



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment *Skipjack Tuna, American Samoa*

**MarinTrust Programme**

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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:	Pacific Ocean, FAO Major Fishing Area 71 (Pacific, Western Central)
	Country of origin of the product:	American Samoa
	Stock:	Skipjack Tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean
Date	June 2022	
Report Code	ESP21	
Assessor	Sam Peacock	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	American Samoa	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	None	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Sarval Bio-industries Noroeste			
Country: Spain			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Peacock	Kate Morris	0.3	Surveillance
Assessment Period	June 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Skipjack tuna ( <i>Katsuwonus Pelamis</i> )
Stock	Skipjack Tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean
Fishery Location	Pacific Ocean, FAO Major Fishing Area 71 (Pacific, Western Central)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	National: Spain International: Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)
Gear Type(s)	Gillnet, including offshore gillnet; Pole-and-Line; Purse seine free-school (FS) and Purse seine associated school (LS); Other gears (e.g., troll line, handline, beach seine, Danish seine, liftnet).
Outcome of Assessment	
Overall Outcome	Approve
Clauses Failed	None
Peer Review Evaluation	Approve
Recommendation	Approve

## Table 2. Assessment Determination

<b>Assessment Determination</b>
<p>Skipjack tuna is classified by the IUCN as Least Concern, and does not appear in the CITES appendices. As the stock under assessment is managed through reference points it was assessed using Category C.</p> <p>There has been no substantial new information on the skipjack tuna stock in the Western Pacific Ocean since the time of the initial assessment in 2020. The stock assessment conducted in 2019 remains the most recent, although an updated assessment is due in 2022.</p> <p>As there has been no new information, the conclusions of the initial assessment remain in place: fishery landings are incorporated into the stock assessment process, and the stock is above the limit reference point according to the most recent stock assessment. The byproduct should remain approved for use as a MarinTrust raw material.</p>
<b>Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments</b>
<p>The by-product fishery under assessment here is the Western pacific ocean Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus Pelamis</i>) fishery, targeted by American Samoa vessels in FAO 71. Skipjack tuna is managed according to bi-lateral agreements and the WCPFC HCR. Skipjack tuna is correctly classified by the auditor as category C species and the C1 scoring table has been completed by the auditor with sufficient evidence to support their final determination. The fishery under assessment passes C1 scoring.</p> <p>The peer review supports the auditor’s recommendation to approve this fishery under the Marin Trust v2.0 by-product standard for the production of fishmeal and fish oil.</p>
<b>Notes for On-site Auditor</b>
<p>There is nothing to highlight to the onsite auditor at this stage.</p>

## 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Skipjack Tuna	<i>Katsuwonus Pelamis</i>	Western Pacific Ocean	Yes (WCPFC)	C	Least Concern <sup>3</sup>	No

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

<sup>3</sup> <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 ( <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
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>The most recent stock assessment for skipjack tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean remains the 2019 assessment identified in the initial MT assessment (WCPFC 2022a). The initial MT assessment noted that fishery removals are included in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) stock assessment process, and that total provisional catch in 2018 was 1,795,048t. Since that time landings data have become available for subsequent years as follows (WCPFC 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final 2018 catch = 1,850,039t</li> <li>2019 = 2,041,738t</li> <li>2020 = 1,754,082t.</li> </ul> <p>Fishery removals were included in the 2019 stock assessment, and will be included in the upcoming 2022 stock assessment, therefore C1.1 is met.</p>			
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>As noted above, the most recent stock assessment for skipjack tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean remains the 2019 assessment identified in the initial MT assessment. An updated stock assessment is due in 2022 (WCPFC 2022). The 2019 stock assessment concluded that the probability that the stock biomass was below the limit reference point was approximately 0% (WCPFC 2019). Skipjack tuna is managed by the WCPFC using a harvest strategy set out in 2020 (WCPFC 2020). The stock has not historically been estimated to be below the target reference point and therefore harvest control rules remain under development. However, the harvest strategy includes proposals for harvest control rules which could be applied if the stock were to approach the limit reference point (WCPFC 2022b).</p> <p>There have been no significant changes since the initial assessment and the byproduct continues to meet the requirements of C1.2.</p>			
<p><b>References</b></p> <p>WCPFC (2019). Skipjack tuna stock status and management advice. <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/03/skipjack-tuna">https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/03/skipjack-tuna</a></p> <p>WCPFC (2020). Updating the WCPO skipjack operating modelas for the 2019 stock assessment. <a href="https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/11723">https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/11723</a></p> <p>WCPFC (2021). WCPFC Tuna Fishery Yearbook 2020. <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/wcpfc-tuna-fishery-yearbook-2020">https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/wcpfc-tuna-fishery-yearbook-2020</a></p>			

WCPFC (2022a). Overview of stocks of Interest to the WCPFC. <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/00/overview-stocks-interest-wcpfc>

WCPFC (2022b). WCPFC Harvest Strategy. <https://www.wcpfc.int/harvest-strategy>

**Links**

<b>MarinTrust Standard clause</b>	1.3.2.2
<b>FAO CCRF</b>	7.5.3
<b>GSSI</b>	D.3.04, D5.01