North Atlantic albacore artisanal fishery

Public Certification Report

Client Group: OPEGUI & OPESCAYA

Fishermen from:

FEDERACIÓN COFRADÍAS PESCADORES DE GIPUZKOA

FEDERACIÓN COFRADÍAS DE PESCADORES BIZKAIA

COFRADIA SAN MARTIN DE LAREDO

CAB: BUREAU VERITAS IBERIA

Edificio Caoba Valportillo Primera 22-24. Pol. Ind. La Granja ALCOBENDAS MADRID 28108

AUTORS: Macarena Garcia Silva David Espinoso Garcia Jean-Jacques Maguire Luis Ambrosio Blazquez Virginia Polonio Povedano



Table of Contents

Nor	th Atlaı	ntic albacore artisanal fishery	1						
Glo	ssary		4						
1.	Executive Summary6								
2.	Autho	orship and Peer Reviewers	8						
3.	Descri	iption of the Fishery	12						
	3.1	Unit(s) of Certification and scope of certification sought	12						
	3.2	Overview of the fishery	13						
	3.3	Principle One: Target Species Background	18						
	3.3.1	Outline of the fishery	18						
	3.3.2	Status of stocks	19						
	3.3.3	History of fishing and management	24						
	3.4	Principle Two: Ecosystem Background	31						
	3.4.1	The aquatic ecosystem	31						
	3.4.2	Sensitive areas	32						
	3.4.3	Habitats features influencing or affected by the fishery	33						
	3.4.4	Ecosystem features influencing or affected by the fishery	34						
	3.4.5	The retained, bycatch and endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) sp 35	ecies						
	3.4.5.	2 Bycatch species	42						
	3.4.5.	3 Endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species	43						
	3.5	Principle Three: Management System Background	45						
4.	Evalua	ation Procedure	52						
	4.1	Harmonised Fishery Assessment	52						
	4.2	Previous assessments	55						
	4.3	Assessment Methodologies	55						
	4.4	Evaluation Processes and Techniques	55						
	4.4.1	Site Visits	55						
	4.4.2	Evaluation Techniques	59						
5	Tracea	ability	61						
Pub	5.1 lic Certifi	Eligibility Date	61 fishery						



	5.2	Traceability within the Fishery	61
	5.2.1	Description of the tracking, tracing and segregation systems within th 61	e fishery
	5.2.2	Evaluation of Risk of Vessels Fishing Outside of UoC	64
	5.2.3 fish pr	An evaluation of the opportunity for substituting certified fish for non rior to and at the point of landing	-certified 64
	5.3	Eligibility to Enter Further Chains of Custody	65
6	Evalua	ation Results	66
	6.1	Principle Level Scores	66
	6.2	Summary of Scores	66
	6.3	Summary of Conditions	67
	6.4	Determination, Formal Conclusion and Agreement	67
Refe	erences	S	68
Арр	endix 1	1 Scoring and Rationales	72
A	ppendi	x 1.1 Performance Indicator Scores and Rationale	72
A	ppendi	x 1.3 Conditions	185
Арр	endix 2	2. Peer Review Report	196
Арр	endix 3	3. Stakeholder submissions	233
Арр	endix 4	4. Surveillance Frequency	250
Арр	endix {	5. Client Agreement	251



Glossary

AZTI Spanish (Basque) fisheries research institute

Blim Limit biomass reference point, below which recruitment is expected to be impaired.

 B_{MSY} Biomass achieving maximum sustainable yield

Bpa Precautionary reference point for spawning stock biomass

CITES Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and

Fauna

CFP Common Fisheries Policy

CPUE Catch per unit effort

- EC European Commission
- EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone

ETP Endangered, threatened and protected species

EU European Union

F Fishing Mortality

FAO Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN

Flim Limit reference point for fishing mortality that is expected to drive the stock to the biomass limit

 F_{MSY} Fishing mortality achieving maximum sustainable yield

Fpa Precautionary reference point of fishing mortality expected to maintain the SSB at the precautionary reference point

MSC Marine Stewardship Council

MSE Management Strategy Evaluation

MSY Maximum Sustainable Yield

OPEGUI Organización de productores de pesca de bajura de Guipuzcoa

OPESCAYA Organización de Productores de pesca de bajura de Bizkaia

P1 MSC Principle 1

Public Certification Report



P2 MSC Principle 2

P3 MSC Principle 3

RBF MSC's risk based framework

RFMO Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

TAC Total Allowable Catch

- t Tonnes
- UoC Unit of Certification



1. Executive Summary

The **Public Certification Report (PCR)** provides details of the certification process that was undertaken for the candidate fisheries. The client group covered by the certificate are two organizations of producers called: Organización de productores de pesca de bajura de Guipuzcoa (OPEGUI) & Organización de Productores de pesca de bajura de Bizkaia (OPESCAYA). Additionally, the trolling and pole and line vessels from Cofradía San Martín de Laredo & from the federations called: Federación de Cofradías de Guipuzcoa & Vizcaya are the boats included in the certificate. Henceforth, the term client will be used to refer to them.

The audit team that conducted the assessment against to MSC standard was comprised of the following members from the Certification Body, Bureau Veritas Iberia: Macarena Garcia Silva, Seafood auditor and Scheme Manager for MSC fisheries from Bureau Veritas Iberia, in the role of project coordinator and team leader. Additionally Virgina Polonio joined the team on the basis of her experience in the areas of stock assessment and ecosystem. The expert team, selected for their stock assessment, ecosystem interactions, and fishery management experience, comprised Jean Jacques Maguire as expert assessor under Principle 1, David Espino as expert assessor under Principle 2, and Luis Ambrosio as expert assessor under Principle 3.

The assessment process began in September 2014. Public notice regarding to the launch of the MSC Certification Programme for the fishery was published the <u>9th of September 2014</u>. A series of announcements were published on the MSC website to report all the steps carried out to get the MSC certification.

The tasks schedule, identified as <u>Preliminary Assessment timeline</u>, was published at first, followed by the proposal and subsequent confirmation of the Assessment team. In the next stage of the assessment, Bureau Veritas announced the use and later confirmation of the <u>Default Assessment Tree</u>, included in V1.3 of the MSC Certification Requirements.

One of the main steps when assessing fishery compliance with the International MSC Standard involves meeting with the stakeholders in order to gather all the relevant information and become aware of any potential issues. The site was performed for the <u>week</u> starting April 6, 2015 with selected organisations and individuals with a direct interest in this fishery. The stakeholders involved in the fishery were contacted by telephone and dropping an email to schedule the site visit to prepare the fishery information which is required by the experts. The site visit was attended by Antonio Hervás from the Accreditation Services International (ASI) who witnessed the fishery full assessment carried out by BV.

After the site visit, the team compiled and analysed all the relevant information, as well as the technical, written, and anecdotal resources collected during the visit. Each expert prepared a draft score and justification, and then discussed and weighed up the evidence. Lastly, the team used their judgement to agree on a final score regarding to MSC processes.



The main **<u>strengths</u>** of this assessment process are listed below:

- Fishing mortality is considered sustainable, below natural mortality and close to any possible reference points.
- Stock in good condition, are being harvested sustainably and most elements of an appropriate and precautionary management system are in place.
- Fishers' compliance is deemed to be strong.
- Both Pole & Line and Trolling are known to be highly selective gears causing negligible impact on the habitat. By-catch and discards are also considered to be minimal.

On the other hand the **weaknesses** are detailed herein:

- Lack of specific harvest control rules by which fishing mortality can be managed in a prescribed manner and which encapsulates the precautionary approach. Biological reference points have not been developed yet.
- No regular system is in place to collect quantitative information on bycatch and interactions with ETP species, limiting scoring on PI 2.2 and 2.3 in spite of being highly selective fishing gears.
- The impacts on habitats are considered minimal given the gear used, particularly for the live bait fishery, but a systematic review of the possible impact would be useful.
- In the national context (Spain), there does not appear to be any short-term objectives explicitly designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2.

On completion of the assessment and scoring process, the assessment team recommended that the North Atlantic albacore artisanal fishery is certified with conditions according to the Marine Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fisheries.



2. Authorship and Peer Reviewers

Macarena García Silva, assessment Team Leader

Macarena's academic background includes a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science from the Madrid Polytechnic University (Spain) and a Master degree in Sustainable Management of Marine and Coastal Systems from Barcelona University (Spain). She was a manager in Inemar (Association for innovation in marine resources and sea studies). She has worked as an assistant in the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, carrying out different projects involving human activities and sea resources.

She has participated in several scientific publications, such as the "Ecological framework for the management of the different habitats in Spain (Council Directive 92/43/CE)", "Supporting report accompanying the thematic cartography of the MedRAS Project", and "Draft of the Basis for Marine Planning in Spain". She was responsible for the scientific and technical coordination of the bilingual publication "The Seas of Spain" from the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, and responsible for the scientific and technical coordination of the bilingual publication "Human Activities in the Seas of Spain".

She has been working as seafood auditor for Bureau Veritas Iberia (Agrofood Department) since September 2011, which involves the technical development of private sustainable labels and seafood companies' policies. She is the lead auditor for Friends of the Sea, MSC fisheries full assessment and pre-assessment, the chain of custody, and other quality labels (DOP, Mexillon de Galicia, Pesca de Rías). She is the MSC assessment team leader for 7 fisheries moreover she has completed the pre-assessment of numerous fisheries. Since March 2015 she is Scheme Manager of the MSC fishery Standard for Bureau Veritas Iberia.

To download a detailed CV click on the link

Jean Jacques Maguire, expert assessor under Principle 1

B.Sc. (Université Laval), M.Sc. (Université Laval) – Mr. Maguire worked for the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans from 1977 to 1996. He has led stock assessment teams in DFO and participated in stock assessment review processes on both coasts of North America in both Canada and in the USA, in the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) whose bluefin tuna working group he chaired. He chaired both the pelagic and the groundfish subcommittees of the former Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management (ACFM) of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea during 1989-1999. As a consultant in fisheries science and fisheries management since 1996 he chaired the ACFM of ICES, he works regularly for the Food and Agriculture Oraganizations of the UN, for national and international organizations. He is a member of the Canadian Fishery Resource Conservation Council since 2002.



He has participated as expert in the North West Atlantic Canada harpoon and longline swordfish MSC full assessment fisheries.

To download a detailed CV click on the link

David Espino, expert assessor under Principle 1 & 2

Marine Biologist (University of La Laguna), Post Graduate Master in Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Systems (University of Cádiz) and Post Graduate Master in Business Administration (University of Alcalá de Henares). Currently, he works as fisheries consultant and trainer in fishery statistics.

He has experience in the fishing industry, specialized mainly in swordfish, tuna and blue shark. Wide trajectory as Scientific Observer in fishing boats between 2002 and 2013 in the Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO) projects. He also worked in "Tecnologías y Servicios Agrarios, S.A." (Tragsatec) as Scientific Advisor, expert in fisheries, advising the "Secretaría General del Mar" (Spanish Sea Authority). This experience has allowed him to acquire a wide knowledge about fish stock assessment, fish stock biology and ecology, fishing impacts in aquatic ecosystems and fisheries management and operations.

To download a detailed CV click on the link

Virgina Polonio, expert assessor under Principle 2

Virginia Polonio Povedano, has a degree in Enviromental Sciences (B.S.c. University of Cádiz). She has a master degree (M.Sc. University of Cádiz) in Fisheries management and aquaculture. She obtained her PhD in biodiversity and natural resources at the University of Oviedo and during her PhD she gained experience in the field of research of fisheries and how protect the Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems as coral reefs versus fishing. She wrote several articles describing new species of corals under her thesis and she developed skills in the fields of benthic ecology and management of ecosystems.

Before her PhD, she was contracted as technician in the Spanish Oceanographic Institute where she realized work at sea and gained field experience to assessment fisheries stocks.

She participated in the Spanish National Basic Plan of Data to collect and evaluate the fishing in the ICES and CECAF areas where Spanish fleets realize theirs activities. During this period, she carried out feeding habit studies of Pagellus Bogaraveo and others commercial species (hake, anchovy, sharks, mackerel, squid...) to know how the trophic level affects the ecosystems and the distribution of the species in the Gulf of Cadiz and the Strait of Gibraltar. Since May 2015 is part of Bureau Veritas Iberia Agrofood Department as fishery expert and in process of MSC fishery team leader qualification.

To download a detailed CV click on the link



Luis Ambrosio Blazquez, expert assessor under Principle 3

Managing Director of Proyectos Biológicos y Técnicos s.l. (PROBITEC), since 1989 he has worked as a consultant on issues related to fisheries, aquaculture and marine biosphere. Regarding Fisheries and Aquaculture, he has collaborated with a variety of public administrations, private companies, and NGOs.

His main areas of knowledge are: assessment of international fisheries, marine protected areas, marine biodiversity and biotechnology, fisheries policies, commercialization and quality of fisheries products, labelling and certification, environmental interactions of fishing and socio-economic impact of fishing activities. Moreover, has participated in cooperation projects and assignments on issues related to fishing and aquaculture for the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), UNDP, the Latin American Organization for Fisheries Development (OLDEPESCA) and other international cooperation agents. He has worked as coordinator of the White Paper on fishing and aquaculture and he belongs to the Spanish Technological Platform on Fishing and Aquaculture (known as PTEPA for its acronym in Spanish), representing the firm PROBITEC.

Concerning his work on the marine environment, worth mentioning are the projects carried out for the Ministry of Environment, the Spanish National Research Council and Non-Governmental Organizations, in particular WWF Spain, for whom he is an advisor on matters related to fishing, aquaculture, and marine protected areas.

To download a detailed CV click on the link

The Peer Reviewers

The announcement of the Peer Reviewers proposal can be found in the link.

Teresa Athayde,

She works as an independent consultant (SeaMORE2) since January 2010 developing fisheries observers programs on tuna purse-seine fleet Management and coordination of a regional fisheries observer programme. Moreover during 2010-2013 she was in charge of the survey and logistic Coordinator for the SWIOFP- South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project. From 2005 till 2009 she worked as Communication and Tag Recovery Officer for the Regional Tuna Tagging Project –Indian Ocean, European Union development project implemented by the Indian Ocean Commission with technical coordination of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC).

She has experience in the fishing industry, specialized mainly in tuna. Wide trajectory as Scientific Observer in fishing boats between 1998 and 2005 with a worldwide fleet. This experience has allowed her to acquire a wide knowledge about fish stock assessment, fish stock biology and ecology, fishing impacts in aquatic ecosystems and fisheries management and operations.



Carola Kirchner,

Dr Kirchner has been working as a fisheries scientist for the last 22 years. She started working at the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (Namibia) in 1994 with an Honours degree in Analytical Science obtained from the University of Cape Town. Her undergraduate BSc degree was obtained from the University of Stellenbosch. She was placed in the linefish section as a senior researcher, but needed to obtain the necessary background, which she partly received by completing a course in Oceanography through the Open University of England in 1995. Dr Kirchner started her Masters studies part-time in 1996 at the former University of Port Elizabeth (now known as the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University) studying the biology and resource dynamics of silver kob. She initiated the roving-creel survey for all line-fish species, which is still in place today. Her Masters studies were upgraded to PhD level in which she included the stock assessment of silver kob by using simple length-based methods. These analyses were further used in the assessment of the resource status of steenbras. As a result, new angling regulations were implemented that included "maximum size limit", which was a first in southern Africa. Also, included in this study was the economic evaluation, with a comparison between the recreational and commercial side of the linefishery. Upon completion of her PhD in 1998, she was transferred to the orange roughy section, where she wasinvolved with surveys, stock assessment and management. She co-authored various orange roughy publications and was the first author of a paper that illustrated a novel way of determining the biomass of an exploratory fishery by using commercial CPUE data. In 2000, Dr Kirchner was one of the main organizers of the Symposium "A decade of Namibian Fisheries Science". The South African Journal of Marine Science dedicated Volume 23 (2001) to the papers presented at this symposium, of which Dr Kirchner had co-authorship of five of these papers. In 2001, Dr Kirchner was transferred from the orange roughy section and was placed in charge of all stock assessments within the Ministry, with the exception of crab and rock lobster. She was further trained in stock assessment by visiting MARAM, UCT for two weeks at a time in regular intervals until she was ready to take over the assessments from the then contracted consultants. Then she was responsible for the stock assessment and advice to management for 7 marine resources (e.g. hake and horse mackerel), which provided her the platform to have an in-depth knowledge of the various aspects of the assessed species and fisheries. She further expanded her knowledge and abilities by studying statistics III, amongst others, between the years 2001 to 2008 through the University of South Africa. Dr Kirchner has over the years built up international relationships, for example she was responsible for the stock assessment of southern Atlantic Albacore tuna through ICCAT and worked for two years in the stock assessment and modelling section of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.



3. Description of the Fishery

3.1 Unit(s) of Certification and scope of certification sought

Bureau Veritas Certification confirms that the fishery falls within the scope of the requested MSC certification for assessment.

According to the MSC Guidance, the unit of certification is defined as "the fishery or fish stock (= biologically distinct unit) combined with the fishing method/gear, and practice (= vessel(s) pursuing that stock)."

The CAB reviewed the definition before, during and after the site visit to clarify what was included in the assessment, and what was not. The CAB has reviewed the information available, and concludes that two unit of certification are suitable and in accordance with MSC Principles.

The UoCs of the fishery that have been assessed and are currently recommended for MSC certification are defined as:

UoC ₁ : troll vessels	UoC ₂ : pole and line vessels				
Stock: North Atlantic albacore (Thunnus	Stock: North Atlantic albacore (Thunnus				
alalunga)	alalunga)				
Fishing area: Bay of Biscay and adjacent	Fishing area: Bay of Biscay and adjacent				
North Atlantic waters (approximately up to	North Atlantic waters (approximately up to				
52° N and 20°W). Occasionally reaching	52° N and 20°W).				
international waters.	Fishing method/Gear: Pole and line				
Fishing method/Gear: Trolling	rising methody deal. Fore and line				
Tioning method, court froming	Fleet: 42 pole and line vessels				
Fleet: 87 troll vessels	The jurisdictional category applied to the				
The jurisdictional category applied to the	fishery is the FU Common Fisheries Policy				
fishery is the EU Common Fisheries Policy	and ICCAT as the RFMO whose area of				
and ICCAT as the RFMO whose area of	competence includes the Atlantic Ocean and				
competence includes the Atlantic Ocean and	stocks of highly migratory species (HMS).				
stocks of highly migratory species (HMS).					
There are not other fishers identified as part of	of the UoC. Therefore, no other eligible fishers				
are identified in the fishery.					
The client aroun of fishing vessels covered	nd by the assessment within both units of				
certifications is composed by 129 vessels divid	led in 87 troll vessels & 42 pole and line.				

