



## MarinTrust Standard V2

### By-product Fishery Assessment

### ARG03

## Atlantic chub mackerel (*Scomber colias*) in FAO 41, North of 41°S

**MarinTrust Programme**

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: [standards@marin-trust.com](mailto:standards@marin-trust.com)

T: +44 2039 780 819

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

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Atlantic chub mackerel ( <i>Scomber colias</i> )["caballa"]
	Geographical area:	FAO 41, North of 41°S
	Country of origin of the product:	Argentina
	Stock:	Mar del Plata
Date	October 2024	
Report Code	ARG03	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Argentina	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Coomarpes Ltda			
Country: Argentina			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF / Global Trust Certification Ltd	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Re-approval
Assessment Period	October 2024 – October 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Atlantic chub mackerel ( <i>Scomber colias</i> ) ["caballa"]
Stock	Mar del Plata
Fishery Location	FAO 41, north of 41°S
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishing (Argentina)
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the 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 Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species - IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MarinTrust raw material. Atlantic chub mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>) ["caballa"] is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, Atlantic chub mackerel is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>Argentina recognizes two Atlantic chub mackerel fishery areas using as reference the parallel 39°S. The catches are mainly taken from the stock located south of 39° latitude, commonly known as the southern stock; while the inshore vessels exploit the northern stock of Atlantic chub mackerel (found north of 39° S), when it approaches the coast for reproductive purposes. Both fisheries are highly seasonal: the southern mackerel is mostly fished towards the end of winter and the beginning of spring, while fishing for the northern mackerel, located in waters at lower latitudes, is concentrated in the months of November and December. This by-product assessment refers to the stock "North of 41°S", which includes the northern stock and part of the southern stock; however, most of the catches come from the southern stock.</p> <p>Atlantic chub mackerel was assessed as a category C species considering that Argentina, through recommendations of the <i>Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero</i> - INIDEP, manages the stock by setting reference points and quotas.</p> <p>No new stock assessment has been released since the last MarinTrust assessment; thus, no major changes has been applied to this assessment. The latest stock assessment available for this stock was published in September 2022 and fishery removals were considered, thus the stock PASSES C1.1. The species is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point, thus it PASSES C.1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Atlantic chub mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>) in FAO 41, north of 41°S is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified Atlantic chub mackerel (<i>Scomber colias</i>) in FAO 41, Mar del Plata, north of 41°S under category C, as the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>The peer-reviewer noted that no new stock assessment has been released since the last MarinTrust assessment, thus no major changes has been applied to this assessment. 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 above the limit reference point. Consequently, the fishery passes both clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Atlantic chub mackerel in FAO 41, Mar del Plata, north of 41°S is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust V2.3 by-products standards</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 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Atlantic chub mackerel ("caballa")	<i>Scomber colias</i>	Mar del Plata, North of 41°S	Yes	C	LC <sup>3</sup>	No

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

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

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/170357/6767497>

## 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		Atlantic chub mackerel ( <i>Scomber colias</i> ) ["caballa", in Spanish]	
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

No new stock assessment has been released since the last MarinTrust assessment, thus no major changes has been applied to this assessment.

**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.**

The last stock assessment was published in 2021 by the *Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero* (INIDEP) using an age-structured production model, where catches data are considered for the analysis (Orlando *et al.* 2021). Landings data are reported each year and used also for population parameters analysis (Orlando *et al.* 2022) [Figure 1].



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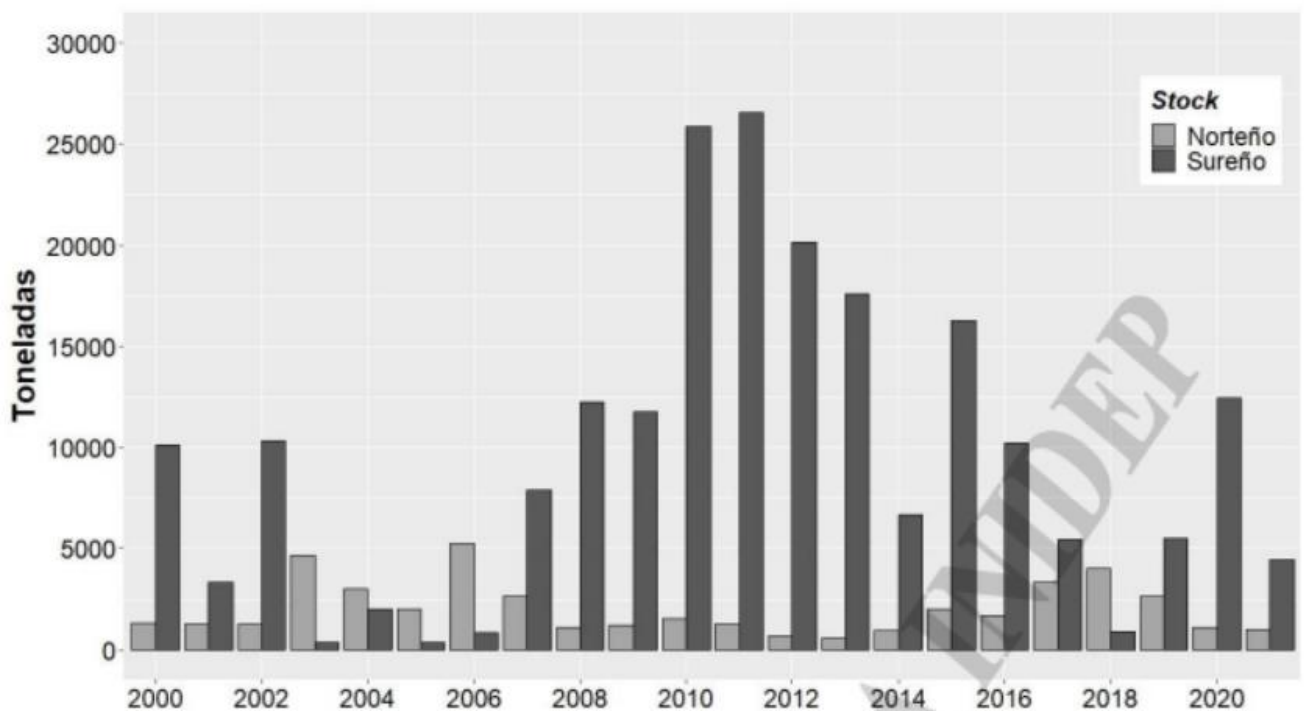


