

3192N18A27th December 2022**Negative Traceability Determination****Ishihara Marine Products albacore and skipjack pole and line fishery.**

Control Union Union (UK) Limited (CU UK) would like to inform stakeholders that at the Year 3 Surveillance Audit for '[Ishihara Marine Products albacore and skipjack pole and line fishery](#)', a negative determination for traceability was determined, relating to the origin of catch. Originally certified in March 2019 by Control Union (UK), the UoC only covers the fishing areas of the Japanese and Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) EEZs, as well as the high seas of the WCPO (Table 1). However, during the 2021 season Eisei Maru No.8 fished in Tuvalu's EEZ on two separate trips. The assessment team found that the uncertified catch from Tuvalu was mixed with catch originating from the UoC and landed as MSC certified catch when carried to the bidding market.

As per clause 7.9.1 of the MSC's FCP v2.2, the situation described above does not conform with the MSC's traceability requirements, as the CAB cannot "determine whether the fishery client has sufficient systems of tracking and tracing to ensure all fish and fish products identified and sold as certified by the fishery client originate from [the] appropriate UoC".

The FCP v2.2 did not provide sufficient guidance to CABs on actionable pathways in the event of a traceability non-conformance being detected during a Surveillance Audit (clauses 7.28.15.a.iii and 7.28.15.e). As such, on 22nd November 2022 the [MSC provided an interpretation](#) of clause 7.9.1.

Control Union (UK) have made a negative determination in the context of this interpretation and, in accompaniment with the 3rd Surveillance Audit report, this stakeholder announcement is "advising that the fishery's traceability systems no longer comply with MSC FCP requirements and therefore product cannot be sold as MSC certified or carry the MSC ecolabel". **This comes into effect from the 27th of December 2022.** The negative determination will remain in force until CU(UK) revises the determination in a subsequent surveillance audit or expedited audit. Stakeholders will be notified with a stakeholder announcement when such an audit is announced on the MSC Track a Fishery website for this fishery.

Table 1 - Units of assessment for the Ishihara Marine Products Japanese skipjack pole and line fishery.

Species	UoA 1: Skipjack (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) UoA 2 : Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
Geographical range	Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO), including Japanese EEZ, and Federated States of Micronesia EEZ
Method of capture	Pole and Line

Control Union (UK) Limited

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Stock	UoA 1: WCPO skipjack UoA 2: North Pacific albacore
Management Systems	Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), FSM National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA)
Client group	Ishihara Marine Products, Co., Ltd. and Eisei Maru Co. Ltd.
Other eligible fishers	None

CU (UK) is happy to receive comments from stakeholders on this change or on the assessment of this fishery. All interested stakeholders are encouraged to contact stakeholderfishuk@controlunion.com at CU (UK) by email, telephone or post at the below number and address:

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Control Union (UK) Ltd. shall only accept stakeholder input as public record if submitted using the MSC Template for Stakeholder Input into Fishery Assessments' - Stakeholder Input Template or if raised at the site visit in person or remotely.

Please note that stakeholders must provide objective evidence and references in support of any claims or any claimed errors of fact.

Comments may remain unattributed. Furthermore, information that cannot be shared with any other stakeholder will not be referenced in the assessment and cannot be used in determining the outcome of the fishery's assessment nor used as a basis for an objection.

Stakeholders may raise issues with the team in confidence for the team to consider at the site visit, but any confidential information cannot be used in scoring unless in compliance with confidentiality requirements.

Information can be kept confidential if it is restricted to financial transactions about certification, the financial affairs of individual companies or information that may lead to this information being known, or information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation in the assessed fishery's country.

By engaging your name may be published in any relevant reports.

If you do not wish to receive emails in respect of this fishery, please confirm this by return.

Role	Signature and date
Originator:	A. Ford and D. Wilson – 21 st of December 2022
Approver:	C. Todd 22 nd December 2022

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