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Lloyd's Register

Eastern Pacific Purse Seine Skipjack and Yellowfin tuna fishery (FSC and FAD sets)

MSC Use of the Risk-Based Framework (RBF) in a Fishery Assessment

1 Notification - Site Visit using RBF

This fishery is entering the 'information gathering' stage of the assessment against the MSC Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing.

A key purpose of the site visit is to collect information and speak to stakeholders with an interest in the fishery. For those parts of the assessment involving the MSC's Risk Based Framework (RBF, see <http://www.msc.org/about-us/standards/methodologies/fam/msc-risk-based-framework>), we will be using a stakeholder-driven, qualitative analysis during the site visit. To achieve a robust outcome from this consultative approach, we rely heavily on participation of a broad range of stakeholders with a balance of knowledge of the fishery. We encourage any stakeholders with experience or knowledge of the fishery to participate in these meetings.

There is now a consultation period which will complete in 60 days from the date of this announcement (21st February 2021 at 5pm UTC) for stakeholders to comment on the PIs and rationale proposed on the following page.

The following performance indicators may be scored using the RBF:

- 2.2.1 Secondary species outcome (minor)
- 2.3.1 ETP species outcome
- 2.4.1 Habitats outcome
-

The fishery assessment team will discuss with the client and stakeholders during week commencing 22nd February 2021. LR will be submitting a Variation Request for this initial assessment to be conducted remotely, in line with the MSC Sept 28th COVID-19 derogation. The result of the VR will be available on the MSC website before the site visit. If you would like to talk to the assessors, **please advise us of your interest at your earliest convenience before the site visit, at the very latest 17.00 UTC on the 21st February 2021**, giving the following details:

- your name and contact details;
- your association with the fishery;
- the issues you would like to discuss (in order for us to arrange appropriate representation).

Enquiries should be sent in the first instance to:

LR Fisheries Department – fisheries-ca@lr.org

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2 Marine Stewardship Council use of the Risk-Based Framework

Table 1 – Fishery information

1	Fishery name
	Eastern Pacific Purse Seine Skipjack and Yellowfin tuna fishery (FSC and FAD sets)
2	CAB
	Acoura (t/a Lloyd's Register)
3	Date that the proposal to use the RBF is submitted to the MSC
	22 nd December 2020
4	Date stakeholder comment period closes on the proposal to use the RBF
	21 st February 2021, 5pm UTC.
5	PI that the RBF is to be applied for
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.2.1 Secondary species outcome (minor) • 2.3.1 ETP species outcome • 2.4.1 Habitats outcome
6	Justification for use
	<p>2.2.1 Secondary minor species outcome:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dorado (<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>) – IATTC has recently reviewed prospects for setting reference points and HCRs for EPO dorado (Valero <i>et al.</i> 2019). There are no biologically based limits in place for this stock. 2. Wahoo (<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>) – a recent review of the biology and environmental preferences of this species reports that no stock assessments have been carried out (Gao <i>et al.</i> 2020). There are no biologically based limits in place for this stock. 3. Black skipjack tuna (<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>) – no information about stock assessments or biologically based limits for this species in the eastern Pacific has been located. 4. Frigate tuna (<i>Auxis thazard</i>) – no information about stock assessments or biologically based limits for this species in the eastern Pacific has been located. 5. Bonito sierra (<i>Sarda chiliensis</i>) – no information about stock assessments or biologically based limits for this species in the eastern Pacific has been located. <p>2.3.1. ETP species outcome:</p>

The ETP species are to be confirmed during the site visit pending further information. The information currently available on catch composition, and information about the status of any impacted populations is not adequate.

2.4.1. Habitat outcome:

For Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs), although routine fishing operations are unlikely to have any impact on VMEs, the impact of lost FADs is uncertain, and will be evaluated at the site visit using the MSC RBF approach. The potential VMEs are: Equatorial High-Productivity Zone; Galapagos Archipelago and Western Prolongation; Tropical Eastern Pacific Marine Corridor; Carnegie Range - Equator Front; and Major Upwelling Centers and Seabirds Associated with the Humboldt Current in Peru.

For Minor Habitats (benthic habitats), there is presently insufficient information available to determine whether SG2.4.1.c may be met. The MSC Risk Based Framework will be used to determine an appropriate score.

Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Use of the RBF in a Fishery Assessment Form v3.1'.

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Template version control

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	15 August 2011 15 November 2011	Date of first release. Date of application. Created as one of the Normative Documents to accompany release of MSC Certification Requirements v1.0
2.0	08 October 2014	Updates in line with release of Fisheries Certification Requirements v2.0
3.0	17 December 2018	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.1
3.01	28 March 2019	Minor document change for usability
3.1	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website (msc.org).

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