Figure 1. Atlantic chub mackerel landings in tons for this stock (Orlando *et al.* 2022)

Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. 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.

No available information about biomass levels for the northern stock (north of 39°S) was found; however, the 2021 assessment of the southern stock (south of 39°, where most of the catches occurs) indicates that the reproductive biomass estimated by the model (82,626t) was noticeably higher than the limit reference point (50,000t). Kobe plot indicates that the stock is not being overfished (Orlando *et al.* 2021) [Figure 2].

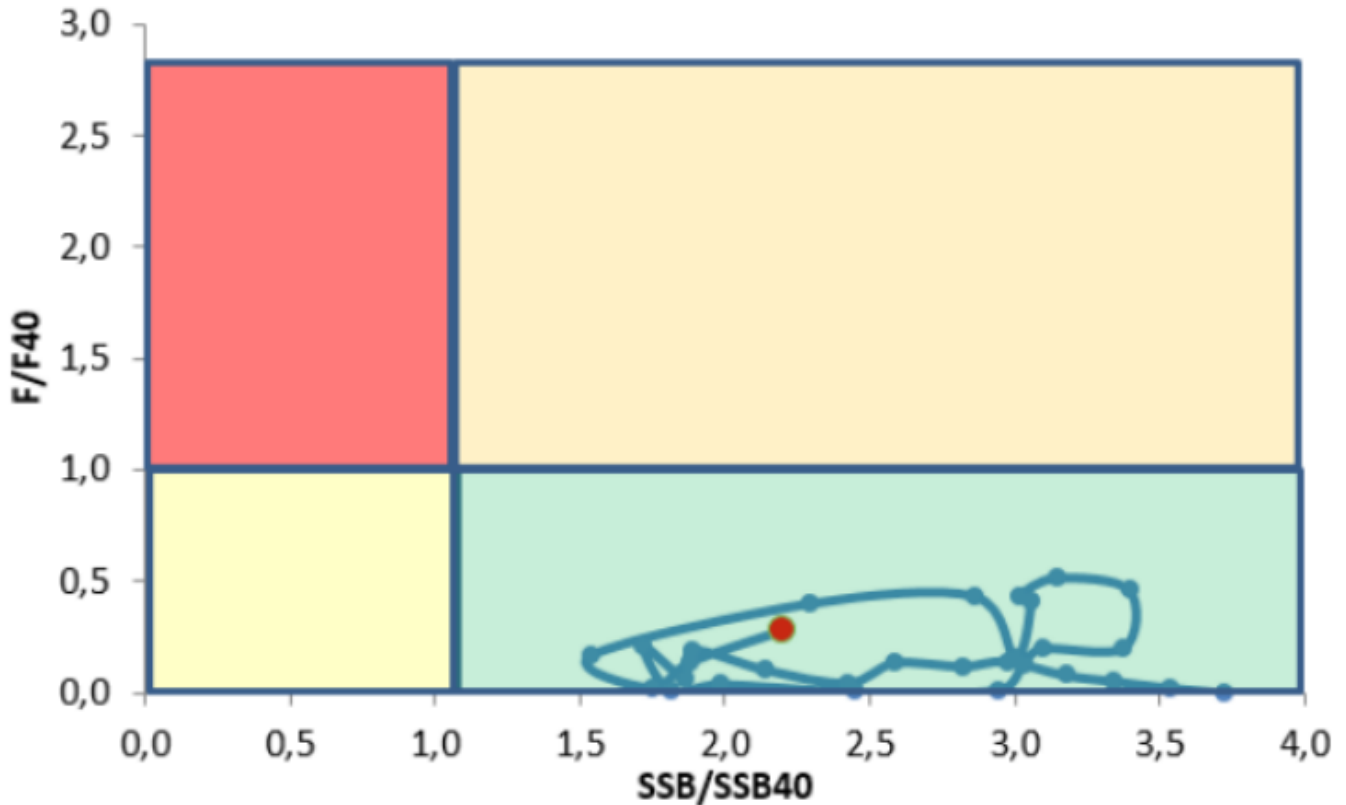


Figure 2. Atlantic chub mackerel Kobe plot (Orlando *et al.* 2021).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. C.1.2 is met.

**References**

Orlando P., Garciarena A.D., Buratti G.E. y Buratti C.C. 2022. Caballa (*Scomber colias*) capturas efectuadas por la flota comercial durante el año 2021 y estimación de parámetros poblacionales de interés biológico-pesquero. Inf Tec Oficial INIDEP N°052/22,11pp. <https://marabiertonew.inidep.edu.ar/server/api/core/bitstreams/b6753721-25c6-4a04-962a-8aaa00afcc10/content>

Orlando P., Buratti C.C., Garciarena A.D. and Buratti G.E. 2021. Evaluación del stock de caballa (*Scomber colias*) al sur del 39°S y recomendaciones de captura durante el año 2021. Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero

**Links**

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