These Units of Certification were used as they are compliant with client wishes for assessment coverage and in full conformity with MSC criteria and certification requirements.



3.2 Overview of the fishery

The client for this certification are two Spanish organizations of producers called: Organización de productores de pesca de bajura de Guipuzcoa (OPEGUI) & Organización de Productores de pesca de bajura de Bizkaia (OPESCAYA). The assessment includes the catches of vessels from Cofradía San Martín de Laredo & from the federations called: Federación de Cofradías de Guipuzcoa & Federación de Cofradías de Vizcaya. Henceforth, the term client will be used to refer to them.

The group of fishing vessels covered by the assessment within both units of certifications is composed by 118 vessels divided in 78 troll vessels & 42 pole and line. The vessels with their registration number and signal, together with the fishermen name and the harbour are listed in Table 3-1. Moreover, it can be checked in the website www.marm.es

UoC1 TROLL										
Nombre Embarcación	Matrícula	Folio	Población	Provincia						
AITA RAMON	25230	SS-1 2.01	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
ARANTZAZUKO IZARRA	25650	SS-1 3.03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
BERRIZ AMATXO	24948	SS-1 1.01	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
GURE ITXAROPENA	25501	SS-1 2.02	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
GURE AMA MARTINA	24104	SS-1 1.98	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
ALMIRANTE BERRIA	24515	BI-2 6-99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
NUEVO ROBER	22639	ST-2 1-93	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
OSTARTE	26620	SS-3 2-05	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA						
GAZTELUGATXEKO DONIENE	24627	BI-2 5-00	PASAI SAN PEDRO	GIPUZKOA						
ELENITA BERRIA	25893	SS-3 3.03	MUTRIKU	GIPUZKOA						
NUBEI	25927	GI-8 2-03	MUTRIKU	GIPUZKOA						
OZENTZIYO	21838	SS-1 2450	DONOSTIA	GIPUZKOA						
CASTILLO ANAYAK	21828	SS-3 1421	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA						
AMETS	22800	SS-1 2.94	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA						
BIHOTZ ALAI	24654	BI-3 2-00	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
MADARI	26574	BI-2 3-05	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
AMUA	24802	BI-3-1-99	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
GURE GAROA	25989	BI-2-2-03	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
IRURAK TERCERO	25565	BI-3-1-01	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
ITXASOKO LOREAK II	24150	BI-3-4-98	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
IXURDE	24877	BI-3-2-99	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
MARIEN	27545	BI-2-3-13	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
ROMU	25390	BI-3-2-02	ARMINTZA	VIZCAYA						
Almikeko Ama	23019	BI-2 2-95	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
AMATXU	10963	GI-4 2091	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
ANDUIZA ANAIAK	24717	BI-2 6-00	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
ASTELEHENA	23315	BI-2 3-95	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
BERRIZ ALBONIGAMAYOR	24172	BI-2 1-99	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
BETI BEGOÑAKO AMA	22981	BI-2 2-94	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
BETI EUSKAL HERRIA	21353	BI-1 3127	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
BETI ITXAS ARGI	23206	GI-4 1-96	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
BETI LAGUN BI	26670	BI-2 4-05	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
CANALECHEVARRIA	23204	FE-2 3-96	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
CARABA	23015	ST-4 1-95	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
DEMAR	25115	ST-3 1-01	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						
EREINOTZ	10190	BI-3 2934	BERMEO	VIZCAYA						

Table 3-1. List of client member's vessels

Public Certification Report



ESTELA DEL CARMEN	24988	ST-4 3-01	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GURE FATIMA	24356	BI-2 5-99	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GURE ITXARKUNDIA	22262	BI-2 1-92	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GURE ITXAS BEGI	26311	BI-2 3-04	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GURE NAIARA	25521	BI-1 3-03	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
IGAI SEGUNDO	26510	BI-3 1-05	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
IZURDIA MAITEA	23882	BI-2 1-98	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
JON KURTZIO	25649	SS-1 5-03	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
MATXAKU	26384	BI-2 2-05	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
OTZARRI BERRIA	24947	BI-2 2-01	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
REY PESCADOR	24169	ST-4 5-98	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
URDAIBAI BAT	25805	BI-2 3-03	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
URRESTI BERRIA	25292	BI-2 5-01	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
ANTXETA PRIMERO	26035	BI-3-1-04	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GAZTELUGAITZ	24133	ST-2-6-98	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
GOIENKALE	26239	BI-2-2-04	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
LEPORRE ANAIAK	24328	BI-2-3-99	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
MARIA DIGNA DOS		ST-4-2-95	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
NVO SAN LUIS	10878	SS-2-1720	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
UNTXI	25308	BI-2-1-02	BERMEO		VIZCAYA
OSKARBI	23089	BI-2-4-95	LEKEITIO)	VIZCAYA
TOTAIO	25945	BI-1 6-03	LEKEITIO)	VIZCAYA
NUEVO MONI	25480	ST-4 2-02	MUNDAK	A	VIZCAYA
BETI OITZ	25804	BI-4-02	ONDARR	OA	VIZCAYA
ARLANPI	24514	BI-4 1-99	ONDARR	OA	VIZCAYA
ITOITZ	25490	BI-4 1-02	ONDARR	OA	VIZCAYA
MARTIN ALBIZU ANAIAK	27112	BI-3 1-08	SANTUR	TZI	VIZCAYA
SABADEO	25749	BI-3 1-03	SANTUR	TZI	VIZCAYA
HIRU ANAIAK	25496	BI-3-4-02	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
ILUNBER ETA ISKANDER	23573	BI-3-1-97	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
BETI ISKANDER	23352	FE-4-3-96	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
MARTIN ALBIZU ANAIAK	27112	BI-3-1-08	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
PORTU ZARRA PRIMERO	22468	ST-1-1-92	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
SABADEO	25749	BI-3-1-03	SANTURTZI		VIZCAYA
ROKILLO	25104	GI-8-2-01	SANTUR	TZI	VIZCAYA
LAURA Y CRISTINA	24946	BI-3 2-01	SANTUR	TZI	VIZCAYA
FAROLIN	24150	BI-3-4-98	ZIERBEN	A	VIZCAYA
LEKANDA	25901	BI-2-4-03	ZIERBEN	A	VIZCAYA
BRAULIN	23296	ST-2	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
ESTRELLA DEL MAR	13031	ST-5	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
LA FLECHERA	23912	BI-3 1-98	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
MADRE LUCIA	26240	ST-2 1-02	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
MARIA ESTEFANIA	12838	BI-2 2581	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
MARINANA	24586	GI-8 3-00	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
NUEVO ANABEL PRIMERO	24953	ST-2 2-01	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
NUEVO CHISU	23189	ST-2 1-96	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
NUEVO VIRGEN PODEROSA	24266	GI-6 2-99	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
SIEMPRE CUCA	24451	51-4 6-99	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
	27670	51-21-14	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
	52311 FE-4-19-05		LAREDO		CANTABRIA
	23/89	51-1 1-98	LAREDO		CANTABRIA
U	oC2 POLE	AND LINE			
Nombre Embarcación	Matrícul	a Folio	P	oblación	Provincia
ARRANTZALE	2523	32 SS-1 3.01	HON	DARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
	2560	06 55-1 2 03	HON		GIPUZKOA
	2200	94 55-1 1 06			GIPUZKOA



guadalupeko ama	1677	SS-3 1378	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
GURE AMUITZ	24653	SS-1 2.00	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
GURE AITA JOXE	25568	SS-1 3.02	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
ITSAS EDER	24518	SS-1- 5.99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
ITSAS LAGUNAK	26370	SS-1 2-05	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
ITSASOAN	23529	SS-1 1.97	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
LUIS BARRANKO	23467	SS-1 3.96	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
NUEVO HORIZONTE ABIERTO	23830	ST-3 2.98	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
PITTAR	24561	SS-1 4.99	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
SAN FERMIN BERRIA	25996	SS-1 6-03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
Τυκυ τυκυ	25231	SS-1 4.01	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
TXINGUDI	25540	SS-1 01.03	HONDARRIBIA	GIPUZKOA
BERRIZ AVE MARIA	25310	SS-1 1.02	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
BETI AINGERU	25321	SS-3 2.01	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
BETI SAN LUIS	10863	SS-2 1868	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
MONTSERRAT BERRIA	24630	SS-1 1.00	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
SAN ANTONIO BERRIA	25320	SS-1 5.01	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
GURE GOGOA	26064	SS-1 2-04	ORIO	GIPUZKOA
AGUSTIN DEUNA	25315	SS-3 1.02	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
AZKOITIA	25608	SS-3 1.03	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
BERRIZ IRIGOIEN	23227	SS-3 2.96	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
BETI PIEDAD	25229	SS-3 4.01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
IRIGOIEN BERRIA	22332	SS-3 1.92	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
IZASKUN BERRIA	25604	SS-3 2.02	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
KAXIMIRONA	25233	SS-3 1.01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
MARIÑELAK	23444	SS-3 3.96	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
MATER BI	25616	SS-3 2.03	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
PEDRO JOSE BERRIA	15219	SS-3 1406	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
SAN PRUDENTZIO BERRIA	24179	SS-3 3.98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
SANTA LUZIA HIRU	24178	SS-3 4.98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
SANTANA BERRIA	24170	SS-3 5.98	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
STELLA MARIS BERRIA	25234	SS-3 3.01	GETARIA	GIPUZKOA
ONGUI ETORRI	14416	SS-1 2378	ONDARROA	VIZCAYA
KALAMUA BI	25287	BI-1 2-01	BERMEO	VIZCAYA
ONDARZABAL	25216	BI-1 1-01	BERMEO	VIZCAYA
AITANA DEL MAR	25325	ST-4 5-01	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
NUEVO PANELO VILLA	23803	ST-2 6-97	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
NUESTRO PADRE TONINO	25869	ST-2 1-94	LAREDO	CANTABRIA
NUESTRA MADRE JUANITA	23627	ST-2 1-95	LAREDO	CANTABRIA

The <u>stock of North Atlantic albacore</u> is widely distributed around the North Atlantic. As reported by the FAO^{1} in the Atlantic Ocean there are at least three fisheries for albacore:



- The troll fishery that dates back to the nineteenth century that has evolved over time through mechanization and the on-board processing of fish. It is operated mainly by Spanish and French vessels in the Bay of Biscay and the West European basin. To clarify, the client does not process on board as explained in the traceability section.
- A pole-and-line (bait boat) fishery was established by the Spanish and French after the second world war in the Bay of Biscay and off northern Portugal. The fishery takes place in the summer months. From 1970, autumn activity has developed off Moroocco by Spanish and Portuguese vessels based in the Azores and Madeira.
- There are seasonal long line fisheries, initially operated by the Japanese distant water fleet but later vessels from other countries entered the fishery, most significantly Chinese Taipei.

The fishery assessed take place through the Bay of Biscay and adjacent North Atlantic waters (approximately up to 52° N and 20°W) within FAO area 27. The bait boat fleet operates with pole and line during July-September, using live bait (mainly sardine). The troll fleet operates with artificial lures during June-October. While baitboats generally operate in the Bay of Biscay (south of 50N and east of 10W) trollers work in a wider area reaching high see waters (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Distribution of Albacore fishing effort 2007. Trollers have worked throughout the red zone. Data source: Ortiz de Zárate et al (2013).

<u>Management of the stock</u> is coordinated by ICCAT. All the countries involved in targeting the stock to a significant extent are contracting parties of ICCAT with the exception of Taiwan, who nevertheless contributes scientific data to ICCAT stock analyses and participate in scientific meetings, as do all the members.

The ICCAT convention for the conservation of Atlantic tunas states that the Commission is responsible for the study of the populations of tuna and tuna-like fishes and such other species of fishes exploited in tuna fishing in the Convention area as are not under investigation by another international fishery organization. The Commission may, on the basis of scientific evidence, make recommendations designed to maintain the populations of



tuna and tuna-like fishes that may be taken in the Convention area at levels which will permit the maximum sustainable catch. These recommendations shall be applicable to the Contracting Parties and become effective for all Contracting Parties six months after the date of the notification from the Commission transmitting the recommendation to the Contracting Parties. However there are some exceptions that are established in the Basic Text of the Comision.

Moreover, ICCAT conducts assessments of albacore tuna on a regular basis. Since 2009 ICCAT put into place a recovery plan that was updated in 2011 with rebuilding to the Convention Objective expected by 2010 (Source: ICCAT 2011a).

Considering the last *Thunnus alalunga* stock assessment from the SCRS during 2013, the Commission established a new TAC for 2014, 2015 and 2016 of 28.000 t [Rec. 13-05]. The landings from the Basque Country from 2011 and 2012 were of 4,408 t and 6,344 t respectively. In the last two decades albacore tuna landings from the Basque Country represents the 54.5% of the total Spanish landings. On the other hand these landings correspond to 31% of international albacore captures. The total catches from both Units of Certification (UoC) during the 2014 was approximately of 3,045 t (Source: IEO, AZTI).



3.3 Principle One: Target Species Background

3.3.1 Outline of the fishery

Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) is a highly migratory species found in all oceans around the world (Figure 2). It is an epipelagic (enough light for photosynthesis) and mesopelagic (about 200 to 1000m) oceanic species that seldom come close to shore and prefer deep, wide open waters. The albacore, like other tunas have a thermoregulatory capacity allowing them to swim in a wide range of temperatures both horizontally and vertically.

Temperature is one of the most relevant environmental factors determining the distribution of Albacore. Arrizabalaga et al 2015 showed that albacore prefers waters with temperature ranges between 13-22°C at sea surface. These thermal preferences appear to act as barriers to movements of albacores between different regions implying minimal exchanges between separate populations in the north Atlantic, in the south Atlantic and in the Indian ocean (Penney et al. 1998). In the Northern Atlantic the temperature ranges is 16-20°C (Santiago, 2004).



Figure 2. Distribution Map for Thunnus alalunga. Source: Reviewed Native Distribution Map for Thunnus alalunga (modelled 2100 map based on IPCC A2 emissions scenario) (Albacore). www.aquamaps.org, version of Aug. 2013.

Other environmental factors determining the distribution of albacore in the Northern Atlantic are:

- Salinity: 35-38 PSU (Goikoetxea et al. 2014)
- Chlorophyll concentration of 0.2-0.4 mg/m³ (Goikoetxea et al. 2014)

The albacore size of maturity is estimated at age 5 or 90 cm (Bard, 1981).

In the North Atlantic, albacore (adults and juveniles) apparently spend the winter in the central Atlantic area. In spring (in late March or early April), when the waters become Public Certification Report North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery



warmer, adults initiate a reproductive migration to the Sargasso Sea where spawning occur between April and September (Santiago, 2004). In May, albacore starts to concentrate in surface waters near the Azores. In summer, immature albacore carries out a trophic migration to northern latitudes, areas of the Bay of Biscay and the southeast of Ireland (Arrizabalaga et al. 2002). Adult albacore, when summertime approaches, undertake reproductive migrations to spawning grounds in the western part of north Atlantic (offshore Venezuela and Sargasso Sea) swimming at depths of 50-150 m.

3.3.2 Status of stocks

Based on the biological information available for assessment purposes, ICCAT assumes three stocks: North and South Atlantic stocks (separated at 5°N) and a Mediterranean stock. The stock considered in this MSC evaluation is the North Atlantic Stock.

The most recent assessment for the North Atlantic stock of albacore was conducted by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) in 2013 using data up to 2011. (Table 3-2).

Maximum Sustainable Yield	31,680 t			
Current (2014) TAC	28,000 t			
Current (2013) Yield	20,948 t			
Yield in last year of	20,044 t			
assessment (2011)				
F _{MSY}	0,1486			
SSB _{current} /SSB _{MSY}	0.94 (0.74-1.14)	Average for the last three years, with		
		base case 95% confidence interval.		
SSB _{current} /B _{lim}	2.4	The proposed interim B_{lim} is 0.4.		
F _{current} /F _{MSY}	0.72 (0.55-0.89) Average for the last three years,			
		base case 95% confidence interval.		

Table 3-2. North Atlantic Albacore Summary. Source: ICCAT, 2014

This stock is exploited principally by EU fleets (Ireland, France, Portugal and Spain) in the Bay of Biscay, in the adjacent waters of the northeast Atlantic and in the vicinity of the Canary and Azores Islands in summer and autumn. Live bait fleet is largely confined within EEZs of EU member countries while, occasionally, troll fleet can reach international waters.

Nominal annual catch (Figure 3), increased from 1950 to the 1960s reaching more than 60,000 t for a few years between 1960 and 1965. The increase in the total catch of albacore is mainly due to longline, bait boat and troll gears. Total catches subsequently declined to 20948t in 2013. New surface fisheries (driftnet and mid-water pair pelagic trawl) were introduced in the 1990s, but driftnet ended in the early 2000s. Total allowable catches (TACs) were introduced in 2001. Catches have been consistently lower than the TAC except in 2004 and 2005.





Figure 3. Nominal annual catch of Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the North Atlantic stock separated by fishing gear and the total catch. Data source: ICCAT statistical databases.

Different methods were considered for sensitivity tests when assessing the stock in 2013, which gave rise to the opportunity of evaluating how the fisheries operate over time, as well as their impact on the population (ICCAT, 2014). The fisheries definitions were also reviewed, with 12 fishery units defined for the evaluation of the Multifan-CL baseline case. The final specifications of the baseline case model were decided by basic principles (e.g. fisheries knowledge) and diagnoses (e.g. the goodness of fit of the data to the model).

The Spanish troll CPUE series showed a relatively flat trend compared to the Spanish baitboat CPUE series which showed a more upward trend in the last three decades (Figure 4). For the longline fleets, the CPUE indices generally decline over time up until the mid 80s, with varying rates, with some stability afterwards and a slight increase in the last few years. Comparatively, the Japanese CPUE showed steeper declines at the beginning of the series and the Chinese Taipei CPUE showed steeper increasing trends during the last years. Given the variability associated with these catch rate estimates, definitive conclusions about recent trends could not be reached just by examining the CPUE trends alone (ICCAT, 2014) (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Standardized catch rate indices used in the 2013 northern albacore stock assessment from the surface fisheries, which take mostly juvenile fish, and from the longline fisheries, which take mostly adult fish. Data source: ICCAT, 2014.

