



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *Report USA Western Atlantic Skipjack Tuna FAO Areas 31 and 41*

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 Areas 31 and 41 Western Atlantic ICCAT
	Country of origin of the product:	Ghana, Belize, Spain, France, Italy (Flag States)
	Stock:	Western Atlantic Skipjack
Date	June 2022	
Report Code	USA05	
Assessor	Ivan Mateo, Ph.D.	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Ghana, Belize, Spain, France, Italy (Flag States)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): The Scoular Company IP Model			
Country: USA			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ivan Mateo, Ph.D.	Vito Romito	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	To June 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack Tuna, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>
Stock	Western Atlantic Skipjack
Fishery Location	FAO 31, 41 Western Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
Gear Type(s)	Longline, pole & line, and purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Approve
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MARINTRUST raw material. Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) is not listed as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor it is listed in CITES appendices; therefore, West Atlantic skipjack tuna is eligible for approval for use as MARIN TRUST by-product raw material.</p> <p>There are two stocks of skipjack tuna in the Atlantic. This assessment covers the Western Atlantic skipjack tuna stock.</p> <p>This stock is managed at the international level by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). ICCAT conducts stock assessments; reference points are defined for the Western Atlantic skipjack tuna stock. Therefore, the stock was assessed under category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals of the stock are considered in the stock assessment processes so the stock PASSES Clause C1.1.</p> <p>In the most recent stock assessment, the stock is considered to have a biomass above the limit reference point, the stocks PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>In order to be approved, the stock under assessment must pass both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Western Atlantic skipjack tuna passes both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2, and therefore is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v.2.2 by-product Standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The stock was correctly assessed as a Category C stock. The most recent stock assessment report is a 2018 ICCAT update covering the most recent information on the stock status. The model used was a non-equilibrium surplus biomass production model that includes catch data. The stock assessment determined that the stock is not overfished and that overfishing is not occurring, and that biomass is likely to be above BMSY.</p> <p>Western Atlantic skipjack tuna passes both Clauses C1.1 and C1.2. The reviewer agrees that this stock shall be APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current Marin Trust v.2.2 by-product Standard.</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 ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Skipjack tuna	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Western Atlantic Skipjack tuna	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)	C	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

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, <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</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.

In the West Atlantic the major fishery is the Brazilian baitboat fishery, followed by the Venezuelan purse seine fleet. The preliminary estimates of catches in 2018 made in the West Atlantic amounted to 22,873 t (there still remains an estimate 10.1% non-reported catch, for which in general the average of the last three years has been assumed), lower than the historic record of 40,272 t in 1985.

The stock assessment is conducted by ICCAT using catch data. Skipjack catches in the Western Atlantic by gear for the 1950-2018 period are shown in Figure 1. Therefore, the stock **PASSES** Clause C1.1.

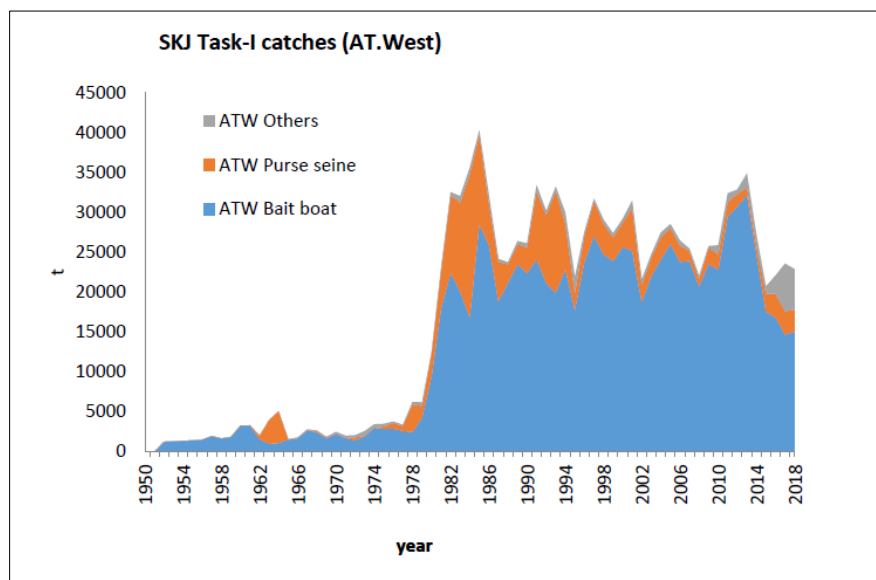


Figure 1. Skipjack catches in the western Atlantic, by gear (1950-2017). The values for 2018 are preliminary.

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 stock assessment was conducted by ICCAT in 2014 using catch data available to 2013. The most recent stock assessment report is a 2018 update covering the most recent information on the stock status. The model used was a non-equilibrium surplus biomass production model. The stock assessment determined that the stock is not overfished and that overfishing is not occurring (Table 3, Figure 2). B2013 is likely to be above BMSY.

