



Lloyd's
Register

Lloyd's Register
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Lloyd's Register
Fiji Albacore, Yellowfin and Bigeye tuna
Longline fishery
MSC Fishery Announcement

1 Marine Stewardship Council fishery announcement

Table 1 – Fishery announcement

1	Fishery name																
	Fiji Albacore, Yellowfin and Bigeye tuna Longline fishery																
2	a) Assessment number																
	Scope Extension																
3	Reduced reassessment (Yes/No)																
	No																
4	Statement that the fishery is within scope																
	<p>LR reviewed the application form of the fishery under assessment as well as produced the Announcement Comment Draft Report, and can confirm the fishery is in scope in accordance with requirements at §7.4 in the MSC FCP V2.1.</p> <p>The fishery does not target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Amphibiansb) Reptilesc) Birdsd) Mammals <p>The fishery does not use explosives.</p>																
5	Unit(s) of Assessment - UoA(s) (Provisional - will be confirmed in accordance with MSC FCP V2.1 7.17.3)																
	<table><tr><th>Fishing method</th><th>Species</th><th>Management Area</th><th>Stock</th><th>UoA</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="3">Surface longline</td><td>Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)</td><td rowspan="3">Fiji EEZ (including territorial and archipelagic waters) and adjoining high seas</td><td>South Pacific Albacore</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)</td><td>Western Central Pacific Ocean yellowfin tuna</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)</td><td>Western Central Pacific Ocean bigeye tuna</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	Fishing method	Species	Management Area	Stock	UoA	Surface longline	Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	Fiji EEZ (including territorial and archipelagic waters) and adjoining high seas	South Pacific Albacore	1	Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	Western Central Pacific Ocean yellowfin tuna	2	Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)	Western Central Pacific Ocean bigeye tuna	3
Fishing method	Species	Management Area	Stock	UoA													
Surface longline	Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	Fiji EEZ (including territorial and archipelagic waters) and adjoining high seas	South Pacific Albacore	1													
	Yellowfin Tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)		Western Central Pacific Ocean yellowfin tuna	2													
	Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>)		Western Central Pacific Ocean bigeye tuna	3													
6	Certificate sharing statement																
	No certificate sharing																
7	Name of proposed team leader																
	<p>Jo Akroyd (Team Leader and P3 expert)</p> <p>Jo is a fisheries management and marine ecosystem consultant with extensive international and Pacific experience. She has worked at senior levels in both the public and private sectors as a fisheries manager and marine policy expert. Jo was with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in New Zealand for 20 years. Starting as a fisheries scientist, she was promoted to senior chief fisheries scientist, then Assistant Director, Marine Research. She was awarded a Commemoration Medal in 1990 in recognition of her pioneering work</p>																

	<p>in establishing New Zealand's fisheries quota management system. As well as carrying out general fisheries consultancy since 1994 she has undertaken all facets of MSC work as a lead assessor, expert team member and peer reviewer across a wide range of fisheries. Jo has completed the MSC v1.3, v2.0 and v2.1 training modules including for enhanced fisheries, Risk based framework and traceability. She is a member of the MSC's Peer Review College.</p> <p>MSC projects include Team Leader and Fisheries Management expert for New Zealand fisheries, (hoki, hake, ling, southern blue whiting, albacore and skipjack), Fiji (albacore and yellowfin), Japan (scallops, skipjack and yellowfin), China (scallops, flounder and snowcrab), Maldives (skipjack), Ross Sea (toothfish), West Papua (skipjack and yellowfin). She has conducted multi species pre assessments in Japan, China, Viet Nam and New Zealand and provided independent Peer review reports for tuna, scallops and prawn fisheries in various countries.</p> <p>Jo has passed MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available upon request.</p> <p>Jo will be on-site for the surveillance audit.</p> <p>Leadership Experience: Jo has undertaken multiple MSC surveillance and assessments in the past 5 years, focusing on the Pacific region.</p>
8	Name(s) of proposed team members
	<p>Kevin McLoughlin (P1 and P2 Expert)</p> <p>Kevin McLoughlin is a specialist fisheries consultant based in Australia with more than 30 years' experience across a wide range of international and domestic fisheries science issues, with close links to government policy. He represented the Australian Government on many committees and groups such as fishery assessment groups, providing advice on a diverse range of fisheries and species (including tuna, shark, various finfish, scallop and prawn). Work in assessment groups involved assessment of target species, development of bycatch action plans and ecological risk assessments. Mr McLoughlin was responsible for the production of annual status reports for Australian government-managed fisheries for a number of years. Mr. McLoughlin was Australia's delegate on scientific issues at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and was Chair of the IOTC Working Party on Bycatch for several years. Mr McLoughlin was also a delegate at meetings of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna led Australia's delegation to 2006 scientific meetings of the Commission.</p> <p>Mr McLoughlin has worked predominantly on Principle 1 aspects of MSC assessments but has also undertaken Principle 2 and 3 work, as well as peer review and surveillance audits for several fisheries. Kevin was a team member for the full assessment of the Fiji albacore longline fishery, Australia's blue grenadier fishery, as well as the Western Australia Exmouth Gulf and Shark Bay prawn trawl fisheries. He was a peer reviewer for the New Zealand albacore troll fishery and for the North and South Pacific American Albacore Fishing Association fisheries and has undertaken surveillance audits for a number of fisheries. Kevin is currently a member of teams assessing the Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack Tuna Fishery, and the Tri Marine Western and Central Pacific Skipjack and Yellowfin Tuna Fishery.</p> <p>Kevin has passed MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available upon request.</p> <p>Kevin will be on-site for the surveillance audit.</p>
9	Stakeholder opportunities

