



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Yellowfin tuna in FAO areas 51-57 (Indian Ocean)*

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 51-57 (Indian Ocean)
	Country of origin of the product:	Spain
	Stock:	Indian Ocean
Date	August 2022	
Report Code	ESP14	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Spain	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	None	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Sarval Bio-Industries			
Country:			
Email address: maria.mato@sarval.es		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Jose Peiro Crespo	0.25	Surveillance
Assessment Period	August 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
Stock	Indian Ocean
Fishery Location	FAO 51-57 (Indian Ocean)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
Gear Type(s)	Pole and line, longline
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's determination
Recommendation	Approved

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Yellowfin tuna is categorised by the IUCN Red List as Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices. Reference points are established for the stock and therefore Category C was used for this assessment. The most recent stock assessment was published in October 2021 and took into account all fishery removals. Biomass was estimated to be below the target reference point B_{MSY}, but above the limit reference point. The Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock therefore meets the MarinTrust byproduct requirements and should remain approved for use as a raw material.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified the Indian Yellowfin Tuna as category C as this stock is managed and reference points are defined.</p> <p>The stock is regularly assessed by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Scientific Committee. Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. In the most recent assessment conducted by the IOTC, the stock of yellowfin tuna was below the MSY but above the limit reference point.</p> <p>Therefore, the Yellowfin Tuna in FAO 51-57 (Indian Ocean) may be approved under the Marin Trust v 2.0 by-products 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
Yellowfin Tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Indian Ocean	Yes	C	Least Concern ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/21857/46624561>

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

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		Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	
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.			
<p>The stock assessment conducted by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) takes all fishery removals into account. The most recent assessment was conducted in 2021. Landings in recent years were reported as a total catch in 2020 of 432,623t, and an average catch 2016-2020 of 434,568t. Full catch datasets, including catch and effort by month, species, gear, and vessels flag, and size-frequency datasets, are made available on the IOTC website (IOTC 2022).</p> <p>Fishery removals of yellowfin tuna are incorporated into the stock assessment process and therefore C1.1 is met.</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>The most recent assessment is dated October 2021 and was conducted using data from 1950-2020 (IOTC 2021a). The stock assessment conclusion states that “overall stock status estimates do not differ substantially from the previous assessment”. Biomass was estimated to be around 28% of the unfished level and 78% of BMSY. The biomass is therefore estimated to be below the target reference point. However, the assessment notes that the biomass limit reference point is defined as 50% of B_{MSY}, and therefore the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point in its most recent stock assessment (IOTC 2021a).</p> <p>In response to Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna falling below the target reference point, the IOTC has put in place an interim plan for rebuilding the stock (IOTC 2021b). The rebuilding plan limits and reduces total catch by all member states, requiring a 21% reduction in total catch relative to 2014 from most members. The plan also requires member states to reduce the efficiency of fishing effort by phasing out supply vessels and gillnet gears. Taken together these measures represent a clear response to the stock falling below the target reference point.</p> <p>The stock is considered to be above the limit reference point and measures are in place to support rebuilding, therefore C1.2 is met.</p>			
References			
IOTC (2021a). Preliminary Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment 1950-2020 (Stock Synthesis). https://www.iotc.org/documents/WPTT/2302/12			
IOTC (2021b). Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (17 December 2021). https://www.iotc.org/cmms			
IOTC (2022). Available datasets. https://www.iotc.org/data/datasets			

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