The different models and assumptions provide a wide range of B/B_{MSY} and F/F_{MSY} estimates (Figure 5 and Figure 6).



Figure 5. Stock status of Northern albacore tuna according to base case as well as different models and runs considered during the assessment. Data source: ICCAT, 2014.





Figure 6. Joint trajectories of SSB/SS_{BMSY} and F/F_{MSY} over time and current stock status of northern albacore according to the estimated Multifan-CL Base Case. The black point represents the stock status in 2011, and the blue points represent the uncertainty on the current stock status. Data source: ICCAT, 2013; ICCAT, 2014.

Most of model formulations concluded that:

 Spawning stock biomass decreased since the 1930s and started to recover since the mid-1990s. Furthermore, considering catch and effort since the 1930s and size frequency since 1959, the spawning stock size has declined and in 2011 was about one third of the peak estimated for the late-1940s (Figure 7). Estimates of recruitment to the fishery, although variable, have generally been higher in the 1960s and earlier periods with a declining trend thereafter (Figure 8).



Figure 7. Estimates of northern Atlantic albacore spawning stock size between 1930-2011 according to the Multifan-CL Base Case and the different sensitivity runs considered in the assessment. Data source: ICCAT, 2014.





Figure 8. Estimates of northern Atlantic albacore recruitment (age 1) between 1930-2011 from Multifan-CL base case. Uncertainty in the estimates has not been characterized, but the uncertainty in recent recruitment levels is considered to be higher than in the past. Data source: ICCAT, 2014.

- Since the establishment of the TAC in 2001, catch remained substantially below the TAC in all but two years. This might have accelerated rebuilding over the last decade.
- Overfishing is not occurring. The ratio of Fcurrent/ F_{MSY} is estimated at 0.72 (confidence interval 0.55-0.79).
- Most of the assessment model runs indicate that the stock has been increasing since the mid-1990s with the stock now being very close to SSB_{MSY} (SSBcur/SSB_{MSY} =0.94 confidence interval of 0.74-1.14).
- According to the base case assessment, the probability of the stock being overfished and that overfishing is occurring (red) is 0,2%, the probability that the stock is neither overfished nor that overfishing is occurring (green) is 27.4%, and of being overfished or overfishing occurring but not both (yellow) is 72.4% (Figure 9).
- The ratio of $SSB_{cur}/B_{lim} = 2.4$.
- With the current TAC (28,000 t) the stock would rebuild by 2019 with 53% probability. However, if the catches remained similar to recent ones, (21,000 t) there would be a 75% probability of rebuilding. If the catches are equal to the current TAC, 75% of rebuilding would not be attained until 2027. The catches in the last two years (2012 and 2013) was around 25,000 t.





Figure 9. North Atlantic albacore probability of being overfished and overfishing (red, 0.2 %), of being neither overfished nor overfishing (green, 27.4%), and of being overfished or overfishing, but not both (yellow, 72.4%), according to the Multifan-CL Base Case (ICCAT, 2014).

3.3.3 History of fishing and management

History of Fishing

The Spanish surface troll fishery for albacore in the Bay of Biscay began four hundred years ago, when boats going to Newfoundland to fish cod, finally tune were fished at the same time. On the other hand, the first experience, using this method for the Spanish fleets in the Cantabrian Sea, was at the end of 50 by fishers of San Juan de Laredo. Due to the success achieved quickly spread through the rest of the ports of the Cantabrian Sea. (Merino, 1997)

According to data provided by the Sub-Directorate General of Inspection and Control from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment, there were 484 authorised vessels in 2014. Of these, 6 vessels were only authorised for live bait, 422 were authorised for troll, and 56 for both fishing practices.

Figure 3 shows that the evaluated fleet (the Spanish Cantabrian live bait and troll fishery) oscillates around 50% of the total catches of the north Atlantic stock.

Most of the live bait fleet catches are from two main areas of offshore Atlantic waters during July and August and from the Bay of Biscay area during September and October (Figure 10). This geographical distribution of live bait catches was similar to the fishing grounds observed during the 2010 fishing season, when catches were obtained in North East Atlantic waters and the Bay of Biscay area (Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013), and generally matches the data obtained during the site visit.

The troll fleet work mainly in the offshore waters of the North eastern Atlantic from June to September. Only partially in September and during October the activity of this fleet took place in the Bay of Biscay area. In 2011, the monthly spatial distribution of troll vessels interviewed shown a permanence of the albacore resource, in offshore Atlantic waters at



early fishing season (June) extended to the end of summer season (September), meanwhile, in the autumn months troll trips showed a distribution closer to offshore waters of the Iberian Peninsula (Figure 11) in contrast with the previous troll fishing season in 2010, when catches were absent in the Bay of Biscay area (Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013).



Figure 10. Spanish baitboat nominal CPUE distribution in 2011 fishing season derived from interviews to skippers (Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013).



Figure 11. Spanish troll nominal CPUE distribution in 2011 fishing season derived from interviews to skippers (Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013).

Public Certification Report



This surface fisheries are targeting mainly immature and sub-adult fish (50 cm to 90 cm FL) between the months of June and November. In 2011, the monthly catch at size distribution (Task II data) is shown in Figure 12 for the bait boat fleet and in Figure 13 for the troll fleet. Three main modes can be clearly identified in the length distribution of catches taken by troll vessels by visual inspection. In the case of the bait boat catch at size distribution it is not possible to identify such clear modes. When total catch at size distribution was aggregated and compared for both fleets then three main modes were identified and some overlap between total length distribution of catch corresponding to the different selectivity patterns associated with the two gears targeting albacore in different spatial and temporal strata (Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013).



Figure 12. Monthly length distribution of albacore catch by bait boat fleet in 2011. Source: Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013.



Figure 13. Monthly length distribution of albacore catch by troll fleet in 2011. Source: Ortiz de Zárate et al. 2013.

The total nominal capture of the evaluated fleets has fluctuated over the last 14 years. 15 512 t of albacore were fished in 2000, which later dropped to around 7 650 t in 2001 and 2002. The annual catches then gradually grew, eventually reaching 24 133 t in 2006. There was then a drop in catches until stabilising at around more or less 10 000 t a year. It was 9 289 t in 2013, around a 23% drop on the 2012 catch (Figure 14). The Sub-Directorate General of Inspection and Control from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment estimates that for the fleet being evaluated for certification, the 2014 catches will be around

Public Certification Report



9,000 t, and although definitive data is not available, the catch levels of 2013 are expected to be sustained.



Figure 14. Nominal catches of albacore of the fleet under assessment (Spanish troll and bait boat from the Bay of Biscay) compared with the total landings for other fleets in the North Atlantic. Data source: ICCAT statistical databases.

Figure 15 shows just how significant the evaluated fleet is, given it has accounted for 40% of the albacore catches in the North Atlantic over the last three years (2011-2013). This significance was even greater between 2004 and 2010, when it accounted for around 60% of all catches.



Figure 15. The percentage of albacore caught from the Cantabrian Sea by the live bait and troll fleet against the total albacore catches from the North Atlantic stock. Data source: ICCAT statistical databases.



History of management

Due to the highly migratory nature of the species, albacore tuna is managed by Secretaría General de Pesca under the auspices of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). This fishing activity in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas is regulated by the organisation, ICCAT, of which the European Community is a contracting party. ICCAT is responsible for the conservation of tuna and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. The objective of the Convention is to maintain populations at levels that will support maximum sustainable catch (MSY).

In 1998, the ICCAT recommended the limitation of fishing capacity on northern albacore Rec [98-8], limiting the fishing capacity of their vessels for this stock from 1999 onwards, through a limitation of the number vessels to the average number in the period 1993-1995. This recommendation is still valid.

In 1999, the Commission reiterates the Rec [98-8] in the Rec [99-5] where recommended the management measures for the northern albacore and was requested the best available Task I and Task II data that will enable the SCRS to accomplish the analyses of the fishery.

The main management tool albacore fishery has been the recommendation of a TAC, by the ICCAT, which has been declining since 2001 until today, as recommended by the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS). TAC developments along these years can be seen in Figure 3.

In 2000, was stablished a northern albacore catch limits, Rec [00-6] was established a total allowable catch (TAC) of 34,500 MT for 2001 and remaining in force the Rec [98-8]. This TAC will be maintained until in the Rec [01-5], Rec [02-5], Rec [03-6] and REC [06-4] for 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. Also, recommendation [03-6], as amended by REC [04-03], recommended that the SCRS shall conduct an assessment of this stock in 2007.

In 2007, the Commission, noting the SCRS advice advocating reductions in current fishing levels to ensure sustainability of the stocks, recommended the establishment of a TAC of 30,200 t for 2008 and 2009, in the Rec [07-2] and recommended that the SCRS shall conduct an assessment of this stock in 2009.

In 2009, in the Rec [09-5] and Rec [11-4] considering that the 2009 SCRS stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020, was recommended the establishment of a TAC of 28,000t for 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013.

In 2013, in the Rec [13-5], considering that the 2013 SCRS stock assessment concluded that the northern albacore stock is overfished but that overfishing is not occurring, and recommended a level of catch of no more than 28 000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 2020, was recommended the establishment of a TAC of 28 000 t for 2014, 2015 y 2016. Also, in this recommendation the SCRS shall conduct an assessment



of this stock in 2016 and provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate management measures to achieve and maintain the Convention objectives.

Since the establishment of the TAC in the year 2001, catch remained substantially below the TAC in all but two years (Figure 3). This might have accelerated rebuilding over the last decade.

Considering the Commission's decision framework (Rec [11-13], Figure 16), and noting that the Commission requested SCRS to identify a limit reference point for northern Albacore (Rec [11-04]), the outlook for stock status under the Commission's decision guidelines was projected making use of Harvest Control Rule (HCR, Figure 17) options consistent with the policies identified in Rec [11-13], using an interim biomass limit of $0.4B_{MSY}$ that is expected to be further tested, together with other candidate reference points, using the MSE framework. Projections were constructed in this way to inform the Commission's choice of 'high probability' and 'short period' (Figure 16), considering the uncertainty in stock status evaluations that could be quantified and assuming that the indicated strategy could be perfectly implemented.





Figure 16. Schematic representation of the key elements of the Recommendation by ICCAT on the principles of decision making for ICCAT conservation and management measures [Rec. 11-13] (ICCAT, 2014).

Figure 17. Generic form of the HCR recommended by SCRS (SCRS, 2011). B_{lim} is the limit biomass reference point, $B_{Threshold}$ is the biomass point at which increasingly strict management actions should be taken as biomass decreases and F_{target} , the target fishing mortality rate to be applied such that it is lower than F_{MSY} with 'high probability' [Rec. 11-13] (ICCAT, 2014).

The projections were complemented by a set of projections under alternative provisional HCRs that could serve the Commission to decide on desired timeframes and probabilities for recovering the North Atlantic stock and which are consistent with the decision framework of Rec [11-13] in that there is a high probability of $F < F_{MSY}$ in as short a time as possible. A range of time-frames and probability levels for achieving the Commission's goals established in Rec [11-13] are provided in Figure 18. Longer time frames provide more options for HCR parameters that project higher probabilities of being 'Green'. The HCR projections indicate, for example, should the Commission wish to have a 'high probability' of 75% within a 10

Public Certification Report



year time-frame, then the HCR with a Biomass Threshold at B_{MSY} paired with a Target F of 0.9 F_{MSY} would provide the highest expected 10 year cumulative catch amongst options and the average catch expected from 2014-2016 would be approximately 26,260 t. Should the Commission consider a 'high probability' of 60% sufficient within a five year time-frame, then the HCR with a Biomass Threshold at B_{MSY} paired with a Target F of 0.9 F_{MSY} would also meet that objective and provide the highest expected cumulative catch amongst options that would provide at least 60% probability within five years and the average catch from 2014-2016 would remain approximately 26,260 t. Unlike the constant catch projections, the HCR projections imply increasing catch as the population biomass increases resulting in higher cumulative catch over time to achieve equivalent conservation objectives of a constant catch policy.

	Kobe II Stra	tegy mat	rix. Futu	re prob	ability o	f SSB>SS	SBMSY a	nd F <fn< th=""><th>ASY for c</th><th>lifferent</th><th>combin</th><th>ations o</th><th>of Bthres</th><th>hold an</th><th>d Ftarge</th><th>t values</th><th></th><th></th><th></th></fn<>	ASY for c	lifferent	combin	ations o	of Bthres	hold an	d Ftarge	t values			
Bthreshold	Ftarget	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
.6Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	29	32	36	49	54	57	61	65	68	70	73	75	77	78	80	81	82	84
.6Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	29	31	35	45	52	55	58	61	64	67	69	71			77	78	79	80
.6Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	29	31	33	42	47	52	55	57	59	62	64	67	69					77
.6Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	29	30	30	39	42	46	50	52	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	68	70	71
.6Bmsy	0.95Fmsy	29	29	20	36	37	39	42	44	48	50	51	52	54	55	56	58	60	61
.8Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	29	32	42	51	55	59	63	67	70	72	75	76	78	80	81	83	86	88
.8Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	29	32	41	50	53	56	59	62	66	69	71			77		80	81	83
.8Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	29	31	39	48	50	53	56	58	61	63	67						77	
.8Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	29	30	35	46	48	50	51	54	56	58	60	62	64	67	69	70	72	73
.8Bmsy	0.95Fmsy	29	29	23	45	45	46	47	48	49	51	52	54	55	56	58	59	61	63
Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	29	35	47	58	62	68	72	75	78	80	82	84	87	90	92	94	95	96
Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	29	34	46	56	61	66					80	82	85	87	90	92	94	95
Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	29	33	45	55	59	63				77		80	82	84	87	89	91	93
Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	29	33	42	54	56	60	66							81		85	87	89
Bmsv	0.95Emsy	29	32	32	52	54	57	62	64	67					77		80	81	83

		Average catch over		Cumulative catch over:		
Bthreshold	Ftarget	3 years	5 years	10 years	15 years	20 years
.6Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	26.969	139.100	293.575	454.716	620.434
.6Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	28.458	146.274	306.335	472.388	642.668
.6Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	29.911	153.211	318.349	488.666	662.774
.6Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	31.330	159.918	329.637	503.591	680.809
.6Bmsy	0.95Fmsy	32.715	166.398	340.221	517.205	696.835
.8Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	25.260	133.581	289.167	451.760	618.642
.8Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	26.655	140.496	301.820	469.532	641.152
.8Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	28.016	147.185	313.734	485.931	661.571
.8Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	29.346	153.654	324.930	500.996	679.954
.8Bmsy	0.95Fmsy	30.643	159.905	335.420	514.759	696.359
Bmsy	0.75Fmsy	22.639	123.151	277.783	441.651	610.569
Bmsy	0.8Fmsy	23.877	129.456	289.836	458.946	632.882
Bmsy	0.85Fmsy	25.083	135.543	301.142	474.839	653.068
Bmsy	0.9Fmsy	26.260	141.416	311.703	489.342	671.130
Bmsy	0.95Fmsy	27.407	147.079	321.520	502.449	687.030

Figure 18. North Atlantic albacore estimated probabilities (in %) that the fishing mortality is below F_{MSY} and spawning stock biomass is above SSB_{MSY} (green status). Projections conducted with different Harvest Control Rules (as combinations of B_{thresh} and F_{target} values, all assuming B_{lim}=0.4SSB_{MSY}) are shown (ICCAT, 2014).

Target species a key LTL

Albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) are top carnivores and they opportunistically prey on schooling stocks of sardine, anchovy, mackerel, Atlantic horse mackerel, squid and crustaceans (ICCAT manual, 2010).

Many sharks, larger tunas, billfishes and marine mammals are predators that prey upon albacore (www.fishbase.org).



Albacore is not in the list of species types that are defined as "Key LTL stocks" for the purposes of an MSC assessment. Albacore, the target species, is not key Low Trophic Level species.

3.4 Principle Two: Ecosystem Background

3.4.1 The aquatic ecosystem

We can find a description of the evaluation area in Goikoetxea et al. 2014, "The Bay of Biscay is located in the north-eastern Atlantic Ocean; it extends along the western French and northern Spanish coasts, from the peninsula of Brittany in France up to the Ortegal cape in Galicia (Spain) (Figure 19)".

The Bay reaches more than 4000 m depth in the abyssal plain. The continental slope is the transition between the abyssal plain and the continental shelf; it is characterised by a sharp slope and it is fractured by several canyons. In the northern area, the width of the Armorican shelf goes from 150 to 180 km and the length is about 300 km. In the southern area, the width of the Armorican shelf extends between 50 and 150 km and is has a length of about 250 km. The Spanish shelf shows an east-west orientation and it is narrow, with an average width between 30 and 40 km (Koutsikopoulos and Le Cann, 1996).



Figure 19. Schematic illustration of the water circulation in the Bay of Biscay. Data source: Ferrer *et al.*, 2009.

The atmospheric circulation depends on two activity centres: an anticyclonic area located south to the 40°N parallel, centered close to Azores, and a low pressure area centered on the line of latitude 60°N, close to Iceland. Between both areas, the predominant winds blow from the west-southwest, with stronger intensity in winter but weaker and more irregular in



summer. Consequently, the area is characterized by a noticeable seasonality: in spring and summer, winds mainly blow from the north, whereas in autumn and winter southwesterly winds are more frequent (OSPAR, 2000).

The surface water circulation of the Bay of Biscay is mainly driven by wind forcing and constrained by the complex and irregular submarine topography and orientation of the coast. In addition, continental water inputs modify sea water characteristics and they establish a marked spatial variability. The rivers with more volume that flow into the Bay of Biscay are the Loire, Adour, Dordogne and Garonne rivers, all of them belonging to French basins. The main characteristics of the water circulation of the Bay of Biscay are summarized in Figure 19. The Bay is situated in the intergyre area, between the current of Azores (belonging to the subtropical anticyclonic gyre) and the North Atlantic current (belonging to the sub polar cyclonic gyre). In this regard, the central area of the Bay is characterized by a weak anticyclonic circulation (~1-2 cm/s) (Koutsikopoulos and Le Cann, 1996). However, the surface circulation over the abyssal basin is namely seasonal, in response to the Ekman transport induced by the winds. The main characteristic of this oceanic zone is the presence of mesoscale eddies. They are generated due to abrupt changes in the bathymetry of the area such as canyons, which interrupt the winter slope current (Navidad flow). The winter slope current enters the Bay of Biscay in the area of Cape Finisterre. The warm water flows eastwards over the Cantabrian continental slope. Pingree and Le Cann (1990) showed that despite the relatively weak intensity of the slope current (5-10 cms⁻¹), it has a marked seasonality with warm water flowing along the Portuguese and Spanish slopes in winter. Part of this flow continues towards the Pole, following the French continental slope; but given the abrupt changes in the topography of the area such as Cape Ortegal, Estaca de Bares and the canyon of Cape Ferret, the slope current is partly interrupted forming the abovementioned oceanic eddies (Garcia-Soto et al. 2002). Pingree and Le Cann (1992) named these oceanographic structures "SWODDIES" (Slope Water Oceanic eDDIES), which are oceanic eddies that retain water coming from the continental slope, where these structures are generated. Eddies participate in the interchange of heat, salt, contaminants, nutrients, plankton, etc., between the continental slope and the abyssal plain.

