



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report: Skipjack Tuna FAO 41 & 47

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus Pelamis</i>)
	Geographical area:	Atlantic Ocean, FAO Major Fishing Area 41 (Southwest Atlantic) and 47 (Southeast Atlantic)
	Country of origin of the product:	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal
	Stock:	Atlantic Western and Eastern stocks
Date	22/12/2021	
Report Code	BP247	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name:			
Address:			
Country: Spain and Portugal		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:			
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Virginia Polonio	Vito Romito	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	To December 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus Pelamis</i>)
Stock	Skipjack tuna in the western Atlantic Ocean
Fishery Location	Atlantic Ocean, FAO Major Fishing Area 41 (Atlantic, Southwest) and FAO 47 (Atlantic Eastern)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Internationally: ICCAT National authorities of the countries El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine, Longline
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	In agreement with the assessor, the product should be approved.
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. Skipjack tuna in the Atlantic Ocean does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, skipjack tuna in the Atlantic Ocean is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There remains uncertainty around the stock structure of skipjack tuna in the Atlantic Ocean but the hypothesis which forms the basis of management is one of separate eastern and western stocks. Given the geographical extent of this assessment (i.e. FAO Major Fishing Area 41 and 47), this assessment covers both stocks.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the ICCAT stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1 for both stocks</p> <p>As of the latest assessment of stock status; managers consider that the stocks are not likely to be overfished such that both stocks PASSE Clause C1.2.</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock assessed must pass both Clause C1.1 and C1.2; therefore, as this is the case here, the by-products covered by this report (Atlantic Western and Eastern stocks) are APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>Skipjack tuna is assessed by the ICCAT and as such qualifies for Category C. The Eastern and Western Atlantic components are not considered to be overexploited and catches are taken into account in the ICCAT 2019 SCRS Stock Assessment Report. The Peer Reviewer agrees that these stocks shall be APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as an MARINTRUST raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Skipjack tuna	Katsuwonus pelamis	Skipjack tuna in the western and eastern Atlantic Ocean	Yes (ICCAT)	C	No	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment.

Clause C1 should be completed for **each** Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) Western and Eastern Atlantic stocks	
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.	Yes for both stocks
	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.	Yes for both stocks
Clause outcome:			PASS
<p>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.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock in the fishery under assessment are included in the ICCAT stock assessment process. Specifically, catches from both stocks are reported and shown in the figure 1 below. Therefore, the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.1.</p>			
<p>Figure 1. Catches in tonnes of skipjack tuna for western and eastern stocks from 1950 to 2018. ICCAT 2019</p>			
<p>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.</p>			
<p>Western stock</p>			

For the western Atlantic stock, in light of the information provided by the trajectory of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} ratios (Figure 2), it is unlikely that the current catch is larger than the replacement yield.

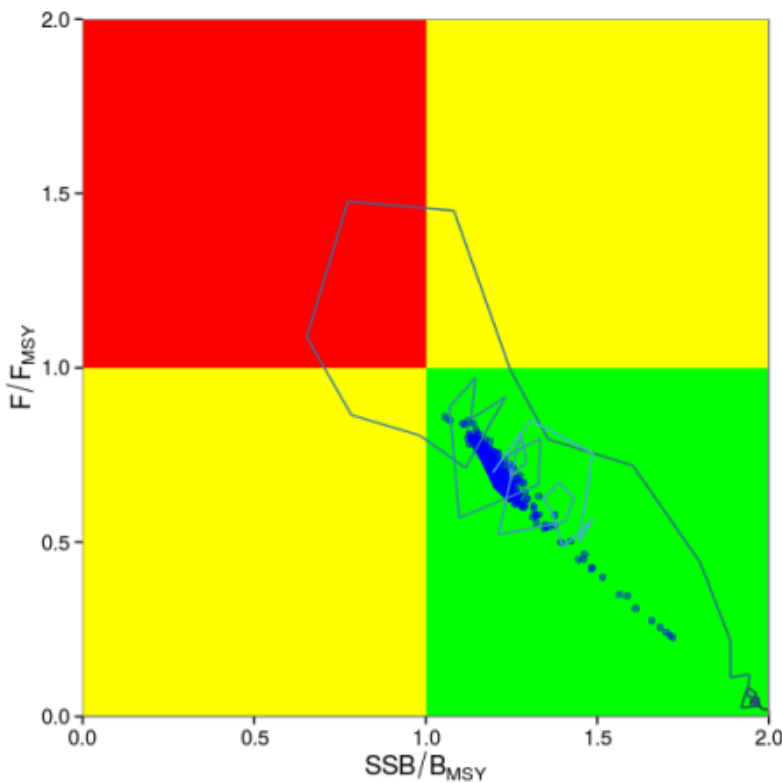


Figure 2. Western skipjack stock status: trajectories of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} from the ASPIC surplus production model (Schaefer type).

The stock is above limits reference points and it meets clause C1.2.

Eastern stock

The estimated MSY value, according to the catch-only assessment model, has tended to increase in recent years but at a growth rate that is lower than that observed for the catches for the same period. However, according to this model, although it is unlikely that the eastern skipjack stock is overexploited, current catches could be at, even above, the MSY threshold.

Therefore, the stock is not likely overfished, and overfishing is not happening. So it can be considered above limit reference points and it meets clause C1.2

References

ICCAT 2019 SCRS Report (Skipjack tuna): https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/SKJ_ENG.pdf
 ICCAT 2014. Report of the 2014 ICCAT east and west Atlantic skipjack stock assessment meeting: https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/DetRep/SKJ_SA_ENG.pdf

Links

MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which make up less than 5% of landings and are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

D1	Species Name		
	Productivity Attribute		Value
	Average age at maturity (years)		
	Average maximum age (years)		
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)		
	Average maximum size (cm)		
	Average size at maturity (cm)		
	Reproductive strategy		
	Mean trophic level		
	Average Productivity Score		
	Susceptibility Attribute		Value
	Overlap of adult species range with fishery		
	Distribution		
	Habitat		
	Depth range		
	Selectivity		
	Post-capture mortality		
	Average Susceptibility Score		
	PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)		
	Compliance rating		
References			
Standard clauses 1.3.2.2			

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	Low productivity/ High risk	Medium productivity/ Medium risk	High productivity/ Low risk
	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk	Low susceptibility/ Low risk
		Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

Note: Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.

D3		Average Susceptibility Score		
		1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS	TABLE D4
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4	TABLE D4

D4 Species Name			
Impacts On Species Categorised as Vulnerable by D1-D3 - Minimum Requirements			
D4.1	The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.		
D4.2	There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.		
Outcome:			
Evidence			
D4.1: The potential impacts of the fishery on this species are considered during the management process, and reasonable measures are taken to minimise these impacts.			
D4.2 There is no substantial evidence that the fishery has a significant negative impact on the species.			
References			
Links			
MARINTRUST Standard clause	1.3.2.2, 4.1.4		
FAO CCRF	7.5.1		
GSSI	D.5.01		