



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment, ESP33

Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) FAO 61 (Pacific, Northwest), 71 (Pacific, Western Central)

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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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 61 (Pacific, Northwest) FAO 71 (Pacific, Western Central)
	Country of origin of the product:	Spain, Portugal
	Stock:	Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) skipjack
Date	October 2024	
Report Code	ESP33	
Assessor	Sam Dignan	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Spain, Portugal	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	Not applicable	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Sarval Bio - Industries S.L.U - Arteixo			
Country:			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Dignan	Phoebe Schouten	0.2	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	To December 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
Stock	Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) skipjack
Fishery Location	FAO 61 (Pacific, Northwest) FAO 71 (Pacific, Western Central)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) skipjack - Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and National authorities
Gear Type(s)	Longline, pole and line, purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	PASS

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Skipjack tuna has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>Two stocks of skipjack tuna in the Pacific are currently defined for management purposes which are nominally split based on the WCPO (Western and Central Pacific Ocean)/EPO (Eastern Pacific Ocean) boundary at 150°W:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Western Central Pacific skipjack tuna (west of 150°W), assessed and managed by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). 2) Eastern Pacific skipjack tuna (east of 150°W), assessed and managed by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). <p>On this basis, catches from FAO 61 (Pacific, Northwest) and FAO 71 (Pacific, Western Central), both of which have their easternmost boundaries at 175°W, can be assumed to come entirely from the Western Central Pacific skipjack tuna stock.</p> <p>Catch data from the fishery under assessment are included in stock assessments where the most recent assessment remains that conducted in 2022 which estimated stock status as being above the defined interim limit reference point. The next stock assessment of skipjack is scheduled for 2025.</p> <p>Overall, the by-product continues to meet relevant MT requirements such that continuing approval for use as a raw material is appropriate.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The peer reviewer agrees that the stock is correctly assessed under category C. The information provided by the assessor has been checked and is appropriate to justify the Passing score against C1.1 and C1.2, and therefore the assessor agrees that Skipjack tuna from FAO 61 and 71 should be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material.</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
Skipjack tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Western Central Pacific	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/170310/46644566>

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 (Western Central Pacific stock)	
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
<p>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> <p>Catches are not negligible and amounted to 1,512,600 mt in 2021, a 12% decrease from 2020. Catch data are available and are included in the stock assessment process such that C1.1 is met.</p>			
<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> <p>The most recent stock assessment of Western Central Pacific Ocean skipjack remains that conducted in 2022 where results indicated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. F_{recent}/F_{MSY} is estimated to be 0.32 (80% CI: 0.18 – 0.45), indicating that overfishing is not occurring. 2. $SSB_{recent}/SSB_{MSY} = 2.98$ (80% CI: 2.2 – 4.22) indicating that the stock is not in an overfished state. 3. The median estimate of MSY is 2.65 million meaning recent catches were below this level. <p>Overall, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the defined interim limit reference point such that C1.2 is met.</p> <p>The next stock assessment of skipjack is scheduled for 2025.</p>			