3.4.2 Sensitive areas

Several areas of the Bay of Biscay and Cantabrian Sea have special protection, deriving from OSPAR or Natura 2000 obligations. The main areas are the Iroise and Arcachon Basin Marine Parks in France and the El Cachucho Protected Area in Spain. Extensive studies on these areas have provided knowledge on the Bay of Biscay seabed habitat.

In accordance with Law 42/2007, of 13 December, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, all formally designated natural spaces are considered protected areas using international tools in accordance with the provisions in the international conventions and agreements involving Spain, and include the following, among others:

• The natural sites on the World Heritage List, of the Convention concerning the Protection of the World, Cultural, and Natural Heritage.



- The protected areas of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
- The UNESCO Geoparks.

The generic protection regime for these areas is to be taken from the relevant international conventions and agreements.

The official data on each area in Spain currently protected by international tools will be included in the Spanish Inventory of Protected Natural Spaces, Red Natura 2000 and Areas protected by international tools, awaiting regulatory instrumentation.

3.4.3 Habitats features influencing or affected by the fishery

There is good information regarding the habitat characteristics of many areas of the European seas, through several international projects and integrated effort (EUSeaMap, EMODnet, MeshAtlantic), which can provide predicted habitats for many areas including the Bay of Biscay.

The albacore troll and bait boat fishery is pelagic (near surface) in nature, and hence habitat interactions are largely concentrated on the pelagic environment. Impacts are expected to be transient and negligible, in particular given the gear type.

Since the fishery uses a gear designed to operate in surface or mid-water and to catch pelagic species.

- Troll fishing gear employed in the Cantabrian sea albacore fishery operates at the surface in deep oceanic water. The fishing gear consists of a towing line with artificial bait at the speed of 7 knots behind the boat (3-4 knots when fish is catching). Generally, troll vessels are fitted with large poles or rods and can have between 12-14 lines (they may have up to 15) towing at the same time. The lines are drawing at the surface. Impacts will, therefore, be limited to the pelagic habitat, and are expected to be imperceptible, highly transient and negligible. Furthermore, based on the nature of the gear, there is no risk that the fishery contacts the seabed. The species landed are always pelagic species living in pelagic habitats. This provides evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to ever come in to contact with the seabed.
- Bait boat fishing gear employed in the Cantabrian sea albacore fishery operates at the surface in deep oceanic water. The fishing gear consists of using rods, 4-6 meters in length to catch tuna that are attached and kept close to the vessel by periodically throwing live fish overboard. Impacts will, therefore, be limited to the pelagic habitat, and are expected to be imperceptible, highly transient and negligible. Furthermore, based on the nature of the gear, there is no risk that the fishery contacts the seabed. The species landed are always pelagic species living in pelagic habitats. This provides evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to ever come in to contact with the seabed. To obtain the live bait species is used a small purse seine



and keep alive on board ship in large tanks. The gear used is smaller than used by the Spanish Bay of Biscay purse seiners target anchovy, sardine or mackerel (80 meters depth by 550 meters length). It is designed to operate in mid-water and to catch pelagic species it is likely to have negligible impact on benthic habitats. In the site visit fishermen inform that gear lost is very low. Depending on the fishing area, shipwrecks can cause breakage the gear but is very unlikely to lose the gear or a part of it.

Another possible impact of fishing is the gear lost. In the site visit fishermen inform that gear lost is very low. Benthic habitat impact from lost gear, as noted above, will be minimal due to the infrequency of lost gear and the nature of the gear.

VMS data from the fishing fleet provides the Spanish authorities with updated information on vessel position and tracks.

MARPOL, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (1973) covers pollution by oil, chemicals, and harmful substances in packaged form, sewage and garbage. Spain is a signatory of this Convention, and thus the albacore troll and bait boat fishery falls within the agreements on prevention of disposal of harmful waste and fishing gear while at sea.

3.4.4 Ecosystem features influencing or affected by the fishery

Fish diversity is quite high in relation to the co-occurrence of subtropical, temperate, and boreal species, with relative abundances following latitudinal gradients. The main pelagic species are sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*), anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*), horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*), and blue whiting (*Micromesistius poutassou*). Seasonally, albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) occur along the shelf break. Immature northern bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) migrate to the feeding areas in the innermost part of the Bay of Biscay, from late spring to mid-autumn, returning to the Gulf of Cadiz and Atlantic Moroccan coasts in winter (Rodriguez-Marín et al. 2007).

Albacore is widely spread throughout the north Atlantic (Arrizabalaga et al. 2014). It is a seasonal predator in the North-Eastern Atlantic, meaning it doesn't exert top-down pressure on this ecosystem throughout the year. Additionally, only a proportion of the population visits the trophic area of the NE Atlantic in summer. The feeding habits of the albacore in this area are known (Goñi et al. 2011) and like other tunas, it is considered an opportunistic predator, capable of feeding on a wide range of prey, and adapting to the available type of prey.

Several works containing "mass-balance" models (EwE) included tuna in the Bay of Biscay and adjacent waters (Ainsworth and Feriss, 2001; Lopez, 2010; Sánchez and Olaso, 2004). Functional groups that include albacore with other tuna or tuna-like species are normally used in the model. Lassalle suggests that the Bay of Biscay platform ecosystem is "bottomup controlled, with detritus and plankton as key species". The albacore uses the edge of the continental shelf (slope), as well as more oceanic waters (Lassalle et al., 2011). Lassalle et

Public Certification Report



al., (2012) did not even include tunas in their model, rather linking small pelagics directly with dolphins (Lassalle et al., 2012).

Trenkel et al. 2014 suggest that the high biomass of small pelagics are significant for sustaining the upper trophic levels.

3.4.5 The retained, bycatch and endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species

Different scientific publications (Majkowski 2003, Gilman 2011, Arrizabalaga et al 2011) have accredited that both fishing gears (Pole & Line and Trolling) are highly selective gears, and different institutions have recognised them as such (ICCAT, ISSF and IEO). Besides, discards are believed to have high post release survival rates (Gilman, 2011).

Noteworthy, each P2 species can only be considered within only one of the retained species, bycatch species or ETP species component.

Below are listed and described the main reference sources used to support many of the considerations set out in sections 3.4.5.1, 3.4.5.2 and 3.4.5.3:

i. ICCAT

ICCAT elaborated a list containing all the species known to have interacted with different the fishing practices in Atlantic and the Mediterranean (http://www.iccat.int/en/bycatchspp.htm). According to this list (updated in 2007) bait boats catches are limited to 8 fish species in the study area (see Table 3-3), and there are no records of live bait fishing practices interacting with marine mammals, birds, turtles, or other protected species or any other ETP spp. This information was analysed by Arrizabalaga et al (2011) concluding that live bait is the fishing gear with less interactions with non targeted species. ICCAT clustered trolling data together with other fishing gears when elaborating this list and therefore occurrence of species interacting with trolling can not be studied separately.

Table 3-3. List of 'bycatch' species (including retained, bycatch and ETP species) recorded as caught (occurrence) by the live bait tuna fishery in the Atlantic/Mediterranean. The right column shows whether or not they are present (Y/N) in the study area according to FishBase. Source: ICCAT. 2006-2015. ICCAT Manual. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna. Source: ICCAT Publications [on-line] and fishbase.org.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Code	Present in assessment área?
Auxis rochei	Bullet tuna	FRT	Y
Euthynnus alleteratus	Atlantic Little tuna	LTA	Y
Katsuwonus pelamis	Skipjack tuna	SKJ	Y
Sarda sarda	Bonito	BON	Y
Scomberomorus tritor	Spotted Spanish Mackerel	SSM	Ν
Thunnus alalunga	Albacore	ALB	Y

Public Certification Report



Thunnus albacares	Yelowfin tuna	YFT	Y
Thunnus atlánticus	Blackfin tuna	BLT	Ν
Thunnus obesus	Bigeye tuna	BET	Y
Thunnus thynnus	Bluefin tuna	BFT	Y
Pseudocaranx dentex	Guelly Jack	TRZ	Ν
Seriola lalandii	Yellowtail	YTC	Ν

In addition to the species in the previous table, catches of *Coryphaena sp* (Ariz, per. Com.) have been recorded. This matches the data obtained during the site visit.

ii. Hegalabur Campaign (AZTI)

Between June and October 2009 AZTI-Tecnalia conducted a study (Hegalabur) in the Bay of Biscay to analyze the possibilities of using acoustic technologies to improve tuna fishery management (Goñi et al. 2010). The study was conducted on board a live bait vessel fishing for both albacore and Atlantic bluefin tuna, and scientists recorded in logbooks the vessel's activity. During that period no interaction with marine mammals, seabirds, turtles, sharks or rays were recorded (AZTI, unpublished data). Besides, the only recorded catches were Atlantic bluefin tuna, albacore, and skipjack tuna. Therefore, observations recorded during this campaign are in accordance with the ICCAT list mentioned above.

iii. Landing data

Different sources of information show that both fishing gears (pole & line and trolling) are highly selective, as landings are mainly comprised by the target species: albacore. Castro et al. (2011) analysed the specific composition of the landings from the live bait and troll fleet of the North-East Cantabrian National Fishing Grounds between 2004 and 2006. During the study period albacore comprised 97% of the Spanish troll fleet landings, whilst for the live bait fleet albacore comprised 83% of the landings, followed by 12% of Atlantic bluefin tuna. These data are consistent with data provided by AZTI (AZTI database) showing that up to 99% of the landings in the Basque Country from the troll fleet between 2005 and 2014 consisted in albacore, and in the case of the live bait fleet albacore comprised 83% of the landings, followed bluefin tuna (15%). It is important to note that the Bluefin tuna catches in the live bait fleet correspond to specific, dedicated fishing trips targeting Bluefin tuna, using different bait, gear and fishing area, conducted by boats that are in the list of authorized vessels to fish for Bluefin tuna.

Besides, data from the ICCAT Database shows that albacore comprises 99% of the annual landings caught by the Spanish fleet using live bait and trolling practices in the Cantabrian Sea (section 3.4.5.1 for more details). The other fish species comprising the landings of these fleets (appart from albacore and Bluefin tuna) are, almost entirely, Bigeye tuna and Skipjack tuna (section 3.4.5.1 for more details).


Finally, bait boats require small pelagic species as live bait. The fleet under assessment catch (using purse seine) mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*), anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) and horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*) for this purpose. According to MSC certification requirements these species are studied together with the retained species (details in section 3.4.5.1).

3.4.5.1 Retained species

Retained species, defined by the MSC as "*species that are retained by the fishery (usually because they are commercially value or because they are required to be retained by management rules*)".

The ICCAT statistical database was consulted to study the retained species. Table 3-4shows the annual landings by species caught by the Spanish fleet targeting albacore using live bait and trolling practices in the Cantabrian Sea between 2009 and 2013. As explained above (section 3.4.5) this data are consistent with data provided by AZTI and the analysis performed by the IEO with official landing data from 2004-2006 (Castro et al 2011).

Table 3-4. Nominal landings (t) of the Spanish albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) and tuna-like species fleet in the Cantabrian sea (including sharks) by live bait (LB) and trolling (TR). ICCAT statistical databases [MS Excel; version 3/2015 (any figures <0.5 t, including 0, are shown as 0).

Yield(t)			Decade 2000	YearC 2010			
Gear							
Code	Fleet	Species	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
BB	EU.ESP-ES-CANT_ALB	ALB	4890	5432	4346	6182	3425
		BET	0	5	180	17	42
		SKJ					0
TROL	EU.ESP-ES-CANT_ALB	ALB	4437	7009	3564	5833	5864
		BET	0	3	60	28	59
		BFT	0	0	0	0	
		SKJ					49
TOTAL			9328	12449	8150	12060	9438

The results show the limited presence of non-target species in landings of both fleets. Other than the target species, the main retained species is the bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), although in the study period accounts for less than 1% of the landings for any of the fleets.

All retained species are regulated by ICCAT, and subject to a TAC.

• *Thunnus obesus* (BET) is the main retained species in the fishery. The last assessment was conducted in 2010 by SCRS (ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics). Based on combining several model-data sets were reached



by SCRS concluded that overfishing is not occurring and the stock is not in an overfished state. However, there is uncertainty in this estimate. Estimates of $F_{current}/F_{MSY}$ and $B_{current}/B_{MSY}$ from the model runs considered plausible ranged from 0.65 to 1.55 and 0.72 to 1.34 respectively. The estimate of MSY is 92,000 t (range: 79,000 to 102,000 t). MSY has been reduced considerably through harvest of small bigeye. Current catches (63,000 t) are below MSYA TAC of 85,000 t was set for the period 2012-2015, whilst the assessed fleets are responsible for catching just 180 t (live bait) and 60 t (troll) between 2009 and 2014.

- *Katsuwonus pelamis* (SKJ). The last assessment of the Eastern stock was in 2014 by SCRS, using data up to 2013. The SCRS concluded that overfishing is not occurring and the stock is not overfished. Although the Committee was not in a position to provide a reliable estimate of the maximum sustainable yield concluded that the value of MSY is probably higher than previously estimated (143,000-170,000 t). There is not an established TAC. Total catches in 2013 were 204,000 t, whilst that year assessed fleets were responsible for catching just 50 t in total (mainly due to trolling).
- *Thunnus thynnus* (BFT). In 2014, ICCAT's SCRS conducted an update of the 2012 assessment of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock. The SCRS concluded that the stock may not be in an overfished state and overfishing is not taking place. Catches have been reduced by over 70% since 2007 due to strict limits and controls. The estimate of MSY is about 33,700-36,800 t (ranges between 23,200 and 74,200 t, depending on the assumed recruitment level). The TACs for 2015 through 2017 are 16,142, 19,296 and 23,155 t, respectively. In 2013, reported catches were about 13,300 t compared to an average figure of less than a tonne over the previous five years from the data available on the fleet targeting albacore. Spanish regulations, such as Order AAA/642/2013, of 18 of April, regulating Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing in the West Atlantic and the Mediterranean assigns part of the quota for bluefin tuna to troll vessels authorised to fish for albacore (Thunus alalunga). In this case, retaining a quantity of Atlantic bluefin tuna over 5% of the total catch on board in weight or number of specimens is not authorised at any time after the fishing operation.

Although these landings are below the 5% stipulated by the MSC, these 3 tuna species have a high marketable value, and as such, will be considered the "main retained species" for this fishery. Moreover, the Certification Requirements (CR 3.5.5) "The team shall consider species used as bait in a fishery, if they are caught by the fishery under assessment or elsewhere under the Retained Species component in P2".

Pole-and-line requires the use of live bait fish (mostly small pelagics such as mackerel and anchovy, with sardine and horse mackerel to a lesser extent), which are used to keep the schools of tunas attracted to the fishing vessels whilst they are fished. Bait catching is regulated by *Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste*, and in Annex 1.8 it specifies:



"Live bait fishing can only be practised as support for the tuna fishing practices, and as such, is exclusive to vessels authorised to fish albacore with rods and live bait, and it will be subject to the following regulations:

- a) Live bait catches can only be used as bait.
- b) The minimum mesh size must be at least 10 millimetres.
- c) The vessels must be equipped with tanks to keep the bait alive. The quantity of live bait caught during the specific operations must not exceed the capacity of the aforementioned tanks.
- d) Vessels must not use more than one support boat when fishing with artificial light to catch live bait.
- e) The live bait fishery activity is exempt from the guidelines that regulate fishing effort in this order, as well as compliance of those relating to small sizes included in Council Regulation (EC) No 850/98 of 30 March 1998 for the conservation of fishery resources through technical measures for the protection of juveniles of marine organisms, prohibiting the catch and storage on board of species other than those specified as live bait."

Catches to be used as live bait are recorded in the fishing diary as discards. According to the fishing secretary and fishermen during the site visit, excess bait from the catch is stored in the live bait tanks to be used for the next catch.

In the heyday of the Pacific Islands pole-and-line fisheries, the tuna-bait fish ratio was around 32:1. This ratio can vary due to the bait fish species used, the fishing style, and other factors. (Gillett, 2011). This ratio amounts to 3% of the total bait catch. When estimated during the evaluation of the American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery, the tuna-bait fish ratio was around 2.5% - 3%. During the evaluation of the Mexico Baja California Pole & Line Yellowfin & Skipjack Tuna Fishery, a proportion of 5% tuna-bait fish was accepted as a general rule.

During the site visit, fishermen informed us that approximately 200 kg of live bait is required to fish 5,000 kg of tuna. This represents 4% of the total catch. If we adopt this more conservative rule over Gillet (2011), approximately 140 t of bait would have been needed for 2013. Around 247 t of bait would have been required for 2012, when the highest catch numbers were recorded during the five-year study period.

Table 3-5 was created using data taken from the ICES WGHANSA report 2014. This table shows the anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) catch data for use as live bait by the Spanish fleet between 1988 and 1999. It represents an average of 1.25% of the total anchovy catches in the corresponding period. This report does not include data for the other species used as live bait.

Table 3-5. Bay of Biscay anchovy: Annual catches between 1988 and 1999 (in tonnes).Source: ICES WGHANSA report 2014

Year	France	Spain	Spain	International	



	VIIIab	VIIIbc, Landings	Live Bait Catches	VIII
1988	6,822	8,266	493	15,581
1989	2,255	8,174	185	10,614
1990	10,598	23,258	416	34,272
1991	9,708	9,573	353	19,634
1992	15,217	22,468	200	37,885
1993	20,914	19,173	306	40,393
1994	16,934	17,554	143	34,631
1995	10,892	18,95	273	30,115
1996	15,238	18,937	198	34,373
1997	12,02	9,939	378	22,337
1998	22,987	8,455	176	31,617
1999	13,649	13,145	465	27,259

After the site visit, and to go into more detail on the use of live bait among the Spanish fleet, the Sub-Directorate General of Inspection and Control (SGCI) from the General Secretariat for Fishing provided us with live bait data from two vessels that operated mainly in the CIEM VIII area (Table 3-6)

Table 3-6. Examples of live bait use by two live bait vessels during 2014 (weight in kilograms)

	Anchovy	Mackerel	Horse	Sardine	Period
			Mackerel		
Vessel 1	440	1,000			July-August
Vessel 2	1,180	1,085	350	100	July-October

Based on data obtained from the General Secretariat for Fishing on live bait use and taking the vessel with higher use as the benchmark, the live bait use of the 62 registered vessels with a fishing licence for live bait was estimated at 170 t.

