



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) in FAO 81 Southwest Pacific

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 81 Southwest Pacific
	Country of origin of the product:	USA (Flag country: Seychelles and South Africa)
	Stock:	Albacore tuna in FAO 81 Southwest Pacific
Date	16 September 2022	
Report Code	USA11	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	USA (Flag country: Seychelles and South Africa)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): The Scoular Company			
Country: USA			
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	Léa Lebechnech	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	Up to September 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
Stock	Albacore tuna in FAO 81 Southwest Pacific
Fishery Location	FAO 81 Southwest Pacific
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
Gear Type(s)	Poles, handlines, and longlines
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	APPROVE

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>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 (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) do not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor do they appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The most recent stock assessment for southern Pacific Ocean albacore tuna was conducted in 2021 and was a joint effort between the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).</p> <p>The assessment considers albacore tuna in the southern Pacific Ocean to be a single stock (which includes FAO Area 81), and this is the only stock under assessment. The stock is subject to a specific management regime, therefore it was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Therefore, albacore tuna in FAO subareas 81 (southwest Pacific Ocean) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.0 by-products.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The internal peer reviewer agrees with the assessor's determination, who correctly classified the stock of south Pacific Ocean albacore tuna under Category C, as the stock is subject to a specific management regime in place and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are included in the stock assessment and the stock has its biomass above reference point, so it passes Clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, albacore tuna in FAO 81 southwest Pacific, is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 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 ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Albacore tuna	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Albacore tuna in FAO 81 (southwest Pacific Ocean)	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), Seychelles Fishing Authority, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (South Africa)	C	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

CATEGORY C SPECIES

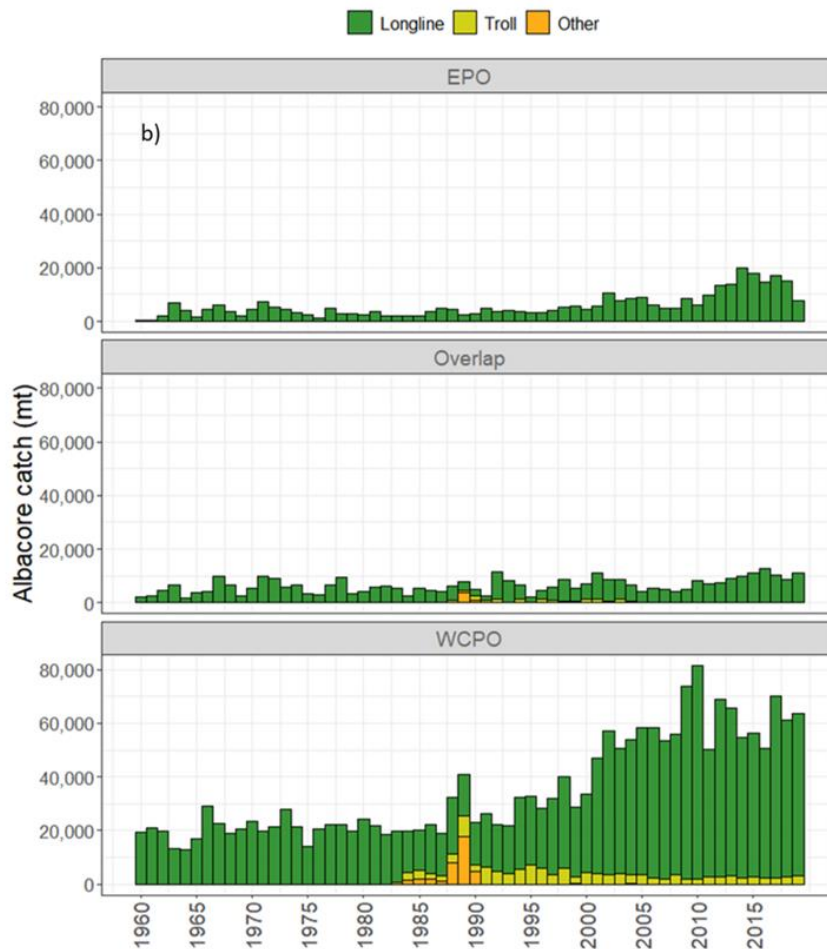
In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

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 (<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.	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.

This stock assessment uses a M2-SEAPODYM movement hypothesis, that uses catches (including commercial landings) in the model and in the forecast (WCPFC, 2021). Long-term catch data are presented in Figure 1.