	<p>Stakeholders have the opportunity to comment at various stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder input to the Announcement Comment Draft Report - Site visit: all team members are available to meet either in person during the on-site visit or remotely via call - Stakeholder input to the Public Comment Draft Report - Stakeholder input to the Final Draft Report - Annual surveillances <p>Stakeholders can provide their input using the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments - https://www.msc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/for-business/program-documents/chain-of-custody-supporting-documents/msc-template-for-stakeholder-input-into-fishery-assessments-v3-0.xlsx?sfvrsn=89ee4e3b_4</p>														
10	Assessment tree to be used														
	The default assessment tree is used for this scope extension.														
11	Estimated timeline														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th><th>Implementation timeline</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Production of Announcement Comment Draft Report</td><td>December 2019 – January 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Site visit</td><td>February 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Client and Peer review draft report</td><td>May 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Public comment draft report</td><td>August 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Final Report</td><td>October 2020</td></tr> <tr> <td>Public Certification Report</td><td>November 2020</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Implementation timeline	Production of Announcement Comment Draft Report	December 2019 – January 2020	Site visit	February 2020	Client and Peer review draft report	May 2020	Public comment draft report	August 2020	Final Report	October 2020	Public Certification Report	November 2020
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12	Site visit														
	<p>The site visit for this fishery will take place the week commencing 24th February in Suva, Fiji. Stakeholders are invited to take part in the site visit remotely or in person. If you would like to speak with the team please notify us as soon as possible, and before the end of the consultation period for submission of information (see below) – we can then arrange appropriate discussion opportunity.</p> <p>The MSC provide guidance and templates for stakeholder contribution which can be found here: https://www.msc.org/what-you-can-do/engage-with-a-fishery-assessment</p>														
13	Assessment tree modifications														
	NA														
14	Local Context														
	English is widely spoken in Fiji. Both Jo and Kevin have had assignments in the region in the last 10 years and both Jo and Kevin were involved in the 2017 re-certification of the fishery, with Jo involved in the initial assessment of this fishery.														
15	Traceability														

	Jo has completed the MSC traceability module in the last year.
16	Risk Based Framework (RBF)
	Jo has completed the RBF training in the last two years.

The UoA in Table 2 below will be considered under a scope extension. The Fiji Albacore and Yellowfin Tuna Longline Fishery was re-certified in 2018 with south Pacific albacore and yellowfin tuna as the P1 species (subject to conditions). Most aspects of the scope extension for bigeye tuna are consistent with the 2018 certification. Assessment of the P1 components for bigeye tuna are the predominant requirement of this scope extension. The P1 scoring for bigeye tuna is harmonised with that for other certified bigeye tuna fisheries in the WCPO (see FCP v2.1 – Annex PB).

Under P2, five components are considered to cover the range of potential ecosystem elements that may be impacted by the fishery. These components are primary species; secondary species; endangered, threatened or protected species; habitats; and the ecosystem. Requirements for these are detailed in MSC Fishery Standard v2.01. The gap analysis for the scope extension for bigeye tuna for the fishery indicates that the assessment undertaken in the 2018 certification of the fishery (Akroyd and McLoughlin, 2018) adequately covers these issues for all components other than primary species as there is no change in these components resulting from the addition of the bigeye UoA. There is also minimal change in consideration of the primary species (PIs 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and 2.1.3), however the removal of bigeye tuna as a primary main species warrants a consideration of this component (Tables 3 and 4 and see published gap analysis in the Scope Extension tab on Track a Fishery).

