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IFFO RS
Global Standard for Responsible Supply
of Marine Ingredients

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Global Standard for Responsible Supply of Marine Ingredients Fishery Assessment Methodology and Template Report V2.0



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|---------------------------------|---|
| Fishery Under Assessment | Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> FAO 77, 87 |
| Date | March 2019 |
| Assessor | Conor Donnelly |

| Application details and summary of the assessment outcome | | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Name: Tadel, Productos Pesqueros, Negocios | | | | |
| Address: | | | | |
| Country: Ecuador | | Zip: | | |
| Tel. No.: | | Fax. No.: | | |
| Email address: | | Applicant Code | | |
| Key Contact: | | Title: | | |
| Certification Body Details | | | | |
| Name of Certification Body: | | SAI Global Ltd | | |
| Assessor Name | Peer Reviewer | Assessment Days | Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval | Whole fish/ By-product |
| Conor Donnelly | Jim Daly | 1 | Surveillance 2 | By-product |
| Assessment Period | 2018 | | | |

| Scope Details | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Management Authority (Country/State) | Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), Ecuador |
| Main Species | Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> |
| Fishery Location | FAO 77 Pacific Eastern Central, FAO 87 Pacific Southeast |
| Gear Type(s) | Purse seine, pole and line, longline |
| Outcome of Assessment | |
| Overall Outcome | Pass |
| Clauses Failed | None |
| Peer Review Evaluation | Agree |
| Recommendation | Approve |

| Assessment Determination |
|--|
| <p>Skipjack tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) are managed through the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). The IATTC provides scientific advice on stock status for tuna and billfish in the EPO including skipjack tuna. It has a multi-year conservation plan in place for tropical tunas (the current plan covers the period 2018-2020) which sets out a several management measures, including, for example, temporary annual closures for purse seine fleets targeting yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna. As a management regime exists for skipjack, it has been assessed under Clause C.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process and the stock can be considered, in its most recent status information, to have a biomass above the proxy limit reference point. Consequently, it passes Clause C.</p> <p>Skipjack tuna is listed as of least concern on the IUCN Red list of Threatened Species and is not listed by CITES (https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/170310/6739812, last assessed March 2019).</p> <p>This fishery by-product is recommended for approval under the IFFO RS Standard (by-products).</p> |
| Peer Review Comments |
| Agree |
| Notes for On-site Auditor |
| |

Note: This table should be completed for whole fish assessments only.

Species-Specific Results

| Category | Species | % landings | Outcome (Pass/Fail) | |
|------------|---|------------|---------------------|--|
| Category A | | | A1 | |
| | | | A2 | |
| | | | A3 | |
| | | | A4 | |
| Category B | | | | |
| Category C | Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> | N/A | Pass | |
| Category D | | | | |

[List all Category A and B species. List approximate total % age of landings which are Category C and D species; these do not need to be individually named here]

HOW TO COMPLETE THIS ASSESSMENT REPORT

This assessment template uses a modular approach to assessing fisheries against the IFFO RS standard.

Whole Fish

The process for completing the template for a **whole fish** assessment is as follows:

1. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete the Species Characterisation table, to determine which categories of species are present in the fishery.
2. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete clauses M1, M2, M3: Management.
3. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY A SPECIES IN THE FISHERY: Complete clauses A1, A2, A3, A4 for **each** Category A species.
4. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY B SPECIES IN THE FISHERY: Complete the Section B risk assessment for **each** Category B species.
5. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY C SPECIES IN THE FISHERY: Complete clause C1 for **each** Category C species.
6. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY D SPECIES IN THE FISHERY: Complete Section D.
7. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete clauses F1, F2, F3: Further Impacts.

A fishery must score a pass in **all applicable clauses** before approval may be recommended. To achieve a pass in a clause, the fishery/species must meet **all** of the minimum requirements.

By-products

The process for completing the template for **by-product raw material** is as follows:

1. ALL ASSESSMENTS: Complete the Species Characterisation table with the names of the by-product species and stocks under assessment. The ‘% landings’ column can be left empty; all by-products are considered as Category C and D.
2. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY C BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete clause C1 for **each** Category C by-product.
3. IF THERE ARE CATEGORY D BYPRODUCTS UNDER ASSESSMENT: Complete Section D.
4. ALL OTHER SECTIONS CAN BE DELETED. Clauses M1 - M3, F1 - F3, and Sections A and B do not need to be completed for a by-product assessment.

By-product approval is awarded on a species-by-species basis. Each by-product species scoring a pass under the appropriate section may be approved against the IFFO RS Standard.

