



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Northern Atlantic Albacore tuna*

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Albacore Tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
	Geographical area:	Eastern-Central Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Spain, Portugal
	Stock:	Northern Atlantic albacore
Date	September 2022	
Report Code	ESP28	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Spain, Portugal	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	None	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Sarval Bio-industries Noroeste; S.A.U: Arteixo			
Country: Spain			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Kate Morris	0.25	Re-approval
Assessment Period	September 2022 – September 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Albacore Tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
Stock	Northern Atlantic albacore
Fishery Location	Eastern-Central Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
Gear Type(s)	Longlines & seines
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	Approve byproduct

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
Albacore tuna has been categorised by the IUCN Red List as Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices. The Northern Atlantic stock is managed relative to reference points and was therefore assessed under Category C. Stock assessments are conducted by the ICCAT and utilise all international catch data. The most recent stock assessment was conducted in 2020 and concluded that there is a very high probability (98.4%) that the stock is neither overfished nor subject to overfishing. The by-product meets the MT requirements and should be re-approved for use as a raw material.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The by-product fishery under assessment here is the North Atlantic albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) fishery which is pursued by Spanish vessels in the Eastern-Central Atlantic. Albacore is managed by ICCAT. For this Marin Trust assessment, North Atlantic Albacore is scored as a category C species. All species scoring tables have been completed by the auditor with sufficient evidence presented to support their final determination. The peer review supports the auditor's recommendation to Pass this fishery under the Marin Trust IFFO RS v2.0 by-fishery standard for the production of fishmeal and fish oil.
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
Albacore tuna	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Northern Atlantic	Yes	C	Least concern ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

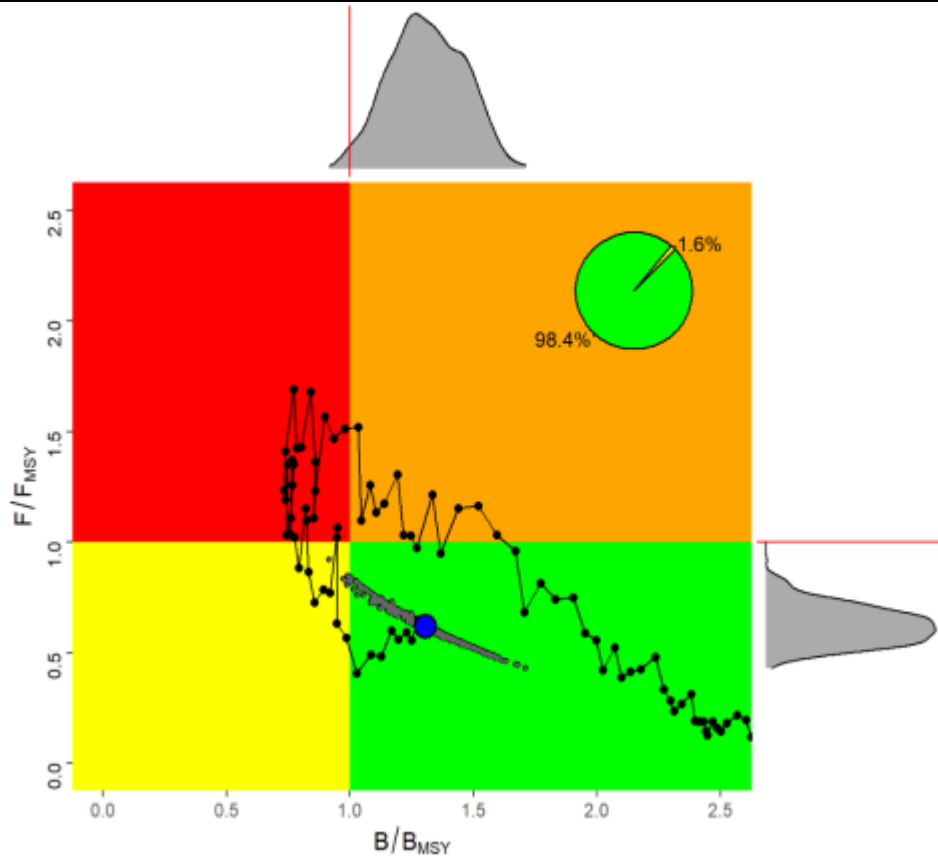
³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/21856/18208821>

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		Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</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.			
Stock assessments are carried out on behalf of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The most recent stock assessment remains the one identified in the previous MT assessment for this by-product and was conducted in 2020 (ICCAT 2020). The stock assessment utilised catch and effort data up to 2018, and no concerns were raised relating to the completeness of the data. Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process, and 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 most recent stock assessment, conducted in 2020, concluded that the “probability of the stock currently being in the green area of the Kobe plot (not overfished and not undergoing overfishing, $F < F_{MSY}$ and $B > B_{MSY}$) is 98.4% while the probability of being in the yellow area (overfished, $B < B_{MSY}$) is 1.66%. The probability of being in the red area (overfished and undergoing overfishing, $F > F_{MSY}$ and $B < B_{MSY}$) is 0%” (ICCAT 2020). This represents strong evidence that the stock is above the target reference point, and therefore above any possible limit reference point. The stock biomass is highly likely to be above the limit reference point, and C1.2 is met.			



North Atlantic albacore Kobe plot. Stock status trajectories of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} over time (1930-2018), as well as uncertainty (grey dots) around the current (F_{2018}/F_{MSY} , B_{2018}/B_{MSY}) estimate (blue point) based on Surplus production model with probability of being overfished and overfishing (red, 0%), of being neither overfished nor overfishing (green, 98.4%), and of being overfished (yellow, 1.6%) (ICCAT 2020).

References

ICCAT (2020). Standing Committee of Research and Statistics, Advice to the Commission.

https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/ALB_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 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	Score	
	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	Score	
	Availability (area overlap)			
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)			
	Selectivity of gear type			
	Post-capture mortality			
	Average Susceptibility Score			
	PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)			
	Compliance rating			
	Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant) <i>For susceptibility attributes, please provide a brief rationale for scoring of parameters where there may be uncertainty affecting your decision</i>			
	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	