There are no official statistics available on the total quantities of this species used and the proportion of each species used for live bait by the Cantabrian Sea albacore bait boat fishery. The baitfish-tuna ratio can vary due to the baitfish species used, fishing style, and other factors. Based on the estimates provided by fishermen, it is thought that approximately the 4% of the total albacore catch by weight. Other references as Gillett, (2011): 3%, American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery assessment, 2.5%-3% or Mexico Baja California Pole & Line Yellowfin & Skipjack Tuna Fishery 5%, provides a reference to estimate the use of live bait. Opting for more precautory option, in the absence of official public data, it is considered the live tuna bait- ratio of 5% of the nominal tuna catches. There is also no data available on the proportion of each of the species used, so that 5% will be applied to all species. Between 2009 and 2013, in 2012 there was a maximum catch of 6199 t of tuna, therefore, applying the 5% up to 310 t was required. The species used for the Cantabrian sea bait boat fishery

Public Certification Report



are anchovy and mackerel principally and the species like sardine or horse mackerel. All of this species are assessed by ICES.

- Anchovy (Engraulis encrasicolus). There is a biomass limit reference point estimated by ICES for the Bay of Biscay anchovy stock. Blim is defined as Bloss (minimum estimated biomass which still produced a substantial recruitment) based on the posterior median of the 1987 and 2009 SSB estimates (of 21425t and 20776 t respectively in the 2013 CBBM assessment), which are the third and fourth lowest values in the series. It is important to note that after a period of low biomass around Bim between 2005-2009, these SSB abundances still produced a significant recruitment restoring the population to medium levels (WGHANSA, 2014). Regarding target reference points, ICES MSY approach for short-lived stocks is aimed at achieving a target biomass escapement (MSY Bescapement, the amount of biomass left to spawn), which is more robust against low SSB and recruitment failure than the precautionary approach B_{Pa} (ICES, 2014). However, in the case of the Bay of Biscay anchovy, MSY Bescapement is no longer provided. As the ICES assessment model provides the probability distributions for SSB, it is possible to estimate directly the risk of the SSB falling below Bim, which is ultimately the objective of any target reference point, i.e. minimize the risk of the stock being below a limit reference point. Furthermore, there is a target Harvest Rate of 0.3 when stock biomass is equal or above 33,000 t. This management target has been proven to be precautionary under several scenarios (STECF, 2014). In the latest assessment, the 2014 SSB is estimated at around 66,000 t average (between 93,000 and 47,000 t), which is three times more than Bim (21,000 t), i.e. biomass under which recruitment is likely to be impaired. Even considering the lowest probabilistic range in the estimates of the 2014 stock biomass, it is still double Bim. Furthermore, since the range does not reach Blim, the probability of SSB in 2014 being below Blim is zero. Stock biomass has been above Bim since 2010 and it is presently at historical high levels (ICES, 2014).
- Mackerel (Scomber scombrus). Northeast Atlantic Mackerel was classed as an update • assessment in 2014. The spawning stock biomass is estimated to have varied between 2 million t in the late 1990s and early 2000s and 4.5 million t in 2011. SSB remains stable in the most recent years. The fishing mortality has been declining since the mid-2000s and seems to have stabilized at around 0.22 in the recent years. The recruitment time series from the assessment shows a clear increasing trend since the late 1990s in which two very large year classes (2 to 3 times the average) are superimposed (2002 and 2006). The 2010 year class appears to be large compared to the long term average. The model indicates that the 2011 and 2012 recruitments are very large (similar to the 2002 year-class). There is insufficient information to estimate accurately the size of the 2013 year class. There is some indication of changes in the selectivity of the fishery over the last 20 years. In the year 1990, the fishery seems to have exerted a high fishing mortality on the fish 7 years and older. This changed gradually until 2000, when the fishing mortality on younger ages (5 and 6-year-olds) increased compared to the older fish. In the



following years, the selectivity pattern changed again towards a lower fishing mortality on the age-classes younger than 7 years until 2008. Finally, in the recent years, the fishing mortality on younger ages (4 to 7) increased again compared to the older ages. (ICES WGWIDE REPORT 2014)

- Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*). Since 2013 ICES assesses qualitatively the sardine stock in Divisions VIIIa,b,d and Subarea VII regularly. In its most recent advice, ICES concluded that recruitment in 2012 is the highest in the time-series. An analysis shows that F is just below natural mortality and is likely to be close to the maximum sustainable yield. Nevertheless, biomass indices indicate that the stock is decreasing in recent years to just below long term average (ICES, 2013), although within the range of the data variability. The fisheries that target sardine in the Bay of Biscay are managed under the CFP with the global objective of the stock to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. Sardine is managed only through technical measures, such as a minimum landings size, gear and vessels specifications and closed areas.
- Horse Mackerel (Trachurus trachurus). Regarding horse mackerel, ICES also • evaluates the stock in Divisions IIa, IVa, Vb, VIa, VIIac, e-k, and Subarea VIII (Western stock) annually. In its most recent advice, ICES concludes that SSB, which has varied between 0.65 and 1.72 million t during 1995-2012, is estimated to be at 0.64 million t in 2014, one of the lowest in the time series and puts the stock at almost $B_{trigger}$ (0.63). Fishing mortality has been increasing since 2007 and is now above FMSY. Recruitment has been low from 2004 onwards. Since the 2014 stock biomass is the second lowest in the time series, and recruitment continues to be low, the stock is likely to be outside safe biological limits (ICES, 2013). The fisheries targeting horse mackerel are managed under the CFP with the global objective of the stock to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. Western horse mackerel is managed through a TAC, minimum landings size and closed areas. It is also subjected to the Landing Obligation from 2015. Since 2008, a management plan has been used to set the horse mackerel EU TAC. The management plan was initially deemed precautionary by ICES in the short term only, because some relevant scenarios were not evaluated. Further evaluation in 2013 suggests that, in its current configuration, the HCR is not robust to more than 2 years of very low recruitment (ICES, 2013). Although the general management approach is likely to work in the long term as the reductions of the TACs, associated to a Landing Obligation, should lead to a limit on fishing mortality, the TACs have been set above scientific advice for the last 2 years. A revised management plan is currently under development (ICES, 2014) which is likely to take into account periods of low recruitment in the HCR. However, until this revised management plan is not evaluated to be precautionary and used to set the TACs, the harvest strategy is not meeting its objectives of preventing the main targeted fisheries of hindering stock recovery and rebuilding.

3.4.5.2 Bycatch species

The MSC defines bycatch species as "organisms that have been taken incidentally and are not retained (usually because they have no marketable value)".

Public Certification Report



In Table 3-3 was shown a list of fish species known to have interacted with bait boats according to ICCAT (<u>http://www.iccat.int/en/bycatchspp.htm</u>). For bait boats fishing in the area under assessement the list is reduced to 8 different species. This is in accordance with the observations recorded during an acoustic campaign on board a live bait vessel undertaken in 2009 by AZTI (Arrizabalaga pers.comm). Therefore, live bait can be considered as a highly selective gear with catches almost limited to the target tune species.

As ICCAT clustered trolling data together with other fishing gears when elaborating the list, this fishing gear could not be studied separately. However, this can also be considered a highly selective fishing gear as has been assessed in previous certified fisheries (See References).

The ICCAT sub-committee on ecosystems performed an assessment on the impact of ICCAT fisheries on seabird populations between 2007 and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 2009, 2010). Tusk (Tusk et al 2011) performed an Ecological Risk Assessment with the results of the ICCAT assessement, concluding that neither live bait nor trolling were significant sources of discards for seabirds. Therefore, there is no evidence of interactions between tuna troll and live bait fishery and not ETP seabirds, marine mammals, turtles, sharks, rays or discarded fish species in Bay of Biscay waters.

3.4.5.3 Endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species

Endangered, threatened or protected (ETP) species are defined by the MSC as "*species recognised by national legislation and/or binding international agreements to which the jurisdictions controlling the evaluated fishery are party. Species listed under appendix I of CITES shall be considered ETP species for the purposes of the MSC assessment, unless it can be shown that the particular stock of the CITES listed species impacted by the evaluated fishery is not endangered*".

Law 42/2007, of 13 December, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, gives absolute protection to wildlife throughout Spain and its surrounding marine Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and its scope extends to the Spanish fleet in international waters. The aforementioned law covers the List of Wild Species under a Special Protection Regime, which includes species, subspecies and populations that need specific care or protection, based on their scientific, ecological, cultural value, as well as their uniqueness, rarity, or how endangered they are, along with those listed as protected in the annexes of the Guidelines and international agreements ratified by Spain. The list was modified by *Royal Decree 1015/2013, of 20 of December, regulating annexes I, II, and V of Law 42/2007, of 13 of December, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity.*

The following conditions are required for a species, subspecies, or population to be included on the List of Wild Species under a Special Protection Regime:

• Any action on animals, including their larvae, offspring, or eggs, with the aim of killing, capturing, hunting, or disturbing them, as well as the destruction of their breeding, wintering or resting areas, warrens, or nests.



• The owning, naturalising, transporting, selling, trading or exchanging, offering for sales or exchange, or importing or exporting live or dead specimens, as well as their propagules or remains, other than in cases when regulation permits.

These conditions will apply throughout all stages of the biologic cycle of these species, subspecies, or populations.

The following agreements are ratified by Spain:

- the marine species of European Union interest contained in Annex II of Law 42/2007, requiring the designation of special conservation areas for their conservation.
- the List of endangered or threatened species (Annex II) in the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean from the Barcelona Convention.
- the species included in Appendix I of the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals (CMS)
- the species included in Annex I and Annex II of the Convention on the conservation of European wildlife and natural habitats (Bern Convention)
- the species included in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The most abundant marine mammal and turtle species listed in the *Law on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity* in the Bay of Biscay are: the common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), the striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*), the bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), the long-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*) and the harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) (Lassale et al. 2011; 2012). Two marine turtle species, the loggerhead Caretta caretta and the leatherback Dermochelys coriacea, occur year-round in the south of the advisory region. Among the most abundant seabirds in the area listed by Certain and Bretagnolle (2008), only common murres *Uria aalge* is cited in the Law on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (Annex IV). All the species referred are ETP species as a result of National ETP legislation.

In Table 3-3 was shown a list of fish species known to have interacted with bait boats according to ICCAT (<u>http://www.iccat.int/en/bycatchspp.htm</u>). For bait boats fishing in the area under assessment the list is limited to 8 fish species, and any of those fish species is listed under appendix I of CITES or any competent national legislation or binding international agreement (only *Thunnus thynnus* and *Thunns obesus* are included in the IUCN Red List but according to MSC definition of ETPs the Red List is not considered for fish species since there is no stock differenciation). This information was analysed by Arrizabalaga et al (2011) concluding that occurrence of Vulnerable and Low Concern Species (as defined in IUCN red list) in bait boat was limited to 1% (due to the occurrence of *Thunnus thynnus* and *Thunnus obesus*). This is in accordance with the observations recorded during an acoustic campaign on board a live bait vessel undertaken in 2009 by AZTI (Arrizabalaga pers.comm). As ICCAT clustered trolling data together with other fishing gears when elaborating the list, this fishing gear could not be studied separately. However,



has also been considered as a highly selective fishing gear in previous fisheries certified (See References).

Therefore, there is no evidence of interactions between the tuna troll and bait boat fishery and ETP species within Bay of Biscay waters.

3.5 Principle Three: Management System Background

The fishery area of operation is Atlantic Ocean and Bay of Biscay in European Unionmanaged waters.

The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) manages the regional fishing activity of this species, and is responsible for the conservation of tunas and tuna-like species in the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas.

In addition to the relevant fishery organisations and associations, the Spanish central government, the relevant Autonomous Regions (Cantabria and the Basque Country), and the European Union are the main interest groups for this fishery. The fishery under assessment is legal, legitimate and takes place within the context, restrictions and limitations of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and ICCAT agreed resolutions. ICCAT is the RFMO whose area of competence includes the Atlantic Ocean and stocks of highly migratory species (HMS).

ICCAT is the only fishing organisation capable of handling the work required for the study and regulation of tuna and tuna-like species in the Atlantic. Those studies include research into the biology and ecology of the species and the effects of fishing on the abundance of the different stocks. The Commission collects and analyses statistical data related to current trends and conditions of fishery resources in the constituted Convention area. There is a Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS), which is responsible for the Commission having the most comprehensive and up to date statistics on fishery activities undertaken in the Convention area, as well as biological data on the fished stocks.

In accordance with the Convention, the ICCAT Commission holds a general meeting every two years and one extraordinary meeting on alternate years. Based on scientific proof provided by the SCRS and other relevant data, the Commission can adopt recommendations and resolutions aimed at sustaining the populations of the ICCAT species at levels that ensure the maximum sustainable catch. The recommendations and resolutions are normally written by already established support bodies (such as the Subcommittees of the four groups of species, or the Compliance Committee), and they are presented to the Commission for adoption.

The Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación, y Medio Ambiente (MAGRAMA, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and the Environment) is responsible for managing fishing activity in Spain. The Secretaría General de Pesca (SGP, General Secretariat for Fishing) is part of this ministry and is responsible for carrying out this task.

The SGP organisation chart is shown below: Public Certification Report





The **Dirección General de Ordenación Pesquera** (Directorate General for Fisheries Regulation) has the following roles relating to this particular fishing activity:

- Fleet planning and regulation.
- The management and monitoring of the registry of sea fishing vessels, the registry of fishing boats, and the Official Register of Fishery Companies in Third Countries.
- The management of the registry of the sector's professionals.
- The management and coordination of EU funds for fishing.
- To act as the authority for the management of the European Fisheries Fund and any other future Fund that replaces it.
- The planning of economic activity with respect to the marketing and processing of fish, shellfish, and aquaculture products.
- Promotion of the creation and control of the activity of both fish producer organisations and other sector representative institutions.
- The collection, processing, and verification of the information regarding the activities included in the area of Common Fishing Policy.
- Fisheries inspection and coordination of additional services required for the inspection.
- Those derived from EU regulation in terms of being a single liaison office responsible for applying the system of mutual assistance between Member States.

The following Subdirectorates are part of this directorate:

- Subdirección Gral. de Política Estructural (Subdirectorate General for Structural Policy)
- Subdirección Gral. de Economía Pesquera (Subdirectorate General for Fishery Economy)
- Subdirección Gral. de Control e Inspección (Subdirectorate General for Control and Inspection)

The **Dirección General de Recursos Pesqueros y Acuicultura** (Directorate General for Fishing Resources and Aquaculture) has the following roles in fishing activity:

- Those derived from exercising competency over sea fishing in national fishing grounds and EU waters.
- The coordination of all activities relating to the Common Fisheries Policy.
- To coordinate preparation for the European Union Council of Ministers in the Secretaría General de Pesca area of competency.



- The monitoring of the negotiation and execution of the fishing agreements between the European Union and third countries within the Secretaría General de Pesca area of competency.
- The search for new fishing possibilities and fishing investments in those countries.
- Those derived from European Union, and where appropriate, Spanish involvement in the regional fisheries management organisations and other international fishing organisations, without affecting the competencies of other central government departments.
- The planning of fishing research activity in coordination with other central government departments with relevant competencies.
- The monitoring of fishing resource status with the aim of providing advice on the adoption of measures aimed at protecting, managing, conserving, and regenerating fishing resources, within the framework of the Secretaría General de Pesca competencies.
- The planning of fishing research activity in coordination with other central government departments with relevant competencies.
- The monitoring of fishing resource status with the aim of providing advice on the adoption of measures aimed at protecting, managing, conserving, and regenerating fishing resources, within the framework of the Secretaría General de Pesca competencies.
- The protection and proposal to declare protected fishing areas in coordination with autonomous regions where relevant.

The following general Subdirectorates are part of this Directorate:

- Subdirección General de Caladero Nacional, Aguas Comunitarias y Acuicultura (Subdirectorate General of National Waters, EU waters, and Aquaculture).
- Subdirección General de Acuerdos y Organizaciones Regionales de Pesca (Subdirectorate General for Fishing Agreements and Regional Fishing Organisations).
- Subdirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros (Subdirectorate General for the Protection of Fishing Resources).

When it comes to Autonomous Regions and the specific case of Cantabria, the Consejería de Ganadería, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural (Livestock, Fishing, and Rural Development Council) is responsible for fishing. The Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación (Directorate General for Fish and Food) within the Council has the following main fishing related tasks:

Promoting the fishing and food and agriculture industries.

- Providing guidance for the Fisherman Associations and their Federation.
- Proposing general regulations. Monitoring and controlling compliance of the current regulation, including the processing of inquiries, the corresponding proposals or resolutions, and ensuring they are applied effectively.



The Directorate is responsible for collecting fish market sales notes, and the Inspection Service shares responsibility with the SGP inspection and control services for controlling the landings and sizes.

At a national level, law 3/2001, of 26 March, on National Sea Fisheries, establishes the legal parameters for fishing activities, essentially covering the contents of European regulation.

The Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Competitividad del Gobierno Vasco (Department of Economic Development and Competitiveness of the Basque Country Government) is responsible for issues related to fishing and aquaculture in the Autonomous Region. As well as similar inspection and control services to those used in Cantabria, this Department is responsible for applying for funding from the European Fisheries Fund.

The European Union fish management system is essentially governed by the European Commission. The Commission, through the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DGMARE) is responsible for proposing, approving, and applying EU fishing regulations throughout the European Union. The Common Fisheries Policy is the current European Union management framework, which was recently reformed and took effect through Regulation (EU) n° 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 11 December 2013.

