



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment SLV13 – Yellowfin tuna in FAO 61 and 71

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Fishery Under Assessment | Species: | Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) |
| | Geographical area: | FAO 61 Pacific Northwest FAO 71 Pacific Western Central |
| | Country of origin of the product: | El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, USA, Philippines |
| | Stock: | Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) Yellowfin Tuna |
| Date | June, 2024 | |
| Report Code | SLV13 | |
| Assessor | Jose Peiro Crespo | |
| Country of origin of the product - PASS | El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, USA, Philippines | |
| Country of origin of the product - FAIL | None | |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Application details and summary of the assessment outcome | | | |
| Company Name(s): Arteixo, Hijos de Emilio Ramirez SA - Pescave | | | |
| Country: Spain and Portugal | | | |
| Email address: | | Applicant Code: | |
| Certification Body Details | | | |
| Name of Certification Body: | | LRQA | |
| Assessor | Peer Reviewer | Assessment Days | Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval |
| Jose Peiro Crespo | Sam Peacock | 0.5 | Surveillance 2 |
| Assessment Period | June 2024 - June 2025 | | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Scope Details | |
| Main Species | Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) |
| Stock | Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) Yellowfin Tuna |
| Fishery Location | FAO 61 Pacific Northwest FAO 71 Pacific Western Central |
| Management Authority (Country/ State) | The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) |
| Gear Type(s) | |
| Outcome of Assessment | |
| Peer Review Evaluation | Agree with assessment outcome |
| Recommendation | Pass |

Table 2. Assessment Determination

| Assessment Determination |
|---|
| <p>Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) meets the eligibility criteria for approval as Marin Trust by-product raw material, as it is not categorized as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List (IUCN) (it is listed as Least Concern), nor does it appear in CITES appendices.</p> <p>For assessment and management purposes, two discrete stocks of yellowfin are recognised in the Pacific Ocean delimited:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) yellowfin, managed via the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). 2. Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) yellowfin, managed by the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). <p>This assessment refers only to the WCPO yellowfin tuna stock. The stock is assessed by the WCPFC using reference points. Therefore, they are assessed under category C.</p> <p>The assessment processes take into account fishery removals from the stock. Thus, the stock attains a pass against Clause C1.1. In the last stock assessment conducted for the stock in 2023, all models in the grid indicated that SSB was above the biomass limit reference point. Therefore, both stocks pass against C1.2.</p> <p>Consequently, Yellowfin tuna from FAO 61 and 71 has been granted approval for the production of fishmeal and fish oil, adhering to the existing MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p> |
| Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments |
| <p>The peer reviewer agrees that this species is eligible for assessment under the MarinTrust byproduct assessment methodology, and that the stock falls into Category C. The most recent stock assessment was adequate to meet the requirements of C1.1, and biomass is currently estimated to be above the limit reference point level, meeting the requirements of C1.2. Overall, the peer reviewer agrees that this stock should be approved as a source of byproduct raw material for MarinTrust certified facilities.</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 |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Yellowfin tuna | <i>Thunnus albacares</i> | WCPO | WCPFC | C | Least concern ³ | No |

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/21857/46624561>

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 | | Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</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. | | | |
| Western Central Pacific Yellowfin Tuna Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process via Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) processes. The preliminary estimate of total catch of WCPO yellowfin tuna for 2022 was 721,169 mt which was lower than the 2021 level. Longline catch in 2022 (84,232 mt) was higher than the 2021 catch, but lower than the recent 10-year average. Purse-seine catch in 2022 (379,715 mt) was similar to the 2021 catch, and higher than the recent 10-year average (Figure YFT-02). | | | |

