



## MarinTrust Standard V2

# By-product Fishery Assessment Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in FAO 41 & 47: Southern Atlantic Ocean

**MarinTrust Programme**

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: [standards@marin-trust.com](mailto:standards@marin-trust.com)

T: +44 2039 780 819

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

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )
	Geographical area:	FAO Subarea 41 & 47 (Southern Atlantic Ocean)
	Country of origin of the product:	USA (Flag Country: Seychelles and South Africa)
	Stock:	Yellowfin tuna from FAO 41 & 47 Southern Atlantic Ocean
Date	16 September 2022	
Report Code	USA12	
Assessor	Matthew Jew	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	USA (Flag Country: Seychelles and South Africa)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

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 August 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )
Stock	Yellowfin tuna from FAO 41 & 47 Southern Atlantic Ocean
Fishery Location	FAO Subarea 41 & 47 (Southern Atlantic Ocean)
Management Authority (Country/ State)	ICCAT
Gear Type(s)	Baitboat, longline, purse seine
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	APPROVED

## 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. Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) do not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, nor do they appear in CITES appendices; therefore, <i>Thunnus albacares</i> is eligible for approval for use as Marin trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>The most recent stock assessment for Atlantic yellowfin tuna was conducted in 2019 and is planned to be reassessed in 2023.</p> <p>The assessment considers yellowfin tuna in the Atlantic Ocean (which includes FAO Area 41 &amp; 47) to be a single stock 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, yellowfin tuna in the Atlantic Ocean (FAO Area 41 &amp; 47) is <b>APPROVED</b> 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 Atlantic Ocean yellow fin 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, Atlantic Ocean yellowfin tuna in FAO areas 41 &amp; 47, is <b>APPROVED</b> 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 <sup>1</sup>	CITES Appendix 1 <sup>2</sup>
Yellowfin tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Yellowfin tuna from FAO 41 & 47 Southern Atlantic Ocean	ICCAT	C	LC	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.

<b>Species Name</b>		<b>Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)</b>	
<b>C1</b>	<b>Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements</b>		
	<b>C1.1</b>	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
	<b>C1.2</b>	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 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) processes. The stock was last assessed in 2019 and the next assessment is provisionally scheduled for 2023. At the time of the 2019 assessment, a proportion of 2018 catch reports were incomplete and average catches over the three previous years (2015 – 2017) were used to populate the assessment model. The total catch series is shown in Figure 1 below.

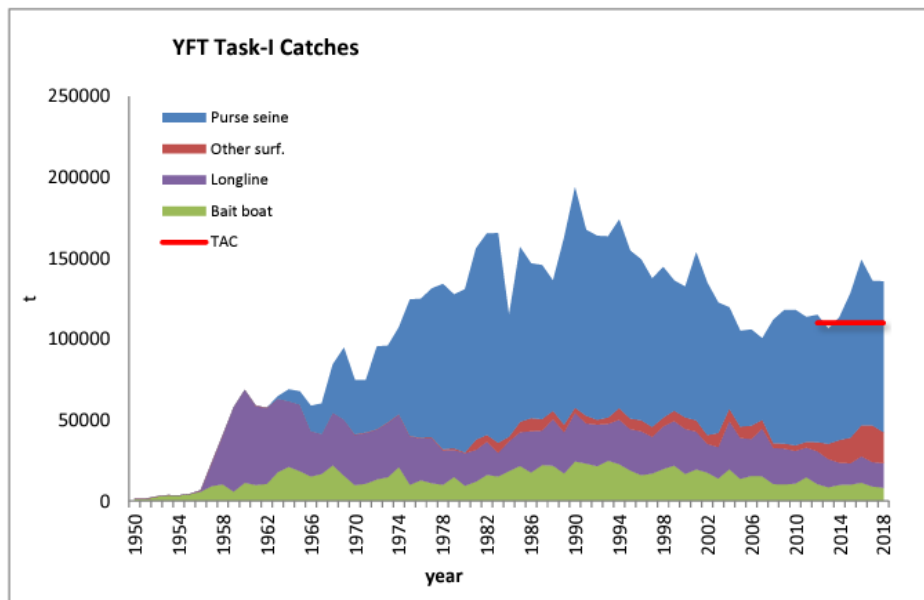


Figure 1. Yellowfin tuna total catch 1950 – 2018 by main fishing gear group. Source: ICCAT 2019.