Table 3. West Atlantic Skipjack tuna stock status summary.

Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)	Around 30,000-32,000 t
Current yield (2018 ¹)	22,873 t
Current Replacement Yield	Somewhat below 32,000 t
Relative Biomass (B ₂₀₁₃ /B _{MSY})	Probably close to 1.3
Mortality due to Fishing (F ₂₀₁₃ /F _{MSY})	Probably close to 0.7
Stock Status	
Overfished:	Not
Overfishing	Not
Management measures in force	None

¹Reports of catches for 2018 should be considered provisional.

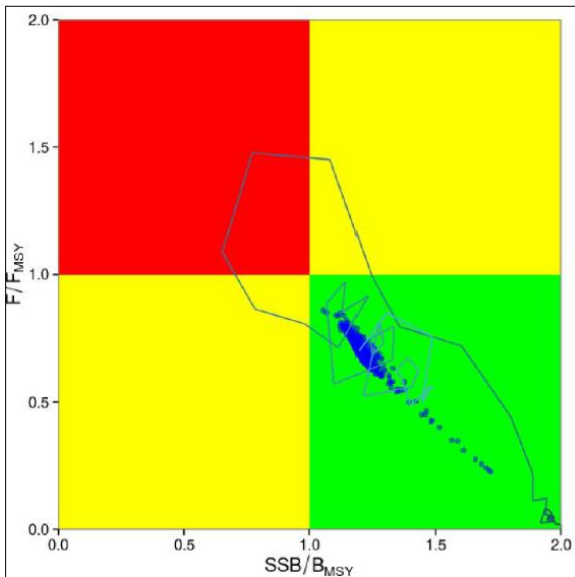


Figure 2. Western Atlantic skipjack stock status: trajectories of B/BMSY and F/FMSY from the ASPIC surplus production model (Schaefer type).

References

Collette, B., Acero, A., Amorim, A.F., Boustany, A., Canales Ramirez, C., Cardenas, G., Carpenter, K.E., de Oliveira Leite Jr., N., Di Natale, A., Fox, W., Fredou, F.L., Graves, J., Guzman-Mora, A., Viera Hazin, F.H., Juan Jorda, M., Kada, O., Minte Vera, C., Miyabe, N., Montano Cruz, R., Nelson, R., Oxenford, H., Salas, E., Schaefer, K., Serra, R., Sun, C., Teixeira Lessa, R.P., Pires Ferreira Travassos, P.E., Uozumi, Y. & Yanez, E. 2011. *Katsuwonus pelamis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2011*: e.T170310A6739812. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2011-2.RLTS.T170310A6739812.en>.

ICCAT Stock Assessment and Executive Summary – Skipjack tuna. <https://www.iccat.int/en/assess.html>

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	Low productivity/ High risk	Medium productivity/ Medium risk	High productivity/ Low risk
	Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Average age at maturity (years)	>4	2 to 4	<2
Average maximum age (years)	>30	10 to 30	<10
Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	<1 000	1 000 to 10 000	>10 000
Average maximum size (cm)	>150	60 to 150	<60
Average size at maturity (cm)	>150	30 to 150	<30
Reproductive strategy	Live bearer, mouth brooder or significant parental investment	Demersal spawner "berried"	Broadcast spawner
Mean trophic level	>3.25	2.5–3.25	<2.5

Susceptibility attributes		High susceptibility/ High risk	Medium susceptibility/ Medium risk	Low susceptibility/ Low risk
		Score 3	Score 2	Score 1
Availability	1) Overlap of adult species range with fishery	>50% of stock occurs in the area fished	Between 25% and 50% of the stock occurs in the area fished	<25% of stock occurs in the area fished
	2) Distribution	Only in the country/ fishery	Limited range in the region	Throughout region/ global distribution
Encounterability	1) Habitat	Habitat preference of species make it highly likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. demersal, muddy/sandy bottom)	Habitat preference of species make it moderately likely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. rocky bottom/reefs)	Depth or distribution of species make it unlikely to encounter trawl gear (e.g. epi-pelagic or meso-pelagic)
	2) Depth range	High overlap with trawl fishing gear (20 to 60 m depth)	Medium overlap with trawl fishing gear (10 to 20 m depth)	Low overlap with trawl fishing gear (0 to 10 m, >70 m depth)
Selectivity		Species >2 times mesh size or up to 4 m length	Species 1 to 2 times mesh size or 4 to 5 m length	Species <mesh size or >5 m length
Post capture mortality		Most dead or retained Trawl tow >3 hours	Alive after net hauled Trawl tow 0.5 to 3 hours	Released alive Trawl tow <0.5 hours

Note: Availability 2 is only used when there is no information for Availability 1; the most conservative score between Encounterability 1 and 2 is used.

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	