SPECIES CATEGORISATION

The following table should be completed as fully as the available information permits. Any species representing more than 0.1% of the annual catch should be listed, along with an estimate of the proportion of the catch each species represents. The species should then be divided into Type 1 and Type 2 as follows:

- **Type 1 Species** can be considered the ‘target’ or ‘main’ species in the fishery. They make up the bulk of annual landings and are subjected to a detailed assessment.
- **Type 2 Species** can be considered the ‘bycatch’ or ‘minor’ species in the fishery. They make up a small proportion of the annual landings and are subjected to relatively high-level assessment.

Type 1 Species must represent 95% of the total annual catch. Type 2 Species may represent a maximum of 5% of the annual catch (see Appendix B).

Species which make up less than 0.1% of landings do not need to be listed (NOTE: ETP species are considered separately). The table should be extended if more space is needed. Discarded species should be included when known.

The ‘stock’ column should be used to differentiate when there are multiple biological or management stocks of one species captured by the fishery. The ‘management’ column should be used to indicate whether there is an adequate management regime specifically aimed at the individual species/stock. In some cases it will be immediately clear whether there is a species-specific management regime in place (for example, if there is an annual TAC). In less clear circumstances, the rule of thumb should be that if the species meets the minimum requirements of clauses A1-A4, an adequate species-specific management regime is in place.

NOTE: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it **cannot** be approved for use as an IFFO RS raw material. This applied to whole fish as well as by-products.

TYPE 1 SPECIES (Representing 95% of the catch or more)

Category A: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category B: No species-specific management regime in place.

TYPE 2 SPECIES (Representing 5% OF THE CATCH OR LESS)

Category C: Species-specific management regime in place.

Category D: No species-specific management regime in place.

| Common name | Latin name | Stock | % of landings | Management | Category |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| Skipjack tuna | <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> | FAO 77 & 87 | N/A | IATTC | C |

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. 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. A Category C species does not meet the minimum requirements of clause C1 should be re-assessed as a Category D species.

| | | | |
|--|---|--|-------------|
| Species Name | | Skipjack tuna <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</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 |
| Evidence | | | |
| Stock assessments are difficult to conduct on skipjack tuna due to their high and variable productivity. These characteristics make it difficult to determine the effect of fishing using typical stock assessment techniques. The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) conducts assessments of skipjack tuna using various indicators instead of traditional reference points. The most recent assessment conducted in 2018 used eight data and model-based indicators 1) catch, 2) catch per day fished (CPDF) – unassociated fishery (NOA), 3) average weight, 4) relative recruitment, 5) CPDF floating object fishery (OBJ), 6) standardized effort, 7) relative biomass, and 8) relative exploitation rate (Figure 1). | | | |