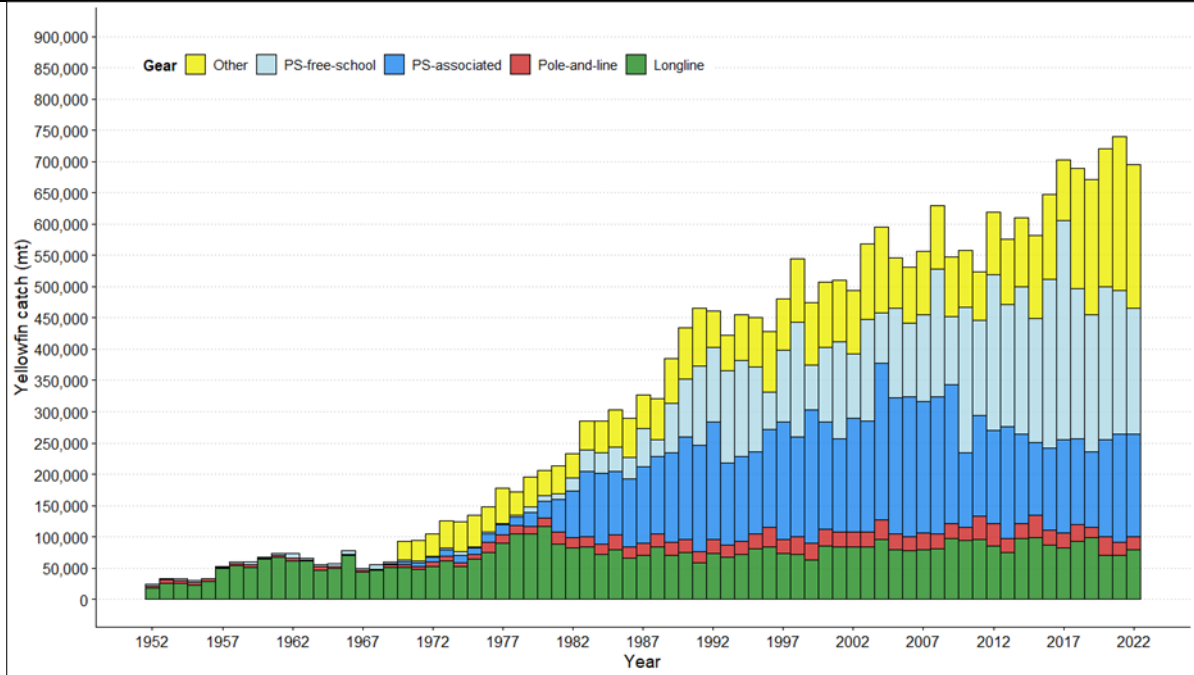


FIGURE 1 ANNUAL CATCHES OF YELLOWFIN BY GEAR TYPE IN THE WCPO AREA COVERED BY THE ASSESSMENT (FIGURE 3 FROM SC19-SA-WP-04) (WCPFC 2023).

Therefore, fishery removals of both stocks of relevance to this assessment are included in their respective stock assessment processes such that **the fishery 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 2023 WCPO yellowfin tuna assessment provides stock status based upon a 54-model structural uncertainty grid with four axes: steepness with three levels, tag mixing period with two levels, and size and age composition data with three levels each. The 2023 WCPO yellowfin tuna stock assessment median depletion from the model grid for the recent period (2018–2021; $SB_{recent}/SB_{F=0}$) was estimated at 0.47 (10th to 90th percentile interval of 0.42 to 0.52, including estimation and structural uncertainty). For all models in the grid $SB_{recent}/SB_{F=0}$ was above the biomass limit reference point. The recent median fishing mortality (2017–2020; F_{recent}/F_{MSY}) was 0.50 (10th to 90th percentile interval of 0.41 to 0.62, including estimation and structural uncertainty, Table YFT-02). For all models in the grid, F_{recent}/F_{MSY} was less than one. The stock is above Blim.

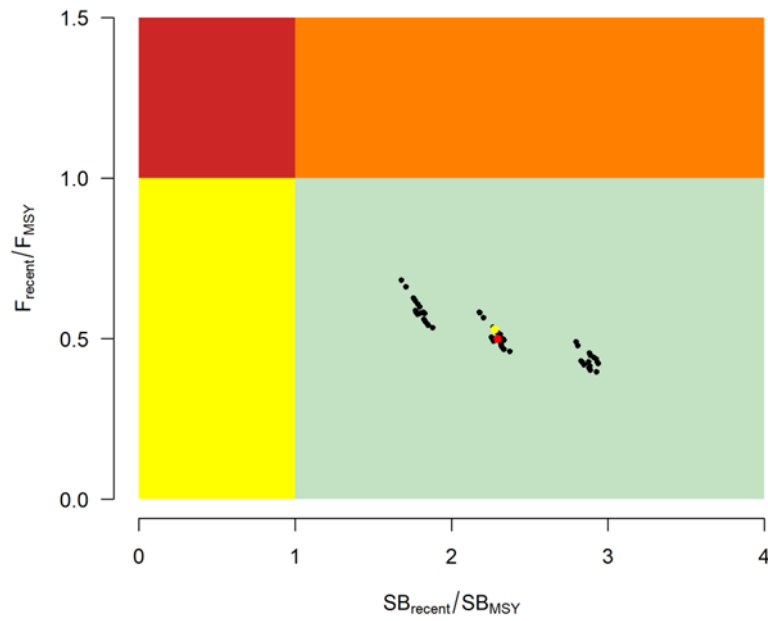


FIGURE 2 KOBE PLOT SUMMARISING THE RESULTS FOR EACH OF THE MODELS IN THE STRUCTURAL UNCERTAINTY GRID FOR THE RECENT PERIOD (2018-2021). THE YELLOW POINT IS THE 2023 DIAGNOSTIC MODEL AND THE RED POINT IS THE MEDIAN (FIGURE 64 FROM SC19-SA-WP-04) (WCPFC 2023).

Therefore, the fishery **passes Clause C1.2.**

References

WCPFC 2023. WCPFC YELLOWFIN TUNA (*Thunnus albacares*). STOCK STATUS AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE. Available at: <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/02/yellowfin-tuna>

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 | n/a | |
| | 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 | | | |
| <i>Standard clauses 1.3.2.2</i> | | | |

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 | n/a |
|---|---|----------------|-----------------|
| 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 | |