



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Report: Yellowfin Tuna FAO 77 & 87

**MarinTrust Programme**

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**Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome**

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Yellowfin tuna, <i>Thunnus albacares</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO 77 (Pacific, Eastern Central) and 87 (Pacific, Southeast)
	Country of origin of the product:	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, USA, Phillipines, Panama
	Stock:	Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) yellowfin tuna Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin tuna
Date	26/05/2021	
Report Code	BP91	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, USA, Phillipines, Panama	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

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

Scope Details	
Main Species	Yellowfin tuna, <i>Thunnus albacares</i>
Stock	Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) yellowfin tuna Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin tuna
Fishery Location	FAO 77 (Pacific, Eastern Central) and 87 (Pacific, Southeast)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).
Gear Type(s)	Longlines and purse seines
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's determination
Recommendation	<b>APPROVED</b>

**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. Yellowfin tuna does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor does it appear in CITES appendices; therefore, product originating from this fishery is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material. Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Near Threatened (NT) and is not listed in CITES such that yellowfin derived products are eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>For assessment and management purposes, two discrete stocks of yellowfin are recognised in the Pacific Ocean delimited based on their being east and west of 150°W longitude:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) yellowfin (west of 150°W), managed via the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).</li> <li>2. Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin (east of 150°W), managed by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).</li> </ol> <p>FAO areas 77 and 87 have their western boundary at 175°W such that yellowfin tuna taken in these areas may come from either of the Western Central Pacific or Eastern Pacific stocks; therefore, both stocks are considered in this assessment.</p> <p>Fishery removals of both Pacific yellowfin tuna stocks are considered in their respective stock assessment processes such that the fishery <b>PASSES</b> Clause C1.1.</p> <p>As of the latest assessments, both stocks are considered to have a biomass above their respective limit reference points such that the fishery <b>PASSES</b> Clause C1.2.</p> <p>As both Clause C1.1 and C1.2 are met, the by-product covered by this report is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified both EPO and WCPO yellowfin tuna stocks as category C, reference points are defined to assess status of both stocks relative to.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process so the stock <b>PASSES</b> Clause C1.1. Stocks are considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point so both EPO and WCPO yellowfin tuna stocks <b>PASS</b> Clause C1.2.</p>

Therefore, the peer reviewer agrees with the assessor's determination that the fishery passes both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2, so EPO and WCPO yellowfin tuna are thus approved.

**Notes for On-site Auditor**

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## 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 Redlist 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Yellowfin tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	WCPO and EPO yellowfin tuna	WCPFC and IATTC	C	Globally: Near Threatened (NT)	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

<sup>2</sup> <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 may be assessed as a Category D species instead, EXCEPT if there is evidence that it is currently below the limit reference point.

<b>Species Name</b>		Yellowfin tuna, <i>Thunnus albacares</i>	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	<b>C1.1</b>	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
	<b>C1.2</b>	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
<b>Clause outcome:</b>			<b>PASS</b>
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>Western Central Pacific yellowfin tuna Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process via Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) processes Eastern Pacific yellowfin tuna Catches of tunas within the IATTC area of competence are reported to the IATTC (e.g. IATTC, 2020) and these catches are subsequently included in the IATTC stock assessment process.</p> <p>Therefore, fishery removals of both stocks of relevance to this assessment are included in their respective stock assessment processes such that the fishery <b>PASSES</b> Clause C1.1.</p>			
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>Western Central Pacific yellowfin tuna. The most recent stock assessment for WCPO yellowfin was carried out in 2017 (Tremblay-Boyer et al. 2017a). The WCPFC has adopted 20% of the unfished spawning potential (20%SBF=0) as a LRP for this stock; therefore, despite it being quite high at ~77% of the median estimate of BMSY, this is the considered here. Stock status is evaluated by estimating <math>S_{Recent}/SBF=0</math> and <math>S_{Latest}/SBF=0</math>, where <math>S_{Latest}</math> and <math>S_{Recent}</math> are the estimated spawning potential in 2015 and the mean over 2011-2014, respectively. Majuro plots presented in Tremblay-Boyer et al. (2017a), show that there are only two scenarios for 'latest' and three for 'recent' which fall below the defined LRP; therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to be above the limit reference point defined by management.</p> <p>EPO yellowfin tuna most recent stock assessment was carried out in 2019 (Minte-Vera, Xu and Maunder, 2019) with a terminal year of 2018. SMSY and FMSY are used as target reference points in the management of this stock and interim limit reference points of <math>0.28 * SMSY</math> and <math>2.42 * FMSY</math> are defined; these correspond to a 50% reduction in recruitment from its average unexploited level based on a conservative steepness value (<math>h = 0.75</math>) for the Beverton-Holt stock recruitment relationship. According to the 2018 stock assessment conducted by the IATTC scientific staff (Minte-Vera, Xu and Maunder, 2019), the EPO yellowfin tuna stock is not overfished but is subject to overfishing; therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to be above the limit reference point defined by management.</p> <p>Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and it <b>PASSES</b> C1.2.</p>			
<b>References</b>			

Tremblay-Boyer, S., McKechnie, S., Pilling, G., Hampton, J., 2017a. Stock assessment of yellowfin tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. WCPFC-SC13-2017/SA-WP-06.

IATTC (2020). Estimated Catch (in mt) by Purse Seine and Pole-and-Line vessels in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (east of 150°W 01 Jan – 03 May 2020: [http://www.iattc.org/MonthlyReports/2020/\\_English/Apr-2020\\_Current%20monthly%20report.pdf](http://www.iattc.org/MonthlyReports/2020/_English/Apr-2020_Current%20monthly%20report.pdf) Minte-Vera, Xu and Maunder (2019) Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Stock

Assessment Report 20 Status of the Tuna and Billfish Stocks in 2018:

[http://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles/StockAssessmentReports/\\_English/No-20-2019\\_Status%20of%20the%20tuna%20and%20billfish%20stocks%20in%202018.pdf](http://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles/StockAssessmentReports/_English/No-20-2019_Status%20of%20the%20tuna%20and%20billfish%20stocks%20in%202018.pdf)

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