**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.**

ICCAT does not employ an explicit limit reference point in managing this stock. A new assessment, which used an ensemble of models was conducted for yellowfin tuna in 2019. All models show large uncertainties in biomass and, while trends in the estimated biomass show a general continuous decline through time across all models, most model runs estimate biomasses above  $B_{MSY}$  in the terminal year of the model.

Combining the results of all models (MPB, JABBA, SS) provides a way to estimate the probability of the stock being in each quadrant of the Kobe plot in 2018 (Figure 2). The corresponding probabilities are 54% in the green (not overfished not subject to overfishing), 21% in the orange (subject to overfishing but not overfished) 2% in the yellow (overfished but not subject to overfishing) and 22% in the red (overfished and subject to overfishing). In summary, the results point to a stock status of not overfished (24% probability of overfished status), with no overfishing (43% probability of overfishing taking place).

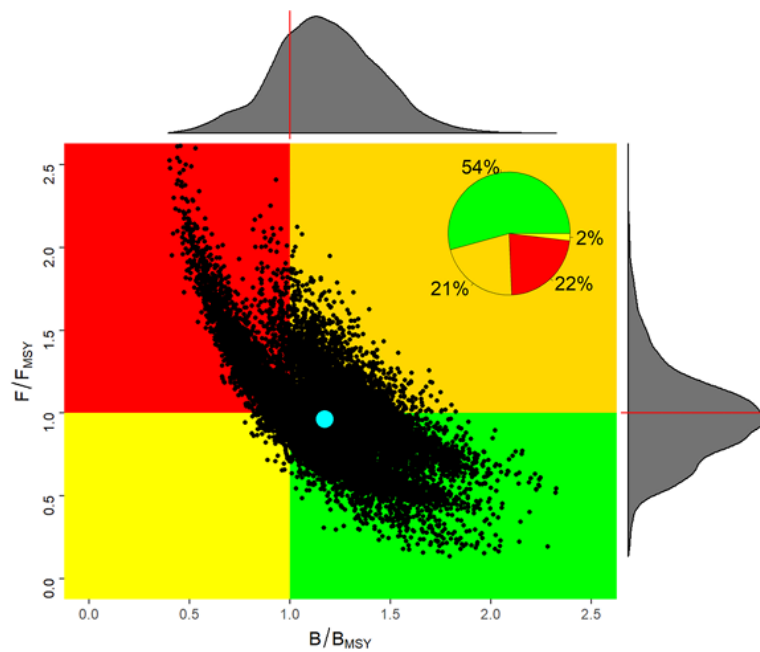


Figure 2. Kobe plot estimated from the combination of Stock Synthesis, JABBA and MPB model runs chosen to develop the management advice.

**Therefore, despite ICCAT not employing an explicit limit reference point in managing this stock, the stock biomass is considered to be above  $B_{MSY}$  as of the most recent stock assessment, it can correspondingly be considered to be above any nominal limit reference point (or proxy). The stock PASSES Clause C1.2.**

**References**

ICCAT SCRS 2019. Report of the 2019 ICCAT yellowfin tuna stock assessment meeting (Grand-Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire, 8-16 July 2019): [https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019\\_YFT\\_SA\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/2019/REPORTS/2019_YFT_SA_ENG.pdf).  
 ICCAT SCRS 2019. Summary of the Report of the 2019 ICCAT yellowfin tuna stock assessment meeting (GrandBassam, Cote d'Ivoire, 8-16 July 2019): [https://iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/YFT\\_ENG.pdf](https://iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/YFT_ENG.pdf)

**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