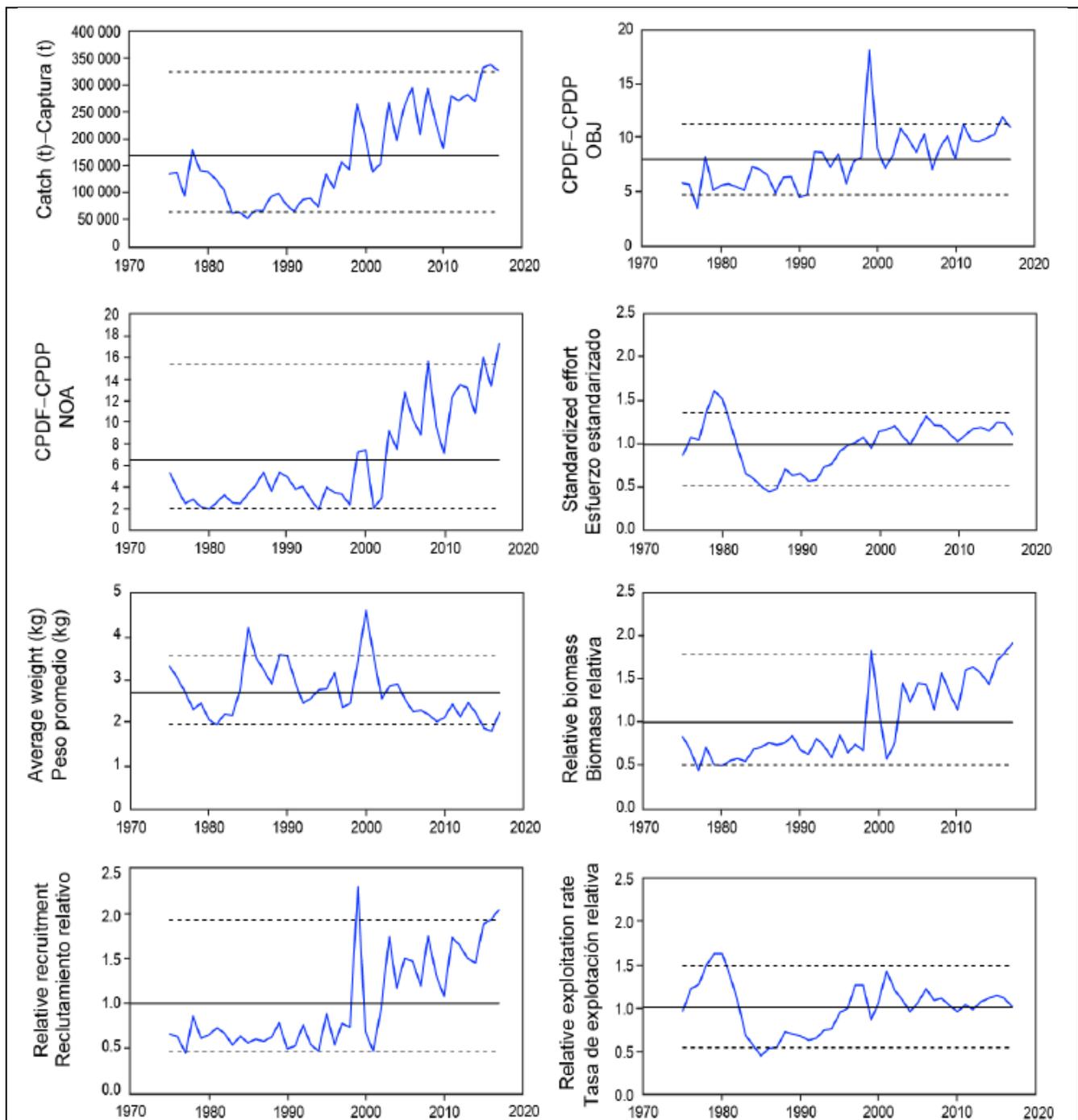


Figure 1. Indicators of stock status for skipjack tuna in the eastern Pacific Ocean. OBJ: floating-object fishery; NOA: unassociated fishery; CPDF: catch per day fished. All indicators are scaled so that their average equals one (Source: Maunder, 2018).

Maunder (2018) summarised the analysis of these indicators and the resulting advice on stock status:

“The standardized effort, which is a measure of exploitation rate, is calculated as the sum of the effort, in days fished, for the floating-object (OBJ) and unassociated (NOA) fisheries. The floating-object effort is standardized to be equivalent to the unassociated effort by multiplying by the ratio of the average floating-object CPUE to the average unassociated CPUE. The purse-seine catch started increasing substantially in the mid-1990s, and has been above average since 2003; during 2015-2017 it was above the upper reference level. The floating-object CPUE has generally been above average since the early 1990s, and was above the upper reference level in 2016. The unassociated CPUE has been increasing since the early 2000s; it has been above

average since about 2003, and was above the upper reference level in 2017. The standardized effort indicator of exploitation rate increased starting in the early 1990s, and has been above the average level since about 2000. The average weight of skipjack has been declining since 2000, and in 2015 and 2016 was below the lower reference level, but increased slightly to above that level in 2017. Both biomass and recruitment have been increasing over the past 20 years, and were above their respective upper reference levels in 2016 and 2017. The exploitation rate started increasing in the mid-1980s, and has fluctuated around the average since the mid-1990s.”

Maunder (2018) concluded that the data- and model-based indicators have yet to detect any adverse impacts of the fishery. The average weight was below its lower reference level in 2015 and 2016, which can be a consequence of overexploitation, but can also be caused by recent recruitments being greater than past recruitments or expansion of the fishery into areas occupied by smaller skipjack. Any continued decline in average length is a concern. Neither analyses of tagging data, nor various previous models (length-structured, A-SCALA, and SEAPODYM) indicate a credible risk to the skipjack stock(s).

In conclusion:

- **Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. Clause C1.1 is met for this species.**
- **The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the proxy limit reference point. Clause C1.2 is met for this stock.**

References

Maunder, 2018. Updated indicators of stock status for skipjack tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.. In: Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Stock Assessment Report 19: Status of the tuna and billfish stocks in 2017. La Jolla, California 2018

https://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles/StockAssessmentReports/_English/No-19-2018_Status%20of%20the%20tuna%20and%20billfish%20stocks%20in%202017.pdf

IATTC Resolution C-17-02. CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR TROPICAL TUNAS IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN DURING 2018-2020 AND AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION C-17-01.

https://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles/Resolutions/IATTC/_English/C-17-02-Active_Tuna%20conservation%20in%20the%20EPO%202018-2020%20and%20amendment%20to%20resolution%20C-17-01.pdf

https://www.fishsource.org/stock_page/1039

Standard clauses 1.3.2.2