



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment

## *Albacore tuna, Spain*

**MarinTrust Programme**

Unit C, Printworks

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**Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome**

|   |                                   |   |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Fishery Under Assessment                | Species:                          | Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> ) |
|   | Geographical area:                | FAO Area 27, Atlantic Northeast           |
|   | Country of origin of the product: | Spain                                     |
|   | Stock:                            | Atlantic albacore tuna, Northern stock    |
| Date                                    | June 2022                         |   |
| Report Code                             | ESP25                             |   |
| Assessor                                | Sam Peacock                       |   |
| Country of origin of the product - PASS | Spain                             |   |
| Country of origin of the product - FAIL | None                              |   |

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

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Scope Details</b>                  |   |
| Main Species                          | Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )                               |
| Stock                                 | Atlantic albacore tuna, Northern stock                                  |
| Fishery Location                      | FAO Area 27, Atlantic Northeast   |
| Management Authority (Country/ State) | International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) |
| Gear Type(s)                          | Longlines and purse seines  |
| <b>Outcome of Assessment</b>          |   |
| Overall Outcome                       | Approve   |
| Clauses Failed                        | None  |
| Peer Review Evaluation                | Approve   |
| Recommendation                        | Approve   |

## Table 2. Assessment Determination

| <b>Assessment Determination</b>  |
|--|
| <p>Albacore tuna is categorised by the IUCN as Least Concern, and does not appear in the CITES appendices. It is managed via reference points and therefore was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>As previously, this MT assessment covers the Northern Atlantic albacore tuna stock; it does not cover the Southern or Mediterranean stocks.</p> <p>There has been no new stock assessment since the previous MT assessment. The 2020 stock assessment incorporated catch data and concluded that the stock was well above both the limit and target reference points. This is thought my managers to be the result of the management measures which were put in place in response to the stock becoming overfished between the 1970s and 2000s, and which have been effective at rebuilding the stock.</p> <p>The byproduct continues to meet the MT requirements and therefore its approval for use as a raw material should be maintained.</p> |
| <b>Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments</b>   |
| <p>The by-product fishery under assessment here is the North Atlantic (NA) Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) fishery, targeted by Spanish vessels in FAO 27. NA Albacore tuna is managed by the Spanish government according to bi-lateral agreements and the ICCAT 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> |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Albacore tuna | <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> | Northern Atlantic albacore tuna | Yes        | 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/21856/46911332>

## 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  |  | Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</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>According to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the most recent stock assessment conducted for North Atlantic albacore tuna remains the one identified by the previous MT assessment, conducted in 2020 and using the available data up to 2018 (ICCAT 2020). Fishery removals are recorded and included in the stock assessment process. At the time of the previous MT assessment, catch data were available up to and include 2019, when total catch by all nations was estimated to be 34,772t, of which 16,536t was caught by Spain. Catch information is now also available for 2020, in which 31,233t of Northern stock albacore was caught (ICCAT 2022).</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment process, 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 the most recent stock assessment remains the one identified by the previous MT assessment, the conclusions remain unchanged. Biomass in 2019 was estimated to be 508,074t, against <math>B_{MSY}</math> of 392,556t. Similarly, fishing mortality was estimated to be around 62% of <math>F_{MSY}</math>. For these reasons the stock was considered not to be overfished and not subject to overfishing. The stock biomass was well above the limit reference point in the most recent stock assessment (ICCAT 2020).</p> <p>The Northern albacore stock was estimated to be overfished between the 1970s and 2000s, but management measures put in place were effective at allowing the stock to recover. Management measures still in place include an annual TAC and a limit on the total number of vessels, to the 1993-95 average.</p> <p>There have been no substantial changes in the available information since the previous MT assessment, and therefore C1.2 continues to be met.</p> |  |  |                      |
| <p><b>References</b></p> <p>ICCAT (2020). Advice to the commission – albacore tuna. <a href="https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/ALB_ENG.pdf">https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/ALB_ENG.pdf</a></p> <p>ICCAT (2022). ICCAT Statistical bulletin Vol. 47 Section 2. <a href="https://www.iccat.int/sbull/SB47-2022/s2.html">https://www.iccat.int/sbull/SB47-2022/s2.html</a></p>  |  |  |                      |
| <b>Links</b>  |  |  |                      |
| <b>MarinTrust Standard clause</b>   |  | 1.3.2.2  |                      |
| <b>FAO CCRF</b>   |  | 7.5.3  |                      |
| <b>GSSI</b>   |  | D.3.04, D5.01  |                      |