



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Pink salmon- *Oncorhynchus gorbusha* – FAO Area - 67 - Northeast Pacific

### MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

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

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO area 67 - Northeast Pacific
	Country of origin of the product:	Thailand Flag country: USA
	Stock:	Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i> ) in FAO area 67 – Northeast Pacific
Date	22 August 2023	
Report Code	THA59	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Thailand Flag country: USA	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): TC Union Agrotech Co. Ltd			
Country: Thailand			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Matthew Jew	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	Up to August 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i> )
Stock	Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i> ) in FAO area 67 - Northeast Pacific
Fishery Location	FAO area 67 - Northeast Pacific
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine, drift gillnet, troll, set gillnet, beach seine, fish wheel, dip net
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	APPROVED

**Table 2. Assessment Determination**

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species - IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. Pink salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, pink salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The flag country of assessment is USA and almost all the pink salmon harvested there comes from Alaska fisheries. Pink salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>) is certified by Marine Stewardship Council - MSC since 2000, together with other Alaskan salmon species, such as sockeye salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>), chum salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>), coho salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>), Chinook salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>) in FAO 18 - Arctic Sea and FAO 67 - Northeast Pacific. Alaskan salmon fisheries are generally managed to achieve spawning escapement goals determined to ensure conservation and long-term sustainability. Pink salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>) stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and it PASSES Clause C1.1. Overall, pink salmon stock met escapement goals or surpassed them, therefore, it PASSES Clause C1.2.</p> <p>Pink salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>) in in FAO area 67 - Northeast Pacific is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified the pink salmon in FAO area 67 are under category C, as the stock is managed and reference points are defined to assess the stock status against.</p> <p>Fishery removals from the stock are considered in the stock assessment process, and the most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is considered to have a biomass well above the limit reference point: the fishery passes both clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, the pink salmon in FAO area 67 is <b>APPROVED</b> for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust V2.3 by-products standards.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor

N/A

## 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>
Pink salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i>	Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</i> ) in FAO area 67 – Northeast Pacific	Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries	C	Not Evaluated	No

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

<sup>2</sup> <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		Pink salmon ( <i>Oncorhynchus gorbusha</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.	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.**

The flag country of assessment is USA and almost all the pink salmon harvested there comes from Alaska fisheries. Alaska salmon fisheries are not managed through a Total Allowable Catch – TAC, but they are generally managed to achieve spawning escapement goals determined to ensure conservation and long-term sustainability.

Landings data for pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbusha*) are available online (Figure 1). According to The Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s - ADF&G the catches of pink salmon in 2022 were of 69.5 million and ADF&G is expecting an increase in overall commercial salmon harvest in 2023, mostly due to an increase in pink salmon harvests compared to 2022 (Donnellan et al, 2023).

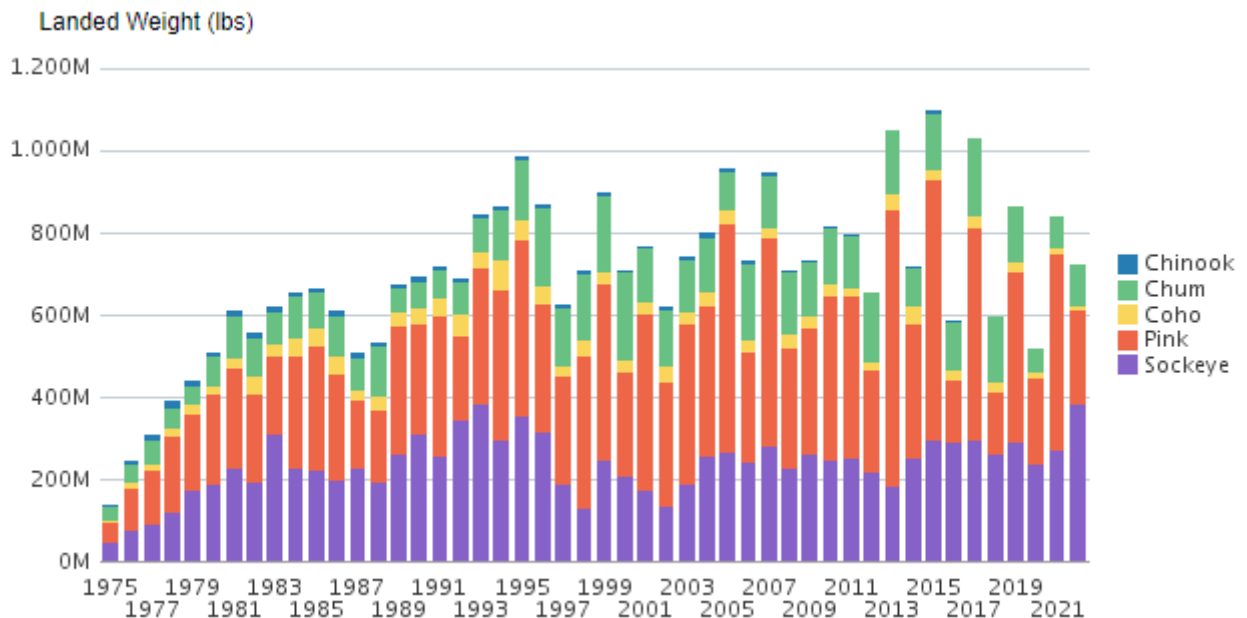


Figure 1. Historical landings data for Alaskan Salmon (ADF&G, 2023).

**Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, and are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible. C1.1 is met**

**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.**

Alaska fishery managers have the primary goal of maintaining spawning population sizes, not of reaching preseason harvest projections. Alaska salmon fisheries are generally managed to achieve spawning escapement goals determined to ensure conservation and long-term sustainability. Escapement goals are defined in ranges which function as target reference points for fishery management. Goals are established for key reference species and stocks in each fishing area.

Currently, there are approximately 300 established escapement goals in Alaska. Each year, escapements for fishery stocks are reported in Area Management Reports. Since 2010, the department has produced a [publicly accessible report](#) that is a statewide compilation of salmon escapements and escapement goals. The most current report was published in August 2022 and covers escapements from 2013 to 2021 (Munro and Brenner, 2022). Escapements were compared against escapement goals in place at the time of enumeration to assess outcomes in achieving goals. Escapements for a particular stock were classed as “Under” if escapement for a given year was less than the lower bound of the escapement goal. If escapement fell within the escapement goal range or was greater than a lower bound goal, they considered the goal “Met”. Where escapement exceeded the upper bound of an escapement goal range, it was classed as “Over”. Overall, pink salmon stock met escapement goals or surpassed them. Only in a few areas of Central Region (8%) the stock was below escapement goal. The summary of the escapements review for pink salmon in 4 regions of Alaska is presented in Figure 2 and 3.

**Table 10.—Southeast Region Chinook, chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon escapements compared to escapement goals for the years 2013 to 2021.**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>PINK SALMON</b>									
Number Below	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0
Number Met	2	0	3	2	3	2	2	2	2
Number Above	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
% Below	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%	33%	33%	33%	0%
% Met	50%	0%	75%	50%	75%	67%	67%	67%	67%
% Above	50%	50%	25%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	33%

**Table 11.—Central Region (Bristol Bay, Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound/Copper River) Chinook, chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon escapements compared to escapement goals for the years 2013 to 2021.**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>PINK SALMON</b>									
Number Below	2	5	0	12	3	6	6	3	2
Number Met	9	18	4	7	12	9	10	11	11
Number Above	14	4	22	4	11	12	10	11	13
% Below	8%	19%	0%	52%	12%	22%	23%	12%	8%
% Met	36%	67%	15%	30%	46%	33%	38%	44%	42%
% Above	56%	15%	85%	17%	42%	44%	38%	44%	50%

Figure 2. Source: Munro and Brenner (2022).

**Table 12.—Arctic–Yukon–Kuskokwim Region Chinook, chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon escapements compared to escapement goals for the years 2013 to 2021.**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>PINK SALMON</b>									
Number Below	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number Met	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Number Above	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
% Below	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
% Met	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
% Above	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

**Table 13.—Westward Region (Alaska Peninsula/Aleutian Islands, Kodiak, and Chignik areas) Chinook, chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon escapements compared to escapement goals for the years 2013 to 2021.**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>PINK SALMON</b>									
Number Below	0	2	0	4	0	2	0	1	0
Number Met	3	2	1	0	0	2	3	1	2
Number Above	1	0	3	0	4	0	1	2	2
% Below	0%	50%	0%	100%	0%	50%	0%	25%	0%
% Met	75%	50%	25%	0%	0%	50%	75%	25%	50%
% Above	25%	0%	75%	0%	100%	0%	25%	50%	50%

Figure 3. Source: Munro and Brenner (2022).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy). C.1.2 is met.

**References**

ADFG. 2023. Statewide Salmon Gross Earnings by Species. OCEANAK Gross Earnings Subject Area. Alaska Department of Fish and Game. [https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyfisherysalmon.salmon\\_grossearnings\\_byspecies](https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=commercialbyfisherysalmon.salmon_grossearnings_byspecies)

Donnellan, S. J., and A. R. Munro, editors. 2023. Run forecasts and harvest projections for 2023 Alaska salmon fisheries and review of the 2022 season. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 23-10, Anchorage. <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/SP23-10.pdf>

Munro, A. R., and R. E. Brenner. 2022. Summary of Pacific salmon escapement goals in Alaska with a review of escapements from 2013 to 2021. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Manuscript No. 22-02, Anchorage. <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/FMS22-02.pdf>

**Links**

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