

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Thailand (FAO areas 34, 51, 57, 61, 71,77)</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>April 2017</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: Thailand	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global, Ireland	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Virginia Polonio	Re- certification
1. Scope of Assessment		
	By-Product re-certification review year 2016	
2. Fishery By-Product		
	Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> )	
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
	Thailand	
4. Fishery Method		
	Longline, pole and line, purse seine, troll	
5. Outcome of Assessment		
	Approve byproduct	

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
There are legal, administrative and research frameworks in place at the national and international levels, and there is evidence that these are applied specifically to skipjack tuna. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct material.

4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME	
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.
<b>Determination: There are effective legal and administrative frameworks in place at the national and international levels, and these appear to be effectively applied specifically to skipjack tuna.</b>	
<b>National</b>	
<p>The Thailand Department of Fisheries (DOF) is the primary fishery management organisation in Thailand. The DOF is responsible for the implementation of Thai fishery legislation, the undertaking of fishery and aquaculture research, fishery control and enforcement, the management of international fishery affairs, and the engagement of fishery and aquaculture stakeholders. The current Thai fisheries management objectives are set out in The Master Plan – Marine Fisheries Management in Thailand. The Master Plan applies for the ten years beginning in 2009. The Plan includes five major strategies, the third of which is “Development and Promotion of Responsible and Sustainable Fisheries”.</p>	
<b>International</b>	
<p>As widely distributed and highly migratory species, the management of most tunas is necessarily internationally-focussed. Many tuna stocks are managed by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) which coordinate the scientific output and management approach of their member states with regards to tuna. Thailand is a member of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and a co-operating non-member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The IATTC is responsible for the conservation and management of tuna and other marine resources in the eastern Pacific Ocean and in the Atlantic the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). All of these RFMOs include skipjack tuna within their remit.</p>	
<b>Species-Specific</b>	
<p>The IOTC has implemented a number of conservation and management measures specific to the skipjack tuna. These include resolutions on the limitation of fishing capacity, a ban on discarding, the establishment of target and limit reference points, and a number of measures aimed at ensuring the accurate recording of catch and effort. The WCPFC has also implemented species-specific measures, including a target fishing mortality (at or below <math>F_{MSY}</math>) and a ban on discards. IATTC and ICCAT management measures include gear and vessel restrictions, limited entry, seasonal and regional closures, and some country-specific quotas.</p>	
R2 – R7	
B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE	
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE	
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.

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<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.
<p><b><i>Determination: Research to support the management of the stock is coordinated by the tuna RFMOs, and appears to be of sufficient detail to permit full stock assessments and management recommendations.</i></b></p> <p><b>National</b></p> <p>Research supporting the management of Thai fisheries is the responsibility of two main organisations. The Marine Fisheries Research and Development Bureau (MFRDB) within the DOF is responsible for marine fisheries research. The Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR) is mandated to study and enhance mangrove forests, sea grass, coral reefs, and marine animals. The DMCR is responsible for the rehabilitation of natural resources and the environment and has elaborated main strategies with an emphasis on the role of public participation in preservation, protection, conservation, utilization and rehabilitation of natural resources through proactive and integrated natural resources management.</p> <p><b>International</b></p> <p>Management of skipjack by the IOTC and WCPFC is supported by concerted data collection and stock assessment efforts. The IOTC produces regular stock assessments which are made available on its website, the most recent of which reported that the total catch of skipjack in 2015 in the Indian Ocean was 393,954t (Where MSY is estimated to be 684,000t). The WCPFC also conducts stock assessment activities, but does not make the results publically available. However, the 2015 tuna fishery yearbook reported that total catches of skipjack tuna in the commission area were 1,831,440t.</p> <p>ICCAT uses international data to produce a stock assessment report for skipjack tuna every 4 years. The most recent of these was produced in 2014, utilising both an age-structured model and a non-equilibrium production model to produce estimates of stock size and MSY. ICCAT also produces distribution maps and summaries of catch by country and location.</p> <p>The IATTC produces regular fishery status reports, the most recent of which was published in 2016. Skipjack tuna is a notoriously difficult species to assess. Due to its high and variable productivity (<i>i.e.</i> annual recruitment is a large proportion of total biomass), it is difficult to detect the effect of fishing on the population with standard fisheries data and stock assessment methods. Data and model based indicators such as; 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 un-associated (NOA) fisheries are used to assess the exploitation rate.</p> <p>R2, R7 - 9</p>	

<b>C. STOCK STATUS</b>	
<b>LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE</b>	
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>	
<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.

**Determination: The byproduct does not come from a species which is categorised by the IUCN as vulnerable or endangered.**

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The IUCN redlist continues to categorise skipjack tuna as ‘least concern’, and the species does not appear in the CITES appendices.

Skipjack tuna stocks are MSC certified for 2 fisheries in Pacific (PNA and Tri-Marine) and Indian Ocean (Maldives-MSPEA).

R10,11

**5. REFERENCES**

R1 – Skipjack tuna image <https://iccat.int/Images/species/skj1.gif>

R2 - FAO country fisheries overview, Thailand: [ftp://ftp.fao.org/Fi/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI\\_CP\\_TH.pdf](ftp://ftp.fao.org/Fi/DOCUMENT/fcp/en/FI_CP_TH.pdf)

R3 – Thailand Department of Fisheries master plan:  
<http://www.fisheries.go.th/planning/files/Marine%20Master%20Plan.pdf>

R4 – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission: <http://www.wcpfc.int/>

R5 – Indian Ocean Tuna Commission: <http://www.iotc.org/about-iotc/structure-commission>

R6 – IOTC tuna stock status summary, 2016:  
[http://www.iotc.org/sites/default/files/documents/science/species\\_summaries/english/Skipjack%20tuna%20Executive%20Summary.pdf](http://www.iotc.org/sites/default/files/documents/science/species_summaries/english/Skipjack%20tuna%20Executive%20Summary.pdf)

R7 – WCPFC skipjack tuna conservation and management measures:  
<http://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/CMM%202013-01%20CMM%20for%20bigeye%20yellowfin%20%26%20skipjac%20tuna.pdf>

R8 – WCPFC tuna fishery yearbook, 2015: [https://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/YB\\_2015.pdf](https://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/YB_2015.pdf)

R9 – Inter- American Tropical Tuna Commission <https://www.iattc.org/HomeENG.htm>

R10 -ICCAT International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas  
<https://www.iccat.int/en/introduction.htm>

R10 - IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R11 - MSC - [https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/indian-ocean/maldives\\_pole\\_line\\_tuna/assessment-downloads-1/20160415\\_SR\\_TUN071.pdf](https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/indian-ocean/maldives_pole_line_tuna/assessment-downloads-1/20160415_SR_TUN071.pdf)  
[https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/pna\\_western\\_central\\_pacific\\_tuna\\_unassociated\\_nonFAD\\_purse seine](https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/pna_western_central_pacific_tuna_unassociated_nonFAD_purse seine)

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<https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries-in-the-program/certified/pacific/tri-marine-western-and-central-pacific-skipjack-and-yellowfin-tuna>

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