



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Report: Skipjack Tuna FAO 51 & 57

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:	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 51 & 57 Indian Ocean, Western and Eastern
	Country of origin of the product:	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal
	Stock:	Indian Ocean skipjack tuna
Date	08/12/2021	
Report Code	BP248	
Assessor	Virginia Polonio	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	Not applicable	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Name: Sarval Bio-industries Noroeste, S.A.U: Arteixo			
Address:			
Country: Mauritius		Zip:	
Tel. No.:		Fax. No.:	
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Key Contact:		Title:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification Limited	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Virginia Polonio	Conor Donnelly	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	To December 2021		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>)
Stock	Indian Ocean skipjack tuna
Fishery Location	FAO 51 & 57 Indian Ocean, Western and Eastern
Management Authority (Country/ State)	IOTC and El Salvador, Ecuador, Spain, Panama, Portugal fisheries department
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine, baitboat, gillnet and other
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval.
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If a 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 MarinTrust RS raw material.</p> <p>Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Least Concern (LC) and is not listed in CITES such that skipjack derived products are eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust RS by-product raw material.</p> <p>Skipjack in the Indian Ocean are considered to comprise a single stock for assessment and management purposes; therefore, this assessment covers that stock.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the stock assessment processes so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1.</p> <p>As of the latest assessment, stock status biomass is considered to be above the corresponding limit reference such that the stock PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>As the fishery passes both Clause C1.1 and C1.2, the by-product covered by this report is recommended for APPROVAL for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust RS v 2.0 by-product standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified Indian Ocean skipjack as category C, reference points are defined to assess status of the stocks relative to.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1. The Indian Ocean skipjack stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point. Therefore, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, Indian Ocean skipjack is APPROVED.</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 Redlist 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>	Indian Ocean skipjack tuna	IOTC	C	Globally: Least Concern (LC)	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a whole fish assessment, Category C species are those which make up less than 5% of landings, but which are subject to a species-specific management regime. In most cases this will be because they are a commercial target in a fishery other than the one under assessment.

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 may be assessed as a Category D species instead, EXCEPT if there is evidence that it is currently below the limit reference point.

Species Name		Indian Ocean skipjack tuna
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.

Fishery removals of the stock under assessment are included in the IOTC stock assessment process with skipjack catches being available to view through the IOTC Online Data Querying Service and are summarised annually (Figure 1 below). Given the inclusion of removals from the fishery under assessment in IOTC stock assessment processes, **the fishery achieves a PASS against C1.1.**

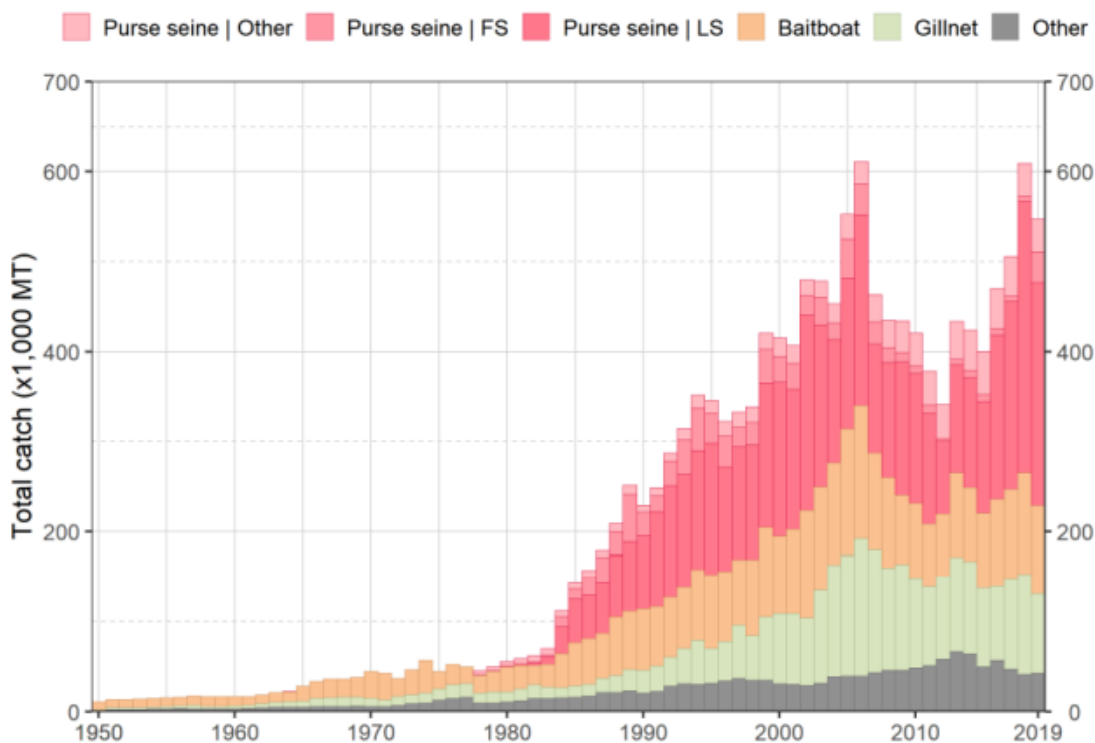


Figure 1. Annual time series of (a) cumulative nominal catches (MT) by gear and (b) individual nominal catches (MT) by gear group for skipjack tuna during 1950–2019. Source IOCT

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.

A new stock assessment was carried out for skipjack tuna in 2020 using data up to 2019 (IOTC–2020–SC23–ES03). Stock status and current exploitation rate are estimated above target ($SSB_{2019}/SSB_{40\%SSB_0} = 1.11$ (0.95 – 1.29)) and just below ($E_{2019}/E_{40\%SSB_0} = 0.92$ (0.67 – 1.21)) their respective targets. Model-estimated spawning biomass remains above SSB_{MSY} ($SSB_{2019}/SSB_{MSY} = 1.99$ (1.47 – 2.63)) with very high probability.

With respect to the status of the stock with respect to its limit reference point (or proxy), the adopted limit reference point is $0.2 * SSB_0$ and the latest estimate is that $SSB_{2019}/SSB_0 = 0.45$ (0.38 – 0.5); therefore, the stock can be considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above its limit reference point (or proxy) such that **the stock achieves a PASS against C1.2.**

References

- IOTC–2020–SC23–ES03. Draft Resource Stock Status Summary Skipjack Tuna (SKJ: Katsuwonus pelamis), available at: <https://www.iotc.org/documents/skipjack-tuna>.
- IOTC-2020-WPTT22(AS)-DATA03. IOTC Nominal Catches by Fleet, Year, Gear, IOTC Area and Species, 2020: <https://www.iotc.org/WPTT/22AS/Data/03-NC>.
- IOTC Online Data Querying Service: <https://www.iotc.org/node/6240>.

Links

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