MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

Albacore tuna (Thunnus alalunga) in FAO 47, south-eastern Atlantic

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Albacore tuna *(Thunnus alalunga*)
	Geographical area:	FAO area 47, south-eastern Atlantic Ocean
	Country of origin of the product:	Spain (flag state(s) not provided by client)
	Stock:	South Atlantic Ocean albacore tuna
Date	20 July 2023	
Report Code	ESP35	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Spain (flag state(s) not provided by client)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Arteixo, Conserveros Reunidos SL (CONRESA)			
Country: Spain			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Matthew Jew	Ivan Mateo	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	Up to July 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Albacore tuna *(Thunnus alalunga*)
Stock	South Atlantic Ocean albacore tuna
Fishery Location	FAO area 47, south-eastern Atlantic Ocean
Management Authority (Country/ State)	ICCAT
Gear Type(s)	Not provided by client. All gears considered in most recent stock assessment: trawl, purse seine, longline, baitboat, and others
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's assessment
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
If any 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 Marin trust raw material. Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, *Thunnus alalunga* is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material. The most recent stock assessment for Atlantic Ocean Albacore Tuna was conducted in 2016, however in 2020, International Commissions for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) held a North and South Atlantic Albacore Stock Assessment Meeting which provided advice regarding the management of Atlantic Albacore Tuna. This assessment is based on the 2016 stock assessment while taking into account the advice from the 2020 meeting. There are two albacore tuna stocks that exist in the Atlantic Ocean that are separated at latitude 5° North. The assessment considers Albacore Tuna in the Southern Atlantic Ocean to be a single stock (which includes FAO subarea 47) and this is the only stock under assessment. The stock is subject to a specific management regime, therefore it was assessed under Category C. Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and it PASSES Clause C1.1. The stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point, it PASSES Clause C1.2. Therefore, south Atlantic Ocean albacore tuna is **APPROVED** for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.0 by-products.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The assessor correctly classified south Atlantic Albacore Tuna in category C, the stock is managed, and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against. Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass well above the limit reference point. Therefore, south Atlantic Albacore Tuna passes both C1.1 and C1.2 and therefore south Atlantic Albacore Tuna is approved
Notes for On-site Auditor
Determine which flag state(s) the species is being sources from.

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 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]
Albacore tuna	*Thunnus alalunga*	South Atlantic albacore tuna	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		**Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*)**	
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.	Yes
	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.	Yes
		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 species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process via the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) processes. The stock is assessed under an ASPIC (A Stock Production model Incorporating Covariates) fishery surplus production model, which uses fishing mortality in the forecast (ICCAT 2016). The stock was last assessed in 2016, however in 2020, ICCAT held a North and South Atlantic Albacore Stock Assessment Meeting which provided advice regarding the management of Atlantic Albacore Tuna. The total catch series is shown in Figure 1.

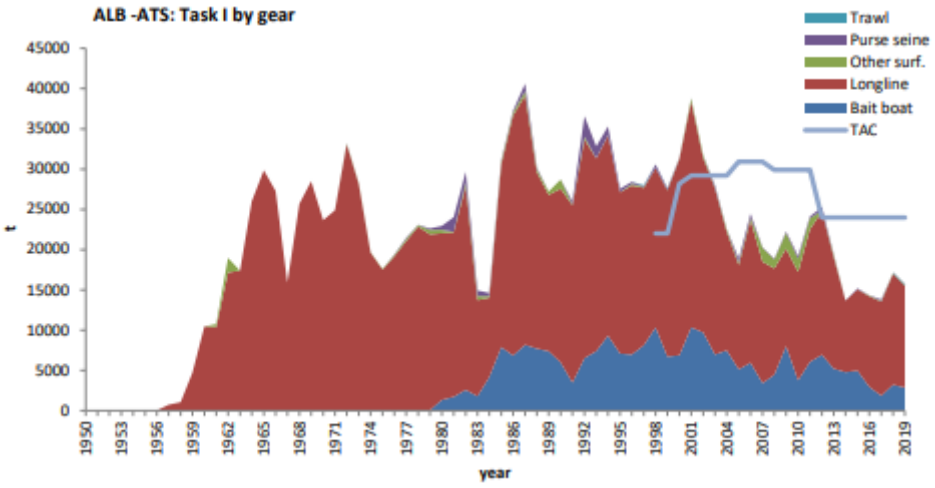

Figure 1. Long-term catches for albacore tuna in the southern Atlantic Ocean from 1950 to 2019. Source: ICCAT 2020.