European fisheries management also involves taking decisions based on the best available scientific data. The European Commission receives advice from various scientific organisations. In addition, in the event of data gaps, the EU has the means to fund studies and projects in the short, medium, and long term with the aim of rectifying the lack of data and, as such, fulfil the CFP objectives. The Commission's scientific advisory bodies are:

- The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), which was created in 1993 to advise the Commission on fishing management issues. It is not a permanent body, but rather a group of experts that collaborate as temporary members or experts in working groups.
- The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), an intergovernmental body founded in 1902 to investigate and coordinate research on marine ecosystems in the North Atlantic. Other than the EU, they also advise several governments and regional fishing organisations.
- The Scientific Advisory Committee of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), a regional organisation for managing fishing in the Mediterranean Sea.

The Details of the decision-making process or processes, including the recognised participants are:

The European Union fisheries management system has the tools available for all the involved parties to be represented and consulted during the decision-making processes. As such, the Advisory Councils are organisations managed by interested parties that provide recommendations on fishery management to both the European Commission and the EU



countries, which can give advice on socio-economic and conservation aspects, as well as the simplification of the guidelines. They discuss issues affecting the sector, and the issues and possible solutions are conveyed to the European Union Fisheries Commission.

Additionally, on a national level, Spanish fishermen are grouped locally and regionally into associations and are represented nationally by fishing federations or the large fisheries associations. Fisheries federations and associations are usually proactively involved in forums and sector meetings when it comes to putting forward and working on the solutions to issues alongside the regional, national, or European governments.

The key roles and responsibility in the Spanish fishery management process include:

- Management / administration
- Scientific Advice
- Control & Enforcement
- Industry Representation
- Industry / NGO / Scientific liaison

Based on the above, it can be concluded that the roles and functions of all the players involved in fisheries are clear, well defined, and understood by all parties.

In the regional domain, the ICCAT has taken and continues to take measures to encourage countries to be contracting parties, and for non-contracting parties to cooperate with the organisation's conservation measures. The success is shown by the increase in membership in recent decades and the high level of participation.

The ICCAT has made it easy for interested parties to participate, and they also offer training and support for countries without capabilities in the areas of data management and fishing science, which helps them to be fully and effectively involved in their activities.

European fisheries management also involves taking decisions based on the best available scientific data. The European Commission receives advice from various scientific organisations. Also, in the event of data gaps, the EU has the means to fund studies and projects in the short, medium, and long term with the aim of rectifying the lack of data and, as such, fulfil the CFP objectives. The Commission's scientific advisory organisations for fisheries are the following:

- The Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), which was created in 1993 to advise the Commission on fishing management issues. It is not a permanent body, but rather a group of experts that collaborate as temporary members or experts in working groups.
- The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), an intergovernmental body founded in 1902 to investigate and coordinate research on marine ecosystems in the North Atlantic. Other than the EU, they also advise several governments and regional fishing organisations.



• The Scientific Advisory Committee of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is a regional organisation for managing fishing in the Mediterranean Sea.

The Spanish Government regularly convenes the sector to inform them of the resolutions and changes that affect or may affect the fishery, and they work hand in hand to find the best solution. This also means that the Government has first-hand knowledge of the sector's worries and concerns.

Via the CFP, the European Union management system creates, respects, and ensures legal rights, which are expressly created or established for the practices of people dependant on fishing for their food or livelihood.

Through the application of the most recent reforms of the Common Fisheries Policy, the EU has set quantifiable objectives over the long term to achieve and / or maintain secure levels of fish stocks in European waters, as well as the necessary measures to achieve those levels. As such, the annual TAC is part of a set of management tools within the framework of a multi-annual strategy to manage fisheries in the form of Management Plans.

With respect to MCS activities, ICCAT strategies to improve compliance with their requisites and procedures revolve around the registry of vessels, catch monitoring, diplomatic pressure, as well as other pressure applied to countries.

There is a fishing vessel record based on the data presented by the cooperating and noncooperating parties. It is important to note that the non-registered vessels are not considered authorised to fish, retain on board, tranship, or unload tuna and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of measures, including the prohibition of transhipping and landing of tuna and tuna-like species from large-scale fishing vessels that aren't included in their registry.

The EU Member States are responsible for complying with the agreed regulations within the CFP framework at an EU level. The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) was set up in 2007. Its goal is to coordinate the fisheries inspection and control operational activities of Member States, and provide assistance to the Member States in their application of the Common Fisheries Policy.

In Spain, the Subdirección de Control e Inspección is part of the Secretaría General de Pesca, which is the competent authority for MCS activities both in sea and on land, for coordinating the different activities in this area, sometimes with support from the Autonomous Regions.

Also, since Regulation (EC) N^o 1077/2008 took effect in 2008, laying down detailed rules on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing, it has become compulsory to use an Onboard Electronic Logbook (OEL) on the majority of fishing boats, through which the data on each boat's catch is reported to the control centres. In Spain, this data is sent to the Centro de Seguimiento de Pesca (CSP, Fisheries



Monitoring Centre), located in the facilities of the Subdirección General de Control e Inspección of the Secretaría General de Pesca (Madrid).

In addition, boats over 15 metres long are obliged to use so-called blue or VMS boxes, which allow the boat to be monitored every two hours, indicating its precise position and the nature of the activity being undertaken at the time (fishing, sailing, etc.)

There is a list of authorised ports for landing catches, which are subject to the control measures specified in the management plans.

The Autonomous Regions' role in the management essentially involves coordination between Madrid and the AR with respect to the closure of the fishery and the sending of sales notes to the Secretaría General de Pesca for collation with the OEL data.

The Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO) has a key role in the SCRS of ICCAT, and is the official Spanish representative in both, this organisation and the working groups, contributing with resources and knowledge.

The Institute's scientific research forms the basis for their advisory work with the Spanish government. The Institute provides the following data to the Secretaría General del Mar (General Secretariat of the Sea): the status of the fishery resources caught by Spanish fleets, where they operate; the fishing possibilities in the new area; the maintenance and improvement of coastal areas; the areas appropriate for the establishment of marine reserves or of aquaculture interest; and related issues. It also informs about issues involving marine pollution and environmental protection.

In addition, AZTI-Tecnalia, part of the Basque Government, undertakes research in the Basque fisheries with collaboration from the sector and the main European research centres, within the framework of international organisations such as ICCAT, IOTC, ICES/CIEM, NAFO, STECF, etc. They are involved through preparing scientific advice on the different levels of fishery resource exploitation so the respective political authorities can establish the appropriate management measures to ensure the activity remains sustainable.

AZTI monitors all landings in the Basque Country, comparing the fish market data with the data in the logbook, and getting scientific data as required by ICCAT (e.g. catch, effort, size as well as other data such as tag-recapture information). These data are put together with the rest of the national data and submitted to ICCAT.

Annual oceanographic campaigns are undertaken to assess the status of the small pelagic populations in the Cantabrian sea and the results are incorporated into their management plans. All the data is used to update the management plans in accordance with the best available scientific data.



4. Evaluation Procedure

4.1 Harmonised Fishery Assessment

MSC Certification Requirements (CR) version 1.3, section 27.8.7 states: If the scope of the fishery contains a fishery that overlaps another certified or applicant fishery, Annex CI shall be followed. In addition, the definition of an overlapping fishery for the MSC is: Two or more fisheries which require assessment of some, or all, of the same aspects of MSC Principles 1, 2 and/or 3 within their respective units of certification.

At the time of writing, this is the first assessment of the North Atlantic albacore stock and there are no other MSC assessment (certified or in-assessment) which have evaluated this stock, so there is no harmonization required under Principle 11. However, a number of other stocks which are managed by ICCAT have been/are being evaluated. These include:

- North West Atlantic Canada harpoon and longline swordfish (certified)
- North West Atlantic Canada longline swordfish (certified)
- SSLLC US North Atlantic swordfish longline fishery (certified)
- US North Atlantic Swordfish fishery (certified)
- North and South Atlantic swordfish and blue shark Spanish longline (under assessment)

As such, the assessment team has taken into account the above-mentioned fishery reports to score Principle 3 performance indicators 3.1.1-3.1.4. In regard to the Annex CI, the CAB tried to score consistently with the outcomes of the harmonized fisheries as not to undermine the integrity of MSC fishery assessments However, the resulting scores in some cases are slightly different due to the Spanish and European context.

Following the recommendation made by the MSC (See TO) we developed the table below comparing the scores between fisheries where harmonization is required.

	Swordfish	Swordfish	Swordfish	Swordfish	Albacore	Swordfish ¹
	NW Atlantic	N Atlantic	N Atlantic	N Atlantic	North Atlantic	N&S Atlantic
	Harpoon + Longline	Longline	Longline + Buoy Line	Longline	Troll + Pole & Line	Longline
	CANADA	CANADA	US	US	SPAIN	SPAIN
	(2010)	(2012)	(2013)	(2015)	(2016)	(2016)
3.1.1	90	85	90	95	85	85

All the different fisheries score above 80, ranging from 85 to 95. Differences in scoring depend on the different answer given to SG100 dealing with Resolution disputes (b), Approach to disputes (c) and Respect for rights (d):

1) SG100 (a): "There is an effective national legal system and binding procedures governing cooperation with other parties which delivers management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2". The different assessment teams agreed on considering that the combination of regional (ICCAT, EU) and National legal frameworks allow to achieve

¹ Only the North Atlantic Stock was considered in terms of harmonization with the other fisheries Public Certification Report North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery



SG100. The only discrepancy comes from the team assessing the North Atlantic Spanish longline swordfish fishery, that considers that SG100 is not met since there are no binding procedures in ICCAT.

2)SG100 (b): "The management system incorporates or is subject by law to a transparent mechanism for the resolution of legal disputes that is appropriate to the context of the fishery and has been tested and proven to be effective". All CABs (but the one assessing the North Atlantic Longline US Swordfish) agreed on considering that this condition is not fulfilled at an international level because ICCAT has no specific dispute resolution mechanism proven to be effective, as several Member Nations have failed repeatedly to comply with recommendations. At a domestic level CABs agreed that both in Canada and Spain the National legal systems (Ministry of Fisheries, laws and courts) serve this role in an effective manner but they recognize some weaknesses related to transparency and/or enforcement. On the other hand in the US CABs agree that the NMFS has been tested by court challenges and has proven to be effective.

3)SG100 (c) : "The management system or fishery acts proactively to avoid legal disputes or rapidly implements binding judicial decisions arising from legal challenges". CABs assessing Canadian fisheries considered that ICCAT system does not comply with this condition, mainly as a consequence of the arguments detailed above. However, CABs assessment US fisheries considered that despite the lack of a formal dispute resolution mechanism within ICCAT, there is evidence that the CPCs are proactive in their pursuit of legally binding management measures that avoid legal disputes. This Guide Post was removed from more recent versions of the MSC procedure, and therefore it was not assessed in the case of the Spanish fisheries.

4)SG100 (c/d^2): The management system has a mechanism to formally commit to the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food and livelihood in a manner consistent with the objectives of MSC Principles 1 and 2. ICCAT Recommendation 01-25 promotes legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food and livelihood, but it does not imply legal binding. Canadian fisheries were considered to fulfill this condition as specific legislation protects the historical access to fisheries by Canada's First Nation, and as a result several swordfish, harpoon and swordfish longline licenses have been acquired and transferred to some of these communities. In the case of the US fisheries there is a discrepancy scoring this condition, as the CAB assessing the US North Atlantic Swordfish Longline Fishery considers that the condition is fulfilled as the NMFS recognizes the rights of people dependent on fishing for food and livelihood with a formal commitment of section National Standard 8, while the CAB assessing the US North Atlantic Swordfish Pelagic Longline and Handgear Buoy Line Fishery did not take this into consideration and considered this condition as not fulfilled. Teams assessing the Spanish fisheries also differed when rating this Guide post as the team assessing the swordfish fishery considered that the combination of the ICCAT recommendation plus the European CFP and its transposition to the Member States legislative framework is enough to consider that SG100 is met, whilst the team assessing the albacore fishery considered that the SG100 is not met although the Common Fisheries Policy shall "contribute to a fair standard of living for those who depend on fishing activities, bearing in mind coastal fisheries and socio-economic aspects"

3.1.2	80	80	90	85	95	95

In Canada, the Atlantic Large Pelagic Advisory Committee (ALPAC) and the Scotia Fundy Large Pelagics Advisory Committee (SFLPAC) are the key consultation bodies. However, assessing teams consider that changes should be made to improve the system, in particular in order to include a broader representation of non-commercial fishing interests and the linkage between views expressed at advisory committees and decisions made by the Minister of Fisheries. Therefore, they consider that SG100 are not met.

Both teams assessing US fisheries agree on considering that national consultation process provides ample opportunity

² The nomenclature used depends on the version of the MSC procedures that is used for the assessment



and encouragement for all interested parties to be involved, but disagree when it comes to the ICCAT consultation process. The team assessing the Longline and Handgear Buoy Line Swordfish fishery considers that ICCAT encourages participation, while the other team considers that participation within ICCAT is not transparent enough.

The European Union fisheries management system has the tools available for all the involved parties to be represented and consulted during the decision-making processes (through the Advisory Councils), and at a Domestic level in Spain the fishing sector is also well organized and represented in decision making bodies. However, teams assessing the albacore and swordfish fisheries consider that it is not clear that the competent government accepts all the opinions generated in the working groups explained above as commitments during decision-making. There is no evidence regarding how the information is considered or explanations provided on how information generated is used or not used, therefore SG100 is not met.

3.1.3	Updated to 80 ³ Initial score: 75	Updated to 80 ⁴ Initial score:	70	70	80	90
		75				

The teams assessing the US fisheries agree on concluding that SG80 is only partially met since at a National level the objectives of achieving sustainable stocks and maintaining essential fish habitat are clearly defined and required by National Standards, but at an international level there are no ecosystem objectives explicitly stated within ICCAT. Therefore, SG80 is not considered to be achieved for any of the US fisheries.

At the time of publishing their Public Certification Reports teams assessing Canadian fisheries recognized that although both Canada and ICCAT implicitly applies the precautionary approach there were no explicit objectives within management policy. However, in latter surveillance audits they considered that this situation had changed and, although they recognized that some of the framework and policy documents noted in these audits (ICCAT Recommendations and fishery IFMP) are still under development and even its implementation is imperfect (both at a domestic and international level), they concluded that all of the milestones had been met and that there was clear evidence that SG 80 was met and the condition was closed after respective surveillance audits.

In summary, in relation to harmonization with USA and Canadian fisheries, both fisheries scored less than 80 for this PI until the 2014 surveillance audit when the Canadian Audit Team concluded that all of the milestones were met and that the ICCAT Recommendation demonstrated clear evidence that the SG 80 scoring guidepost was met and the condition could be closed. Therefore, PI 3.1.3 remained open in both US fisheries but had been closed in the Canadian fisheries. Both CABs agreed these differences would be part of 2016 harmonization discussions.

In the case of the Spanish fisheries, the assessment teams consider that European Union Fisheries Policy fully complies with SG100 as its main objective is to ensure high long term yields of all stocks by 2020 and also ensures coherence with biodiversity conservation objectives established at international and European level. However, there is a discrepancy when it comes to ICCAT as the team assessing the albacore fishery considers that SG100 is met because, although ICCAT basic texts (in particular Recommendations 11-13) provide clear long term objectives that guide decision making for Principle 1 and even establishes explicit provision for a preventive or ecosystem based approach to management (Principle 2), they are not binding. On the other hand, the team assessing the Spanish swordfish fishery is confident that ICCAT Resolutions adopted at the 2015 meeting (Resolutions 2015-12 and 2015-11) allows considering that SG100 is partially met.

³ Closed at the 2014 surveillance audit

⁴ Closed at the 2014 surveillance audit

Public Certification Report



3.1.4	80	90	90	80	80	N/A

Within the ICCAT context the assessment teams highlighted both positive incentives (such as the establishment of criteria for allocating fishing possibilities among the contracting parties, the existence of a Compliance Committee, or to provide mechanisms for the stakeholder participation in management) and some important limitations (such as the ineffectiveness of the Compliance Committee in holding Member Nations accountable, situations of non-compliance by a Member Nation, situations where a Member Nation lodges a formal objection to a particular management measure, no mechanisms are established to regular review incentives...).

However, differences in scoring can be considered acceptable in this PI as incentives for sustainable fishing are more strongly dependent on Local or National legal frameworks (and even on the management systems relevant to each type of fishery) than on the international framework.

On the other hand, in relation to other harmonization actions one of the assessment members of the fishery (Jean Jacques Maguire) was also member of the Canadian fishery teams. However, the harmonization process was not perfectly coordinate. The Albacore team followed the harmonization process performed by the certified fisheries. There were scoring issues no resolved between the SSLLC North Atlantic Swordfish Fishery and the Canadian harpoon and longline fisheries (CABs Acoura/Intertek Fisheries Certifications (IFC)). The several assessment teams conferred together and with MSC, and agreed to postpone decisions on harmonization until the MSC pilot harmonization meeting for the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) fisheries, scheduled for the fall of 2016. Bureau Veritas supports the decision and we will take part of the harmonization process scheduled for early autumn 2016. Actually, in the latest version of the MSC procedures (v 2.0) this PI was removed, and therefore it was not assessed for the Spanish longline Sswordifsh fishery.

4.2 Previous assessments

This is the first MSC assessment for this fishery.

4.3 Assessment Methodologies

This fishery was assessed using version 1.3 of the MSC Certification Requirements and version 1.3 of the MSC Full Assessment Reporting Template. However, following the MSC Notice, "Scoring of 'available' Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) in CRv1.3 fisheries" of 24th November 2014, PI 1.2.2 SI a and c are scored using CR v2.0 provisions for SG60 scoring. The notice provides for scoring using CR v2.0 at 1.2.2 a and c, but is aimed at avoiding 'incorrect interpretation' at CR v1.3 PI 1.2.2c.

The <u>default assessment tree</u> was used in this assessment, for all stocks.

4.4 Evaluation Processes and Techniques

4.4.1 Site Visits

On-site consultation with the stakeholders took place in April 2015. This is a critical stage for collecting the necessary information in order to carry out a robust assessment of the fishery. In the fisheries certification process, stakeholder is any person, group, or organisation who:

a) may affect, or be affected by a certification decision, or



b) has expressed an interest in the fishery being considered for certification assessment, and/or in other potentially affected resources;

c) or has information relevant to the assessment of the fishery for MSC certification.

The members of the assessment team and Antonio Hervás from the Acredited Body (ASI) visited different sites in the Centre and North of Spain during the week starting April 6, 2015. The site visit was announced on the MSC website in March 2015.