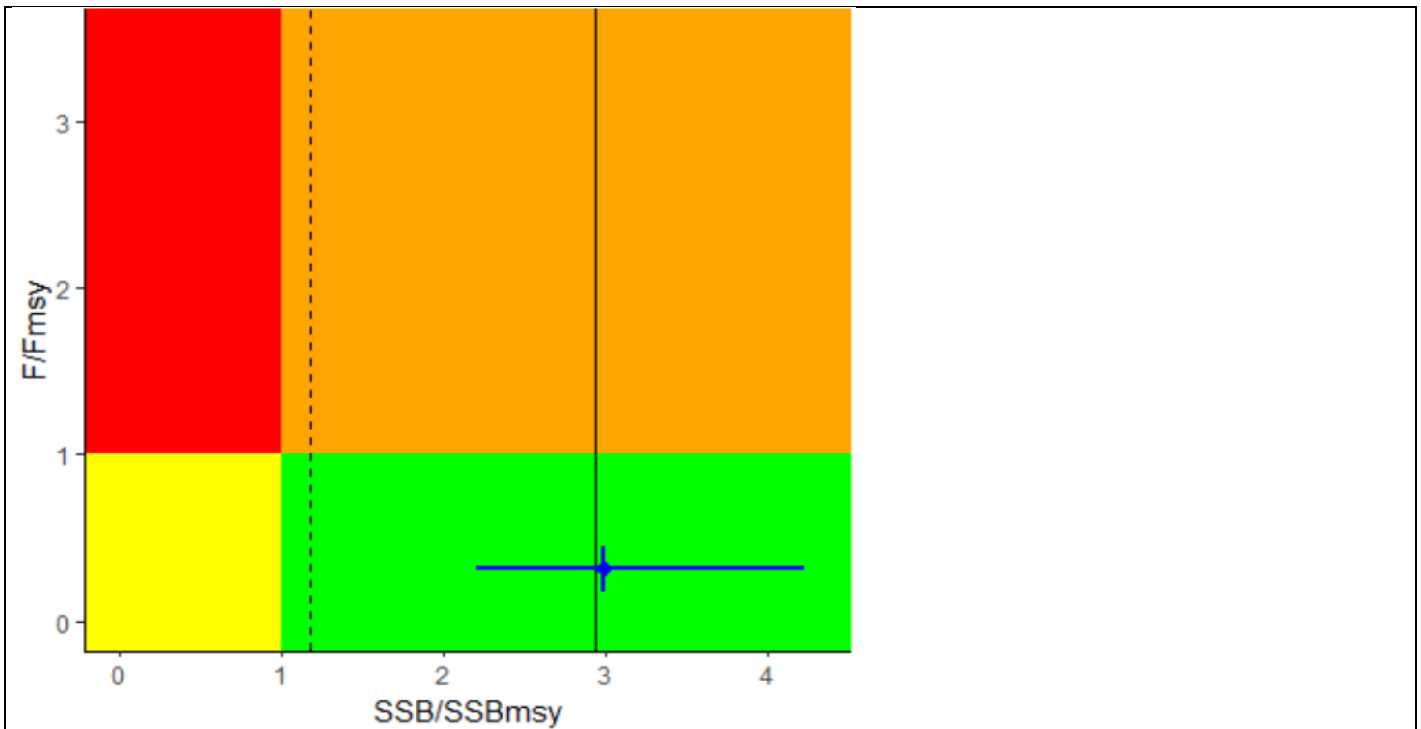


Figure 1. Latest estimate of SSB/SSB_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} for WCPO skipjack (blue dot, with range (80% CIs) indicated by bars). Solid and dashed black lines represent interim target and limit reference points respectively.

References

Castillo Jordán, C., Teears T., Hampton, J., Davies, N., Scutt Phillips, J., McKechnie, S., Peatman, T., Macdonald, J., Day, J., Magnusson, A., Scott, R., Scott, F., Pilling, G., and Hamer P. (2022). Stock assessment of skipjack tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean: 2022: <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/16242>

ISSF (2023). Status of the world fisheries for tuna. Mar. 2023. ISSF Technical Report 2023-01. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

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	High productivity (Low risk, score = 1)	Medium productivity (medium risk, score = 2)	Low productivity (high risk, score = 3)
Average age at maturity	<5 years	5-15 years	>15 years
Average maximum age	<10 years	10-25 years	>25 years
Fecundity	>20,000 eggs per year	100-20,000 eggs per year	<100 eggs per year
Average maximum size	<100 cm	100-300 cm	>300 cm
Average size at maturity	<40 cm	40-200 cm	>200 cm
Reproductive strategy	Broadcast spawner	Demersal egg layer	Live bearer
Mean Trophic Level	<2.75	2.75-3.25	>3.25

Susceptibility attributes	Low susceptibility (Low risk, score = 1)	Medium susceptibility (medium risk, score = 2)	High susceptibility (high risk, score = 3)
Areal overlap (availability) Overlap of the fishing effort with the species range	<10% overlap	10-30% overlap	>30% overlap
Encounterability The position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear, and the position of the stock/species within the habitat relative to the position of the gear	Low overlap with fishing gear (low encounterability).	Medium overlap with fishing gear.	High overlap with fishing gear (high encounterability). Default score for target species
Selectivity of gear type Potential of the gear to retain species	a Individuals < size at maturity are rarely caught	a Individuals < size at maturity are regularly caught.	a Individuals < size at maturity are frequently caught
	b Individuals < size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b Individuals < half the size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b Individuals < half the size at maturity are retained by gear.
Post-capture mortality (PCM) The chance that, if captured, a species would be released and that it would be in a condition permitting subsequent survival	Evidence of majority released post-capture and survival.	Evidence of some released post-capture and survival.	Retained species or majority dead when released.

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	