SA 3.1.3.1 (MSC Fishery Standard v2.01) requires that primary species are also assigned in P2 for species in the catch that are not covered under P1 because they are not included in the UoA (i.e. yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna are primary P2 species for the albacore UoA; albacore and bigeye tuna are primary species for the yellowfin UoA; albacore and yellowfin are primary P2 species for the bigeye UoA).

The P3 background information for the south Pacific albacore and yellowfin tuna included in PCR (Akroyd and McLoughlin (2018)) is applicable for Bigeye.

The full gap analysis can be found in the in the separate Gap Analysis document linked with the announcement.

Table 1 – Proposed new Unit of Assessment (UoA) to be added to Certificate MSC-F-31349

UoA 3	Description
Species	Bigeye tuna
Stock	Western Central Pacific Ocean bigeye tuna
Geographical area	Fiji EEZ (including territorial and archipelagic waters) and adjoining high seas
Harvest method / gear	Surface longline
Client group	Fiji Fishing Industry Association MSC Group (57 vessels)
Other eligible fishers	None

Table 3 – Full Gap Analysis

Component	UoA 1 (South Pacific albacore – currently certified)	UoA 2 (Western Central Pacific yellowfin– currently certified)	UoA 3 (WCP bigeye)	Gap analysis
P1 Outcome	South Pacific albacore stock	Western Central Pacific yellowfin stock	Western Central Pacific bigeye stock	WCP bigeye stock is a different stock and a full evaluation of the P1 outcome component will be carried out.
P1 Harvest strategy	Management by WCPFC and Fiji Ministry of Fisheries.	Management by WCPFC and Fiji Ministry of Fisheries.	Management by WCPFC and Fiji Ministry of Fisheries.	The national aspects of the harvest strategy are likely to be similar for all UoAs; however, they differ at WCPFC level. A full evaluation of this component will therefore be carried out. Consideration will be given to the CAB variation request re harmonisation.
P2 Primary species	Main primary species were yellowfin (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>) and bigeye (<i>Thunnus obsesus</i>). Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) is a minor primary species. No conditions raised.	Main primary species were albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) and bigeye (<i>Thunnus obsesus</i>). Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) is a minor primary species. No conditions raised.	Same catch profile as albacore and yellowfin UoAs; bigeye assessed under P2 for the albacore and yellowfin UoAs.	The removal of bigeye as a scoring element in P2 may lead to changes in scoring. This component will therefore be re-evaluated.
P2 Secondary species	Bait is considered as a main secondary species. Condition raised in relation to bait. No other main secondary species.	Bait is considered as a secondary species. Condition raised in relation to bait. No other main secondary species.	Same catch profile as albacore and yellowfin UoAs.	No re-evaluation is required. Same condition applies.

Table 3 – Full Gap Analysis

Component	UoA 1 (South Pacific albacore – currently certified)	UoA 2 (Western Central Pacific yellowfin– currently certified)	UoA 3 (WCP bigeye)	Gap analysis
P2 ETP species	Several ETP species identified. No conditions raised in relation to ETP species.	Several ETP species identified. No conditions raised in relation to ETP species.	Same catch profile as albacore and yellowfin UoAs.	No re-evaluation is required.
P2 habitats	No habitat impacts identified (pelagic longline fishery)	No habitat impacts identified (pelagic longline fishery)	Same operations and fishing grounds as albacore and yellowfin UoAs.	No re-evaluation is required.
P2 ecosystem	No significant ecosystem impacts identified	No significant ecosystem impacts identified	Same operations and fishing grounds as albacore and yellowfin UoAs.	No re-evaluation is required.
P3 Governance and policy	Regional WCPFC management framework for 'in-zone' fisheries. Albacore and yellowfin subject to CAB variation in relation to the development of a harvest strategy. Fiji management system - condition raised in relation to PI 3.2.2 – Decision making processes.	Regional WCPFC management framework for 'in-zone' fisheries. Albacore and yellowfin subject to CAB variation in relation to the development of a harvest strategy. Fiji management system - condition raised in relation to PI 3.2.2 – Decision making processes.	Same management framework as for albacore and yellowfin UoAs for both WCPFC and Fiji.	No re-evaluation is required. Same condition applies.
P3 Fishery-specific management system				