Initial contact via email explained the procedure for the assessment according to MSC standard. Stakeholders were informed about the stages process and were invited to participate. The stakeholders contacted are listed below:

Government agencies & Regional Organizations:

- MAGRAMA, Secretaría General de Ganadería, Pesca y Desarrollo Rural: •
 - ✓ Dirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros.
 - ✓ Subdirección General de Control e Inspección.
 - ✓ Subdirección General de Caladero Nacional, Aguas Comunitarias y Acuicultura.
- Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación Cantábria. •
- Dirección General de Pesca y Acuicultura del País Vasco. •
- Instituto Español de Oceanografía. •
- AZTI Tecnalia. •
- IEO •
- ICCAT •
- IFREMER

Non-governmental conservation or other public interest organisations:

- OCEANA
- WWF Smart Fishing Initiative •
- WWF Spain
- Ecologistas en Acción •
- SEO Birdlife •
- Greenpeace .
- PEW
- CRAM •
- Alnitak •
- NaKawe •
- ISSF •
- CMS
- CITES •
- ACAP .
- RAC •
- BIM
- CEFAS •

On agreeing to take part, they were emailed about the proposed visit to their facilities (date and location) and the information that would be required. **Public Certification Report** North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery



On confirming the date, time, and location, they received an official letter about the visit from the Bureau Veritas audit team, stating their participation as stakeholders in the fishery. The letter included a request for more detailed information based on the specific agency and respondent role. A scheduled programme of consultations took place with key stakeholders in the fishery – including skippers, scientists, fishery protection officers, NGOs, fishery managers and technical support staff. The map of the different locations and the agenda of the meeting are described above.



Figure 20. Map of the locations visited during the site visit. Data source: Googlemaps

	Tuesday, 7 th April, 2015					
International Conference call for NGO and/or others interested organizations	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Celia Ojeda: (Greenpeace)					
organizations	Place: Alcobendas. Madrid					
Wednesday, 8 th April 2015						
MAGRAMA. Subdirección General de Protección de los Recursos Pesqueros. Subdirección General de Control e Inspección Subdirección General de Acuerdos y Organizaciones Regionales de Pesca	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Pilar Vara del Río: Head of the Direction Rafael Centeneda Ulecia: Head of Regional Fisheries Organisations and agreements Hector Villa González: Head Fisheries management Control Place:Madrid					
Bermeo guild and auction point	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Jon Larmtegui Inchausti: President "Cofradía de Bermeo"					



Iñaki Zabaleta Bilbao: President "Federación de Confradías de Vizcaya" Aurelio Bilbao Barandica: Secretary "Federación de Confradías de Vizcaya" Miren Garmendia Cebeiro: Secretary "Federación de Confradías de Guipuzcoa"					
	Place: Bermeo, Vizcaya				
Thrusday, 9 th April 2015					
Dirección de Pesca y Acuicultura del Pais Vasco	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Leandro Azcue: Head of the Direction				
	Place: Vitoria Gasteiz, Alava				
Dirección General de Pesca y Alimentación Cantabria	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Pilar Pereda: Head of the Direction Borja Sánchez: Technical assistant				
	Place: Santander, Cantabria				
Cofradía de Laredo	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Javier Montero: Secretary "Cofradía de Laredo" Angel Luis Cuesta Cos: vessel owner and fisher Juan Jose Baranda: vessel owner and fisher				
	Place: Laredo, Cantabria				
	Friday 10 th April 2015				
AZTI, ICES & Getaria Guild	Team members Antonio Hervás (ASI) Gorka Merino (AZTI): Researcher Andres Uriarte (AZTI): Researcher and ICES work group member Haritz Arrizabalaba (AZTI): Researcher and ICES work group member Josu Santiago (AZTI): Researcher Iñigo Uranga: Fisher Juan Jose Azkua: Fisher Iñigo Uranga: Fisher Iñigo Uranga: Fisher				

The information obtained from people interviewed during the meetings with stakeholders was significantly wide-ranging and variable. Macarena García Silva, as team leader, introduced the MSC and the assessment process on the fishery at the start of each meeting. The assistants then presented themselves and the meeting got under way.

After the presentation, the MSC Principles experts asked pertinent questions about the queries arising after assessing the initial information and requested any other information or documentation that may help when scoring the fishery.

All the relevant information on stock status, ecosystem interactions, and fishery management practices was collected. The following main issues were discussed:



CLIENT	• Detail on the fishing methods, bycatch species and rates					
	and practice					
	 Details of VMS systems in use, logbook reporting 					
	requirements					
	 Species retained by the fishery including bait species 					
	Traceability					
MAGRAMA	Fisheries management overall framework.					
	 Species retained by the fishery including bait species 					
	 Information in relation to the role and function of the `REMO (ICCAT) 					
	Other management tools.					
	Details of VMS systems in use. logbook reporting					
	requirements					
	Scientific campaigns on the resources.					
	Harbour opperations.					
	 General management system: TAC and quotas. 					
	Control and surveillance system.					
	 Sanction system and types of sanctions. 					
	 Species retained by the fishery including bait species 					
	The current regulation.					
	Registry of vessels.					
	Poaching control and monitoring actions					
	Studies on biomass, stock status					
-	The profitability of the activity					
Departamento de	Collection of sales notes to send to Madrid.					
pesca y acuicultura	• Inspection service. Fish market inspections checking the					
de Cantabria y Pais	landing volumes do not exceed the individual boat levels					
Vasco	and size controis. The inspectors step up the controls with					
	Support from the Secretaria during the fishing season.					
A 7 T T	Induced Dility (sales note).					
AZII	 Scientific used on the Stock. Species retained by the fishery including bait species 					
	 Species relative by the fishery including ball species Design and communication process behind the regulations. 					
	 Design and communication process behind the regulations Technical assistance tasks 					
	 Monitoring of compliance and posching 					
	 Fishery assessment in terms of sustainability 					
	 Levels of hy-catch or retained species 					
	Data Collection and Statistics					
	Details of VMS systems in use logbook reporting					
	requirements					

4.4.2 Evaluation Techniques

Email was used for all assessment process communications to all fishery stakeholders, along with the public announcements via the MSC website. The team member's were encouraged to take the initiative in contacting as much stakeholders as they were able. However most



stakeholders contacted had no specific cause for concern about the impact of the fishery given due to selection of the gear and the artisanal way to fish.

After compiling and analysing all the relevant technical, written, and anecdotal information, the team scored the fishery regarding to "Performance Indicators and Scoring Guideposts" in the final tree. The assessment team held three scoring meetings by conference call.

The MSC Principles and Criteria provide the overall requirements necessary for certification of a sustainably managed fishery. Altogether, assessment of this fishery against the MSC standard is achieved through measurement of 31 Performance Indicators (See Appendix 1). In order for the fishery to achieve certification, none of the Performance Indicators can be scored under 60. In order to achieve a score of 80, all of the 60 scoring issues and every one of the 80 issues must be compliant, with each scoring issue supported with justification.

In addition, the fishery must obtain a score of 80 or more in each of the MSC's three Principles, which are based on the weighted average score for all Criteria and Sub-criteria under each Principle.

Table 4.3 Scoring elements (Both UoC)

As required by MSC full assessment template, the identified retained species and their characterization as a main species is displayed in the table below.

Component	Scoring elements	Main/not main	Data-deficient or not
retained species	skipjack tuna	Main	not
retained species	bluefin tuna	Main	not
retained species	bigeye tuna	Main	not

UoC1- Troll

• UoC 2-Pole and line

Component	Scoring elements	Main/not main	Data-deficient or not
retained species	skipjack tuna	Main	not
retained species	bluefin tuna	Main	not
retained species	bigeye tuna	Main	not
retained species	anchovy	Not main	not
retained species	mackerel	Not main	not
retained species	sardine	Not main	yes
retained species	horse mackerel	Not main	yes



5 Traceability

5.1 Eligibility Date

The actual eligibility date for this fishery is the **1st of May 2015**. This means that any fish caught by the certified fleet following that date is eligible to enter the chain of custody as certified product. The rationale for this date is the strong seasonality of this resource allied with the main captures in the spring – summer season. The measures taken by the client to account for risks within the traceability of the fishery – and therefore generating confidence in the use of this date for target eligibility – are detailed in the rest of this section.

5.2 Traceability within the Fishery

5.2.1 Description of the tracking, tracing and segregation systems within the fishery

The bait boat fleet operates with pole and line during July-September and the troll fleet operates with artificial lures during June-October (Figure 21). Normaly the vessel are at sea between 15 or 20 days maximum. According to first sale data on the Basque live bait and troll albacore fleet provided by AZTI-Tecnalia, the load is almost 99% and 89% albacore tuna for the troll and bait vessel between 2010-2014 respectively.

The fish is preserved onboard with ice. Catches are classified according to the capture date and stored in the hold or well of the vessel. Catches remain in the well until they are unloaded in port. The first recording of the catches is estimated at the end of the fishing day and is recorded and sent to the Spanish Government. They have a tolerance margin of ± 10 Kg.



Figure 21. Photo of the vessels included in the UoC. Data Source: Macarena Garcia



During the offload operations all the catches are located in tanks at the harbours. Each tank is weighed and accurate catch data record is generated. The tanks perfectly identified are transported to the official auction point. Before the sales starts the information of each tank is entered in the computer system of the auction point and a lot number is allocated. Figure 22, Figure 23, Figure 24.



Figure 22. Type of tank used by the fishery in the offload operations. Data Source: Macarena Garcia

At the time of the site visit the overall systems in place for the identification of certified catches provided a reliable, practical and verifiably robust mechanism of ensuring the traceability of certified product. The results are positive in terms of the systems that are in place to ensure traceability within the client operations:

» catch by species is estimated by the end of the fishing trip and recorded in the electronic log books and sent to the Spanish Government.

» no at sea transhipment of catches takes place

» offloading of fish takes place only at Spanish harbours.

» catches are sorted by species during unloading and reporting of catch quantities is based on final weights after removing the weight of the tanks

» there is accurate catch recording and reporting based on use of electronic log books (Spanish)

» there is inspection of landings.

» logbook entries are regularly inspected and cross-checked on completion of in port landings species reporting verification by Spanish Government

» additional client catch logbooks are also maintained and provide a further means of cross checking landed catches. The timely information is accessible by the vessels and to OPEGUI & OPESCAYA by the use of an alternative logbook.

» Good cooperation between EU and Spanish regulatory and enforcement authorities and the ICCAT. Landings data are used for official monitoring of catches and national statistics for ICCAT



» vessels over 15 metres long are obliged to use so-called blue or VMS boxes, which allow the boat to be monitored every two hours, indicating its precise position and the nature of the activity being undertaken at the time (fishing, sailing, etc.)

							_		
Jalorrizko herrialdea/ Kalibre País de origen: Calibre		ea/ e:	7 Código: Freskotasuna/Frescur Categoria/Categoria		a/Frescura: itegoria	Data/Fecha:			
ESPAÑA				ALB		Ľ			27/08/2012
Produktis/Produkts Igorica/Expeditor: Izen komertziala/Nombre comercial: HEGALUZEA - BONITO DEL NORTE Hondarright Korradia Izen zientifikoa/Nombre cientifico: Thuanus alalunga FAO 27 Izen CAPTURA: ATLANTICO NURDESTE Po D. Ramón Iribarren, 29						didər: RIBIKO KOFRADIA nicilio: ón Iribarren, 29			
Lote/Pes.: 4/4	Método Preducci EXTRA	te ion: CTIVA	Aurkezte Modo de Burua	e presentación/tra nekin/Con ca	Indua Irratamiento: cabeza.			ES Nº 12.02.224/SS CE	
BARCO: COMPRADOR:									
ITSAS EDER ESPECIE BONITO 7 a 17.900						00			
PES0 NETO: (Pto Envasado) 142,000 Kg N° BOTE: 2388 Me 1					N° Envases 1 Media/Envase: 142,00 Kg				

Figure 23. Example of label issued by Hondarribia fish auction and placed in each tank: number of the tank (red rectangle); name of the vessel (blue rectangle); legal information (green rectangle). Source: Hondarribia auction point

ZONA DE CAPTURA O	Primer Expedidor COFRADIA DE PESCADORES "SAN PEDRO"	DE B	ERMEO	PSI	ESP
ZONA FAO: 27	Muelle Errosape, S/N. Bermeo (Bizkaia)			N.O.1	CE
Nombre del Barco			Lote:	1136	Fecha
ALMIKEKO	AMA - '3Bl22-95'				23/06/2014
Nombre Comercial:	Bonito del norte		Modo d Fresc	e Presentaci o	ión
Nombre Científico: Thunnus alalunga - ALB			Método de producción		
Talla-Calidad-Proceder	ncia: 03 - E -		Destare		
Newber Comis	BONITO 4/7		1 Espe	ecial. 0 Kg	(a
№ Cajas: 1	Peso Bruto: 167 Kg Peso Med/Caja: 141	ка	1 Oub	518 20. 20 I	' 9
Orden: 84	Peso Neto: 141 Ko No Piezas/Caja: 0 Peso Med/Pieza: 0	Кg	Caja:	01417400142	

Figure 24. Example of label issued by Bermeo fish auction and placed in each tank: number of the tank (red rectangle); name of the vessel (blue rectangle); legal information (green rectangle). Source: Bermeo auction point



5.2.2 Evaluation of Risk of Vessels Fishing Outside of UoC

The vessels do not fish in other stock albacore tuna (South) in the Atlantic Ocean neither in the Mediterranean Sea which could be substituted. The vessels are not allowed to operate in Canary and Azores waters. The information of the areas where the fleet operates are identified in Figure 1; Figure 11; Figure 12.

5.2.3 An evaluation of the opportunity for substituting certified fish for non-certified fish prior to and at the point of landing

The fleet operates within the Atlantic Ocean and their target stock is only North Atlantic albacore. Therefore no substitution between certified and non-certified fish can be done

5.2.4 A description of at-sea catch processing

There is no at sea processing and vessels are not equipped to undertake any processing. Practically all tuna is landed whole frozen.

5.2.5 Details of trans-shipping use in the fishery

All catches are landed in the authorised harbours and sold in the fish auction. In this fishery there are not limits on captures per vessel therefore there is not point in trans-shipping activity. No trans-shipping occurs.

5.2.6 Details of the number and/or locations of landing points

Having regard to EC No 1966/2006 of 21 December 2006 on electronic recording and reporting of fishing activities and on means of remote sensing, the EC No 1077/2008 detailed the rules for the implementation of the regulation previously appointed.

Each Member State shall establish a list of authorised registered buyers, registered auctions, or other entities or persons that are responsible for the first sale of fishery products.

Fishing products regulated by Royal Decree 1822/2009 can only be can only be unloaded in Spanish ports designated by the Government or autonomous community competent authorities, when involving autonomous community or state ports, and in the docks or locations designated by the port authorities.

For the purposes of the royal decree, the first sale is understood to be the first sale undertaken in the European Union when the product price is documented.

The main landing ports for the fishery are: Gijón, Burela, and Basque Country ports. Landings controls and inspection procedures are sufficient to guarantee traceability. The fish is landed in this ports, is weighted and an official document named transport document must accompany the consignment until it reaches the place of destination.



5.3 Eligibility to Enter Further Chains of Custody

CAB used the previous information to establish the systems are appropriate, and as such, the fish and fish products from the fishery may enter into further certified chains of custody.

The scope of the cetificate includes all vessels listed in Table 3-1 and the fish auction points identified in 5.2.6.

The change of ownership will start after the first sale at one of the seven auction points covered by the certificate:

- Cofradía de Bermeo
- Cofradía de Lekeitio
- Cofradía de Ondarroa
- Cofradía de Getaria
- Cofradía de Pasaia
- Cofradía de Hondarribia
- Cofradía de Laredo

In addition, the following warehouses for storage (freezer) and distribution activities are <u>included in the certificate of the fishery</u>:

- Frigorífico Cofradía de Bermeo located in the fishing dock of Bermeo and owned by the Cofradía de Bermeo;
- Frigoríficos Bermeo owned by Cofradía de Bermeo, Cofradía de Lekeitio, Cofradía de Ondarroa and Conservas Ortiz;
- Arrankoba owned by Cofradía de Lekeitio and Cofradía de Ondarroa;
- Congelados Sor y Mar. They are also certified for MSC Chain of Custody.

That is, after the Cofradía issues the sales note before the next user, i.e. the company that purchases the fish, they will be required to have a valid chain of custody certificate whenever they want to market the product bought with an MSC certificate.



6 Evaluation Results

6.1 Principle Level Scores

Table 6.1: Final Principle Scores

Final Principle Scores						
Principle	Score UoC ₁	Score UoC ₂				
	(Troll fishery)	(Pole and line)				
Principle 1 – Target Species	85	85				
Principle 2 – Ecosystem	87,7	89				
Principle 3 – Management System	85	85				

6.2 Summary of Scores

		PI	Performance Indicator	Score	Score
Principle	Component	No.	(PI)	UC1	UC2
One	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	70	70
		1.1.2	Reference points	80	80
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	90	90
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest strategy	95	95
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules & tools	75	75
		1.2.3	Information & monitoring	90	90
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	100	100
Two	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	80	80
		2.1.2	Management	90	85
		2.1.3	Information	100	80
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	80	100
		2.2.2	Management	80	80
		2.2.3	Information	80	80
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	75	85
		2.3.2	Management	80	80
		2.3.3	Information	65	80
	Habitats		Outcome	100	100
		2.4.2	Management	100	100
		2.4.3	Information	100	100
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	100	100
		2.5.2	Management	95	95
		2.5.3	Information	90	90
			Legal & customary		
Three		3.1.1	framework	85	85
		212	Consultation, roles &	05	05
	Governance and policy	212	Long torm objectives	95	95
		5.1.5	Incentives for sustainable	60	00
		3.1.4	fishing	80	80
	Fishery specific management	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	70	70
	system	3.2.2	Decision making processes	85	85
		3.2.3	Compliance & enforcement	100	100

Public Certification Report



	3.2.4	Research plan	80	80
	3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	90	90

6.3 Summary of Conditions

Condition	Condition	Performance	Related to
number		Indicator	previously
			condition?
			(Y/N/NA)
	By the fourth surveillance audit, evidence must		
1	be presented that the stock is at or fluctuating around its target reference point.	1.1.1	N
2	By year 4: Well-defined Harvest Control Rules should be in place by ICCAT.	1.2.2	N
3	By the second surveillance, evidence must be presented to ensure that sufficient and adequate information on direct effects from the fishery is available to ensure the impacts are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.	2.3.1	N
4	By the third surveillance, evidence must be presented to ensure that: : •Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species. •Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.	2.3.3	N
5	By the third surveillance audit, short and long- term objectives for the albacore fishery, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, need to be explicitly included in the management of the fishery.	3.2.1	N

6.4 Determination, Formal Conclusion and Agreement

Both the assessment team and the Certification Body, Bureau Veritas Certification, agreed that, on review, the North Atlantic albacore artisanal fishery complies with MSC Principles and Criteria. Therefore, the recommendation reached is that the fishery should be awarded an MSC Fishery certificate.