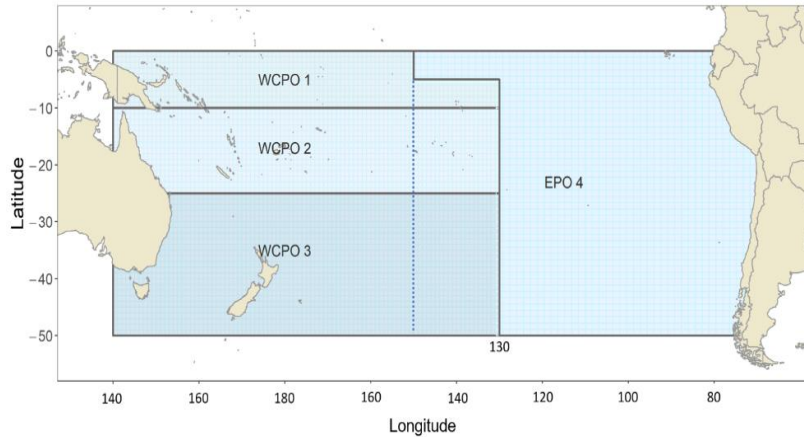


Figure 1. Top: Catches of albacore tuna by gear type in the southern Pacific Ocean from 1960 to 2019. Bottom: Visual depiction of the areas summarized in the top panel. Source: WCPFC 2021.

Therefore, fishery removals of the stock, including from the fishery under assessment, are included in the stock assessment process. 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 Pacific albacore tuna stock was conducted in 2021. The southern stock has defined reference points and Scientific Committee 17 (SC17) noted that there was a 0% probability (0 out of 72 models) that the recent (2016-2019) spawning biomass had breached the adopted limit reference point (WCPFC, 2021). Furthermore, SC17 noted that there was a 0% probability (0 out of 72 models) that the recent (2015-2018) fishing mortality was above F_{MSY} (WCPFC, 2021; Figure 2).

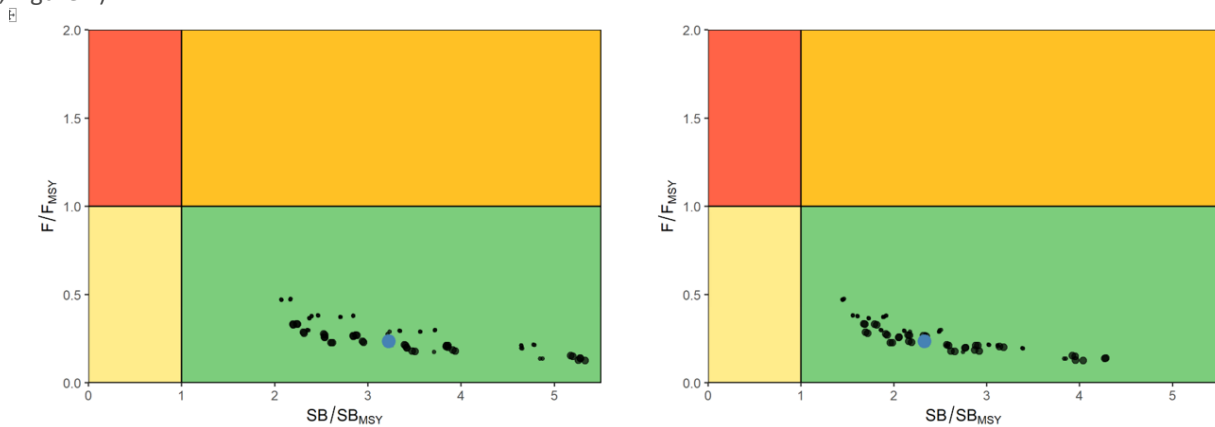


Figure 2. South Pacific albacore (Kobe plot). Left: Stock status trajectories of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} for recent years (2016-2019). Blue dot represents median value based on the weighted grid models, with the more heavily weighted models indicated by the larger black dots. Right: Stock status trajectories based on the latest (2019) period. Blue and black dots are defined the same as left panel. Source: WCPFC 2021.

Therefore, the stock is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have biomass above the limit reference point. The stock PASSES Clause C1.2.

References

WCPFC. 2021. South Pacific Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*): Stock status and management advice: <https://www.wcpfc.int/file/763738/download?token=JUNcOfek>.

Links

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