Table 4 – Gap analysis outcomes

Principle	Component	PI number	Performance indicator	To be assessed for bigeye tuna UoA?	To be assessed for albacore and yellowfin tuna UoAs?
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	Yes	No
		1.1.2	Stock rebuilding		
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest strategy		
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules & tools		
		1.2.3	Information & monitoring		
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status		
2	Primary species	2.1.1	Outcome	Yes; the removal of bigeye as a scoring element may lead to changes in scoring.	yes
		2.1.2	Management strategy		
		2.1.3	Information/Monitoring		
	Secondary species	2.2.1	Outcome	Scoring not required. However, an existing condition for other UoAs (PI 2.2.3) will also apply here.	Scoring not required.
		2.2.2	Management strategy		
		2.2.3	Information/Monitoring		
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	Scoring not required.	Scoring not required.
		2.3.2	Management strategy		
		2.3.3	Information/Monitoring		
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	Scoring not required.	Scoring not required.
		2.4.2	Management strategy		
		2.4.3	Information/Monitoring		
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	Scoring not required.	Scoring not required.
		2.5.2	Management strategy		
		2.5.3	Information/Monitoring		
3	Governance and policy	3.1.1	Legal &/or customary framework	Scoring not required.	Scoring not required.

		3.1.2	Consultation, roles & responsibilities		
		3.1.3	Long-term objectives		
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	Scoring not required.	Scoring not required.
		3.2.2	Decision making processes		
		3.2.3	Compliance & enforcement		
		3.2.4	Monitoring & management performance evaluation		

The Announcement Comment Draft Report (ACDR) for this fishery is now available for consultation on the fishery's Track a Fishery page. Please note this **does not** represent a final outcome, and the scores are based on a review of documents submitted by the client in the Client Document Checklist – we fully recognise changes may be necessary following the site visit and stakeholder comments. Stakeholders can submit comments on the report, which will be published on the MSC website ahead of the site visit. As this is a full-assessment, stakeholders have 60 days to submit comments, using the MSC Stakeholder Input form (available to download [here](#)). The deadline for information submission is therefore 24th March 2020 at 5pm UTC.

Please see the MSC's [Summary of Changes](#) document, which includes an overview of the Fisheries Certification Process (FCP) V2.1, particularly in contrast to previous process versions. Following the ACDR consultation and site visit, stakeholders will also have the opportunity to participate at the following stages:

Public Comment Draft Report: This version of the report contains updated scores and rationale following the ACDR consultation, site visit, client and peer review. Stakeholders will have 30 days to review the report. If the PCDR is not published within 9 months of the date of this announcement, there will be an opportunity for stakeholders to submit new information to the CAB.

Final Draft Report: This presents the draft determination on whether the fishery passes or fails, and includes any changes following the public consultation, with responses to stakeholder input. An objection to the draft determination can be submitted within the 15 working day period (more details [here](#)).

Annual surveillances: If the fishery is certified, annual surveillances will monitor progress on open conditions and check ongoing compliance with the standard – stakeholders will have the opportunity to participate annually.

If you are not on the stakeholder list for this fishery, and would like to be to ensure you are notified of the consultation opportunities, please sign up [here](#) – or contact the LR fisheries team at fisheries-ca@lr.org

Submitted by: Deirdre Duggan
Senior Fisheries Technical Officer

Date: 24th January 2020

Appendix 1: Summaries of CVs of team leader and team members

Full CVs are available upon request.

Jo Akroyd (Team Leader and P3 expert)

Jo is a fisheries management and marine ecosystem consultant with extensive international and Pacific experience. She has worked at senior levels in both the public and private sectors as a fisheries manager and marine policy expert. Jo was with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in New Zealand for 20 years. Starting as a fisheries scientist, she was promoted to senior chief fisheries scientist, then Assistant Director, Marine Research. She was awarded a Commemoration Medal in 1990 in recognition of her pioneering work in establishing New Zealand's fisheries quota management system. As well as carrying out general fisheries consultancy since 1994 she has undertaken all facets of MSC work as a lead assessor, expert team member and peer reviewer across a wide range of fisheries. Jo has completed the MSC v1.3, v2.0 and v2.1 training modules including for enhanced fisheries, Risk based framework and traceability. She is a member of the MSC's Peer Review College,

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Jo has passed MSC training and has no Conflict of Interest in relation to this fishery. Full CV available upon request.

Jo will be on-site for the surveillance audit.

Leadership Experience: Jo has undertaken multiple MSC surveillance and assessments in the past 5 years, focusing on the Pacific region.

Kevin McLoughlin (P1 and P2 Expert)

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Template information and copyright

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Template version control

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	8 October 2014	Date of issue
2.0	17 December 2018	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.1
2.01	28 March 2019	Minor document change for usability

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the [MSC website](http://msc.org) (msc.org)

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