



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Skipjack tuna (Katsuwonus pelamis)* FAO 51 & 57

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO areas 51 & 57, Indian Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	United States (flag state(s): Ghana, Belize, Spain, France, Italy)
	Stock:	Skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean
Date	7 June 2023	
Report Code	USA06	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	United States (flag state(s): Ghana, Belize, Spain, France, Italy)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): The Scoular Company - Pioneer Food Cannery Limited (ID preserved)			
Country: United States			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Matthew Jew	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	Up to June 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
Stock	Skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean
Fishery Location	FAO areas 51 & 57, Indian Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	IOTC
Gear Type(s)	Longline, pole and line, and purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation
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 (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The most recent stock assessment for Indian Ocean skipjack tuna was conducted in 2020 with an executive summary published in 2022. Because this stock is not assessed annually, this report will reflect most of the same information presented in the previous year’s by-product assessment. The assessment considers skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean (which includes FAO Area 51 & 57) to be a single stock and this is the only stock under assessment.</p> <p>The 2020 assessment was carried out using Stock Synthesis III (SS3), a fully integrated model that is currently also used to provide scientific advice for the three tropical tuna stocks in the Indian Ocean. The stock is subject to a specific management regime, therefore it was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and it PASSES Clause C1.1. The stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean (FAO areas 51 & 57) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.0 by-products.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified the skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean under category C, as the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process, and the most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass well above the limit reference point: the fishery passes both clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, the skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean tuna is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust V2.0 by-products standards.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
N/A

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 a 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	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean	IOTC	C	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

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		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.	Yes
	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
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.

Skipjack tuna are caught using purse seine (54.4%), followed by baitboat (19%) and gillnet (17.8%). The remaining catches taken with other gears contributed to 8.8% of the total catches in recent years (Figure 1). Total catch has increased in recent years with a total of 650,331 tonnes landed in 2021. This value is on the upper end of the estimated target yield's (C_{40%SB0}) 80% CI (461,995 – 674,536). However, this value exceeds the catch limit calculated applying the HCR specified in Resolution 16/02 for the period 2021-2023 (513,572 t).

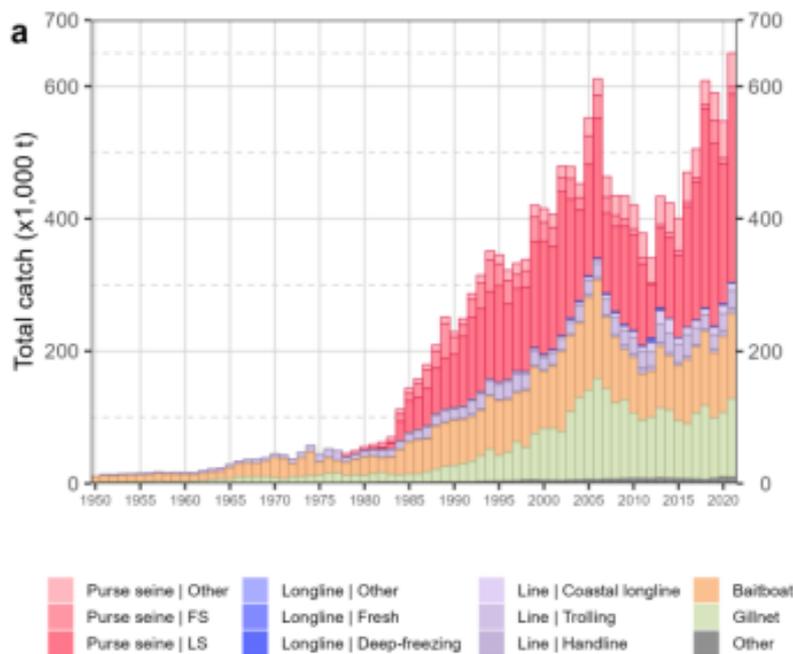


Figure 1. Long-term catches for skipjack tuna in FAO 51 & 57 from 1950 to 2021. Source: IOTC 2022.

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock PASSES clause C1.1.

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 for Indian Ocean albacore tuna was conducted in 2020 with an executive summary published in 2022. The stock Synthesis model estimates that the spawning biomass remains above SB_{MSY} and fishing mortality remains below E_{MSY} with very high probability. SB_{2019}/SB_{MSY} is equal to 1.99 (80% CI: 1.47 - 2.63) which means the stock is not overfished and E_{2019}/E_{MSY} is equal to 0.48 (80% CI: 0.35 - 0.81) which means the stock is not experiencing overfishing.

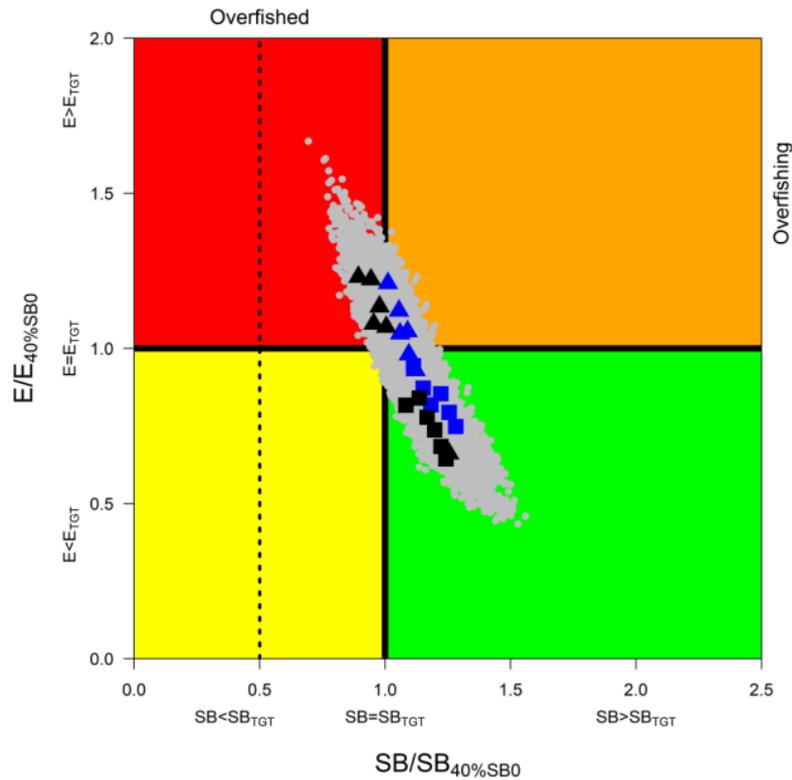


Figure 2. Skipjack tuna: SS3 Aggregated Indian Ocean assessment Kobe plot of the 2020 uncertainty grid. Symbols represent Maximum posterior density (MPD) estimates of current stock status relative to $SB_{40\%SB0}$ (x-axis) and $E_{40\%SB0}$ (y-axis) for the individual models (blue, no effort creep; black, additional effort creep; triangle, full weighting of tagging data; square, tagging data down weighted). Grey dots represent uncertainty from individual models. The vertical dashed line represents the limit reference point for Indian Ocean skipjack tuna ($SBlim = 20\%SB0$)
Source: IOTC 2022.

There is a 60.4% probability that skipjack tuna in the Indian Ocean is not overfished nor is it subject to overfishing.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

IOTC 2022. Appendix 3 Executive summary: skipjack tuna (2022). Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) & Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). https://iotc.org/sites/default/files/content/Stock_status/2022/Skipjack2022E.pdf

Links

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