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock PASSES clause C1.1

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.

The most recent analyses of the status of the Southern Atlantic Skipjack Tuna stock were conducted in 2020. The southern stock does not have defined specific limit reference points, but managers currently consider that this tock is not likely to be overfished based on target reference points (ICCAT 2020). As such, the stock is above target biomass and below target fishing mortality, so it can be assumed that the stock would be above biomass limit reference point.

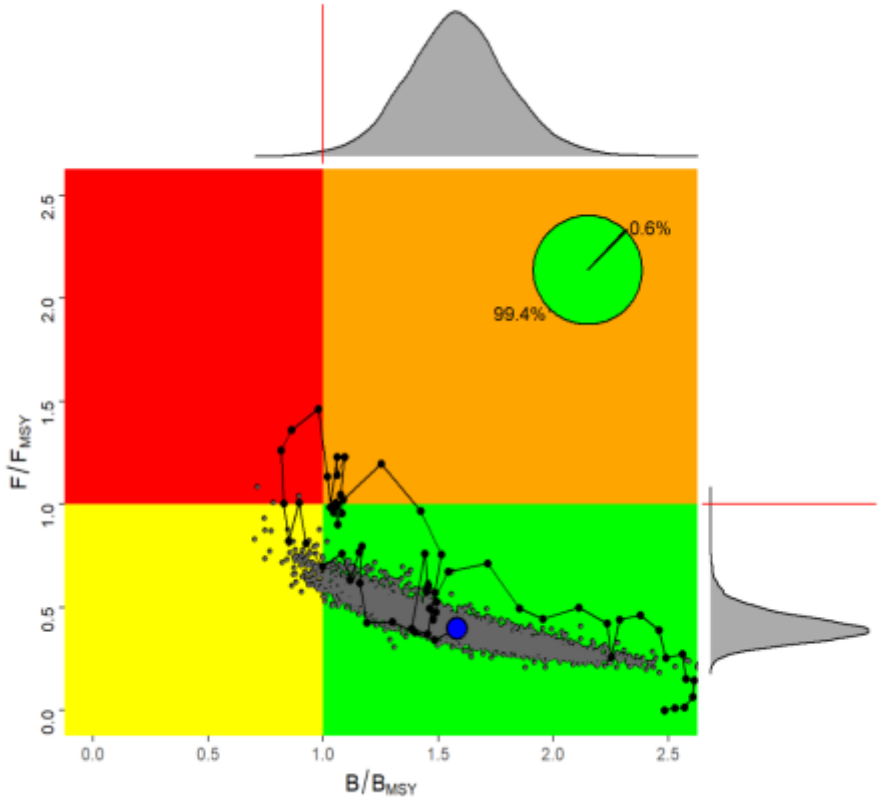

Figure 2. South Atlantic Albacore (Kobe plot). Stock status trajectories of B/BMSY and F/FMSY over time (1956-2018). The blue dot represents 2018 estimate. Background colors represent probabilities of: overfished and overfishing (Red, 0%), currently overfishing (Yellow, 0.6%), and neither overfished nor overfishing (Green, 99.4%).
Source: ICCAT 2020

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

ICCAT 2016. Report of the 2016 ICCAT North and South Atlantic Albacore Stock Assessment Meeting. 28 April to 6 May 2022. https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2016_ALB_REPORT_ENG.pdf

ICCAT 2020. Report of the 2020 ICCAT Atlantic Albacore Stock Assessment Meeting. 29 June to 8 July 2022. https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/ALB_ENG.pdf

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