: 2025. Document SAC-16-03 of the Scientific Advisory Committee, 16th Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. La Jolla, California (USA). 02-06 June 2025. 108 pp. [SAC-16-03 Yellowfin-benchmark-assessment---2025.pdf](#)

WCPFC-SC22-2026-GN-WP02. 2026. THE TUNA FISHERY IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN IN 2025. Submitted by IATTC. <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/32488>

Traceability information

Information provided for Step 3 Path 1 or Path 2

Species name		Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>) FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Tanzania	2.5	2.78	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Tanzania	2.5	2.78	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Mexico	2.86	3.06	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Ecuador	2.69	2.11	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Guatemala	2.27	2.78	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Thunnus albacares - Yellowfin tuna FAO 51 (Western Indian Ocean)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☒ No ☒		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Tanzania	2.5	2.78	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) FAO 71 (Western Central Pacific)			
Path 1		Yes ☒ No ☐			
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2	Yes ☐ No ☒				
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome	
	China	3.13	4.33	Remains high risk	

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) FAO 71 (Western Central Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☐			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Solomon Isl.	2.81	3.28	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) FAO Area 77 (Eastern Central Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☒ No ☒			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Mexico	2.86	3.06	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) FAO Area 87 (Southeast Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Ecuador	2.69	2.11	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	Downgraded to medium risk

Species name		Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) FAO Areas 77 and 87 (Eastern Central Pacific and Southeast Pacific)		
Path 1		Yes ☐ No ☒		
Confirm all KDEs are provided		Yes ☐ No ☐		
Path 2	Yes ☐ No ☒			
Path 2 outcome	Flag country	Coastal score	Port score	Risk outcome
	Guatemala	2.27	2.78	Downgraded to medium risk
	Panama	1.69	1.67	Downgraded to medium risk
	Venezuela	2.38	2.89	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.