References

- Ainsworth, C., and B. Feriss. 2001. The Bay of Biscay, France: 1998 and 1970 models. Fish. Cent. Res. Rep 9: 271-313.
- Arreguin-Sanchez, Francisco; Muhlia Arturo, Graham Pilling, Ian Scott. Mexico Baja California Pole & Line Yellowfin & Skipjack Tuna Fishery. Job Number 82091. Version 5 Public Certification Report, April 2012
- Arrizabalaga, H. et al. 2004. Population structure of albacore *Thunnus alalunga* inferred from blood groups and tag-recapture analyses. Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 282: 245-252.
- Arrizabalaga, H. et al. 2011. Productivity and susceptibility analysis for species caught in Atlantic tuna fisheries. Aquatic Living Resources 24: 1-12.
- Arrizabalaga, H., V. López-Rodas, V. Ortiz de Zárate, E. Costas, A. González-Garcés. 2002. Study on the migrations and stock structure of albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) from the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea based on conventional tag release-recapture experiences. Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 54(4) 1479-1494.
- Bard, F.X. Le Thon Germon Thunnus alalunga (Bonnaterre 1788) de l'Ocean Atlantique de la dynamique des populations a la strategie demographique, Universite Perre et Marie Curie, Paris.
- Bartoo, N., Blyth-Skyrme, R. and Laurs, M., 2012. American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig fishery final determination report. Intertek moody marine. 13th November 2012. Ref: 82022-NP.
- Bartoo, N., Blyth-Skyrme, R. and Laurs, M., 2012. American Albacore Fishing Association South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jig Fishery. INTERTEK MOODY MARINE. 13th November 2012 Ref: 82022-SP
- Castro, J., Marín, M., Costas, G., Abad, E., Punzón, A., Pereiro, J. and Vázquez, A., 2011. Atlas de las flotas de pesca españolas de aguas europeas atlánticas. Temas de Oceanografía, nº 4. Instituto Español de Oceanografía. Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación. 215 pp.
- Centro do IMAR da Universidade dos Açorez. Programa de observaçao para as pescas dos Açores. Departamento de Oceanografía e Pescas. 15 Reunión odinaria do Conselho de Supervisap do POPA. Horta, Marzo 2014.
- Dragon, A. C. et al. 2015. An ecosystem driven model for spatial dynamics and stock assessment of North Atlantic Albacore tuna. Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.
- Dufour, F., H. Arrizabalaga, X. Irigoien, and J. Santiago. 2010. Climate impacts on albacore and bluefin tunas migrations phenology and spatial distribution. Prog. Oceanogr. 86: 283-290.
- FAO 2003-2015. Fishing Techniques. Tuna trolling lines. Technology Fact Sheets. Text by J. Majkowski. In: FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department [online]. Rome. Updated 19 September 2003. [Cited 5 May 2015]. http://www.fao.org/fishery/fishtech/1015/en and http://www.fao.org/fishery/fishtech/30/en.



- Ferrer, L., Fontán, A., Mader, J., Chust, G., González, M., Valencia, V., Uriarte, Ad. and Collins, M.B. 2009, Low- salinity plumes in the oceanic region of the Basque Country. Cont. Shelf Res. 29: 970-984.
- FishBase, 1999. FishBase 99 CD-ROM. ICLARM, Manila.
- Gillett, R. 2011. Replacing purse seining with pole-and-line fishing in the central and Western Pacific: Some aspects of the baitfish requirements. Marine Policy 35: 148-154.
- Gilman, E. 2011. Bycatch governance and best practice mitigation technology in global tuna fisheries. Marine Policy 35: 590.
- Goikoetxea, N., Fontán, A., Caballero, A-, Santiago, J., Goñi, N., Arrizabalaga, H., Sagarminaga, Y., Chifflet, M., Arregi,I., Mader, J., 2014 Influence of oceanometeorological conditions on the behaviour, distribution and abundance of the northeast atlantic albacore. Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 70(3): 1256-1275 (2014)
- Goñi, N., and H. Arrizabalaga. 2010. Seasonal and interannual variability of fat content of juvenile albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) and bluefin (*Thunnus thynnus*) tunas during their feeding migration to the Bay of Biscay. Prog. Oceanogr. 86: 115-123.
- Goñi, N., I. Arregui, A. Lezama, H. Arrizabalaga, and G. Moreno. 2009. Small Scale Vertical Behaviour of Juvenile Albacore in Relation to Their Biotic Environment in the Bay of Biscay. Springer Netherlands.
- ICCAT. 2008. Report of the 2007 Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Madrid, Spain February 19 to 23, 2007). Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT 62: 1671-1720.
- ICCAT. 2009. Report of the 2008 Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Madrid, Spain March 10 to 14, 2008) Col. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT 64: 2295-2334.
- ICCAT. 2010. Report of the 2009 Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Ecosystems (Recife, Brazil, June 8 to 12, 2009). Col. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT 65: 2209-2261.
- ICCAT 2013. Report of the 2013 ICCAT North and South Atlantic albacore stock assessment meeting (Sukarrieta, Spain June 17 to 24, 2013)
- ICCAT, 2006-2014. ICCAT Manual. International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna. In: ICCAT Publications [on-line]. Updated 2014. [Cited 01/27/].
- ICCAT, 2014. Report of the standing committee on research and statistics (SCRS) (Madrid, Spain, 29 September to 3 October 2014). 348.
- ICCAT, 2015. Nominal Catch Information. Task I. ICCAT statistical databases. MS Excel; version 03/2015.
- ICES, 2014. Report of the Report of the Working Group on Widely Distributed Stocks (WGWIDE), 26 August 1 September 2014, ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2014/ACOM:15. 37-192.
- ICES, 2014. Report of the Working Group on Southern Horse Mackerel, Anchovy and Sardine (WGHANSA), 20-25 June 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark. ICES CM 2014/ACOM:16. 599 pp.
- IPNLF, 2012. Ensuring Sustainability of Livebait Fish, International Pole-and-line Foundation, London, 57 pages.

Public Certification Report



- ISSF, 2014. ISSF Tuna Stock Status Update, 2014: Status of the world fisheries for tuna. ISSF Technical Report 2014-09. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, Washington, D.C., USA.
- ISSF, 2015. ISSF Tuna Stock Status Update, 2015: Status of the world fisheries for tuna. ISSF Technical Report 2015-03. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, Washington, D.C., USA.
- Javier Arata, Rodrigo Hucke-Gaete 2005. Pesca incidental de aves y mamíferos: devastación marina.
- Kell, L. T. et al. 2003. An evaluation of management strategies for Atlantic tuna stocks. Sci. Mar. 67: 353-370.
- Kell, L., Merino, G., de Bruyn, Ortiz de Urbina, J., Arrizabalaga, H., Santiago, J., Murua, H. 2013. An example of a Management Strategy Evaluation of a Harvest Control Rule. SCRS/2013/35
- Koutsikopoulos, C. and Le Cann, B. 1996, Physical processes and hydrological structures related to the Bay of Biscay anchovy. Sci. Mar. 60(Suppl. 2): 9-19.
- Lassalle, G. et al. 2011. Lower trophic levels and detrital biomass control the Bay of Biscay continental shelf food web: implications for ecosystem management. Prog. Oceanogr. 91: 561-575.
- Lassalle, G. et al. 2012. An ecosystem approach for the assessment of fisheries impacts on marine top predators: The Bay of Biscay case study. ICES J. Mar. Sci.: Journal du Conseil: fss049.
- Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre, del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad.
- Løkkeborg, S. (2008) Review and assessment of mitigation measures to reduce incidental catch of seabirds in longline, trawl and gillnet fisheries. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture. Circular. No. 1040. Rome, FAO. pp. 24.
- Lopez, J. 2010. A mass balance model of the Bay of Biscay ecosystem. In: Joint European MSc Degree. Marine Environment and Resources, p. 106.
- Medley, P., Tingley, G., Akroyd, J., Hough, A. and Davies, S., 2011. New Zealand albacore tuna troll fishery. Final Report v4. MOODY MARINE LTD. Ref: 82074
- Merino, J.M. 1997. LA PESCA. Edit.Servicio Central de Publicaciones del Gobierno Vasco Vitoria.
- O'Boyle, R., Sissenwine, M., Knapman, P., Aldous, D. US North Atlantic swordfish longline Fishery. PCR and Surveillance MSC Report
- O'Boyle, R., Sissenwine, M., Maguire, J.J., Devitt S. North West Atlantic Canadian Swordfish longline Fishery. PCR and Surveillance MSC Report
- O'Boyle, R., Sissenwine, M., Maguire, J.J., Devitt S. North West Atlantic Canadian Swordfish longline Fishery. PCR and Surveillance MSC Report
- Orden AAA/1037/2013, de 1 de julio, por la que se establece un Plan de gestión para buques de los censos del Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste.
- Orden ARM/1647/2009, de 15 de junio, por la que se regula la pesca de especies altamente migratorias.
- Ortiz de Zárate, B. Perez, V. and Ruiz, M., 2013. Statistics from the spanish albacore (Thunnus alalunga) surface fishery in the North Eastern Atlantic in 2011. Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 69(5): 2163-2171.



- Parkers, G., Trumble R. US North Atlantic swordfish Fishery. PCR and Surveillance MSC Report
- Pingree, R.D. and Le Cann, B. 1990, Structure, strength and seasonality of the slope currents in the Bay of Biscay region. J. of the Mar. Biol. Assoc. of the U.K., 70: 857-885.
- Pingree, R.D. and Le Cann, B. 1992, Three anticyclonic Slope Water Oceanic eddies (SWODDIES) in the Southern Bay of Biscay in 1990. Deep Sea Res. I, 39: 1147-1175.
- Real Decreto 1015/2013, de 20 de diciembre, por el que se modifican los anexos I, II y V de la Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre, del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad.
- Real Decreto 139/2011, de 4 de febrero, para el desarrollo del Listado de Especies Silvestres en Régimen de Protección Especial y del Catálogo Español de Especies Amenazadas.
- Ruiz, J., Zarauz, L., Andonegri, E., Mugerza, E., Artetxe, I. 2014. Informe parcial Establecimiento de un sistema de recogida sistemática de datos sobre PESCARECREATIVA. AZTI Tecnalia
- Sagarminaga, Y. and Arrizabalaga, H. 2010. Spatio-temporal distribution of albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) catches in the northeastern Atlantic: relationship with the thermal environment. Fish. Oceanogr. 19: 121-134.
- Sánchez, F. and Olaso, I. 2004. Effects of fisheries on the Cantabrian Sea shelf ecosystem. Ecological Modelling, 172, 151-174.
- SANTIAGO, J. 2004. Dinámica de la población de atún blanco (*Thunnus alalunga*, Bonaterre 1788) del Atlántico Norte. Tesis Doctoral, Univ. País Vasco 354 pp.
- Santiago, J., and Arrizabalaga, H. 2005. An integrated growth study for North Atlantic albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*, Bonn. 1788). ICES J. Mar. Sci.: Journal du Conseil 62: 740-749.
- SCRS, 2013/120. A framework for promoting dialogue on parameterizing a harvest control rule with limit and target reference points for north Atlantic albacore. ICCAT, 70(3): 1294-1304 (2014). http://www.iccat.int/Documents/CVSP/CV070 2014/n 3/CV070031294.pdf
- SCRS/2013/058. A preliminary stock assessment for northern albacore using the fully integrated stock assessment model, multifan-CL. ICCAT, 70(3): 1094-1107 (2014). http://iccat.int/Documents/CVSP/CV070 2014/n 3/CV070031094.pdf
- Trenkel, V. et al. 2014. Comparative ecology of widely distributed pelagic fish species in the North Atlantic: implications for modelling climate and fisheries impacts. Prog. Oceanogr. 129: 219-243.
- Tuck, G. N., Phillips, R. A., Small, C., Thomson, R. B., Klaer, N. L., Taylor, F., Wanless, R. M., and Arrizabalaga, H. 2011. An assessment of seabird–fishery interactions in the Atlantic Ocean. ICES Journal of Marine Science, 68: 1628–1637



Appendix 1 Scoring and Rationales

Appendix 1.1Performance Indicator Scores and Rationale

PI 1.	.1.1	The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing							
Scorin Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100					
а	Guide	It is likely that the stock	It is highly likely that the	There is a high degree of certainty					
	post	is above the point	stock is above the point	that the stock is above the point					
		where recruitment	where recruitment	where recruitment would be					
		would be impaired.	would be impaired.	impaired.					
	Met?	Y	Υ	Y					
	Justifi	The most recent assessme	nt for the North Atlantic stor	ck of albacore was conducted by the					
	cation	Standing Committee on Re	esearch and Statistics (SCRS)	of the International Commission for					
		the Conservation of Atlant	tic Tuna (ICCAT) in 2013 usin	g data up to 2011. In October 2014,					
		the SCRS updated the cate	h information to 2013.						
		The different models an	d assumptions provide a	wide range of B/B _{MSY} and F/F _{MSY}					
		estimates, but most of mo	del formulations concluded	that:					
		 Overfishing is (range 0.55-0) 	s not occuring. The ratio c .79)	of $F_{current}/F_{MSY}$ is estimated at 0.72					
		Most of the a	assessment models indicate	that the stock remains overfished					
		heing slight	v below SSBMey (SSBm/SS	$SB_{MCV} = 0.94$ range of 0.74-1.14)					
		Although, mo	dels also show that it has be	en increasing since the mid-1990s.					
		• The ratio of S	SB/Bun = 2.4						
		• The fallo of $SSB_{cur}/B_{lim} = 2.4$							
		The probability that SSB is abobe SSB _{lim} has been calculated from the data used to build							
		Figure 6. The estimated probability for SSB > SSB _{lim} , according to this analysis is 100%. The							
		Figure 25 also supports this rationale.							
		1.2							
		1 -	\sim						
		0.8							
		0.6							
		0.4 -	\mathbf{X}						
		0.2 -							
	0								
		0 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3							
			STOL STOMSY						
		Figure 25. SSB/SSB _{MS}	Y likelihood profile for	the MFCL base case. Source:					
		ICCAT, 2013							
		Even though, Figure	6 is an approximation	and the uncertainty is slightly					

Evaluation Table for PI 1.1.1

Public Certification Report

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery




PI 1.1.1	The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing			
Stock Status re	elative to Reference Po	oints		
	Type of reference	Value of reference	Current stock status	
	point	point	relative to reference	point
Target	SSB _{MSY}	81,110t	76,243t	
reference				
point				
Limit	Blim = 0.4 SSB _{MSY}	32,444t	76,243t	
reference				
point				
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 70				
CONDITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			1



PI 1.	1.2	Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock				
Scorin	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
Issue						
а	Guide	Generic limit and target	Reference points are			
	post	reference points are	appropriate for the stock			
		based on justifiable and	and can be estimated.			
		reasonable practice				
		appropriate for the				
		species category.				
	Met?	Y	Y			
	Justifi	The preamble to the ICCA	T Convention states: "The G	overnments whose duly authorized		
	cation	representatives have su	bscribed hereto, consideri	ng their mutual interest in the		
		populations of tuna and t	una-like fishes found in the	Atlantic Ocean, and desiring to co-		
		operate in maintaining t	ne populations of these fish	hes at levels which will permit the		
		maximum sustainable c	atch for food and other	nurnoses resolve to conclude a		
		Convention for the cons	ervation of the resources of	f tuna and tuna-like fishes of the		
		Atlantia Opena [1]. This means that ICCAT wants to maintain startly at D				
			means that ICCAT wants t	and biomass have been arread and		
		applies to northern albacore. Target fishing mortality and biomass have been agreed and calculated.				
		F _{MSY} is an appropriate targ	get reference points and SSB	MSY is an appropriate proxy for B _{MSY}		
		for this stock. Therefore,	reference points established	d are appropriate for the stock and		
		can be estimated. SG80 is	met.			
b	Guide		The limit reference point	The limit reference point is set		
	post		is set above the level at	above the level at which there is		
			which there is an	an appreciable risk of impairing		
			appreciable risk of	reproductive capacity following		
			impairing reproductive	consideration of precautionary		
			capacity.	issues.		
	Met?		Y ,	N		
	lustifi	The interim biomass limit	reference point based on pr	ecautionary considerations is set at		
	cation	0.4 B The stock and re	cruitment granh in the 2013	ALB assessment report (Figure 27)		
		$0.4 \text{B}_{\text{MSY}}$. The stock and re-	limit reference point (0.409	SR that is $0.4\times 21.100 = 22.440$		
		there is no indication of	imme reference point (0.403	SSB_{MSY} , that is 0.4x81,100 - 52,440)		
		there is no indication of	impaired recruitment or ev	en at lower blomass. The six or so		
		recruitment observations	around the interim LRP are a	t or above average. The interim LRP		
		of 0.4B _{MSY} is consistent wi	th robust limits recommende	ed for a number of Pacific tuna stock		
		(e.g. Preece, et al. 2011).				



PI 1.	.1.2	Limi	t and target re	eference	points a	re approp	riate for th	e stock
<u> </u>			40E6		•	ге арргор		Predicted • Observed
		Recruitment	20E0					
			0 500	00 100	0000 150	2000 2000	00 250000	284300
				Spa	wning Bioma	ss (t)		
		Figu	re 27. MutiFan	CL base	model e	stimated S	Stock recru	itment relationship.
		Sour	ce: ICCAT 201	3. renresents	North Atla	antic albacor	hatemitea a	nrobabilities (in %) that
		the fi	ishing mortality i	s below F	MSY and s	spawning sto	ock biomass	is above SSB _{MSY} (green
		statu	s). The projecti	ons were	conducte	d with dif	ferent Harv	est Control Rules (as
		comb	pinations of B _{thres}	$_{\rm ih}$ and $F_{\rm tar}$	_{get values} , al	l assuming	Blim=0.4SSB _N	MSY) are shown (ICCAT,
		2014)). taam baliawaa th	at fich on	cooros at	least CC00	and nassibl	hy higher but not 100
		becau	use we cannot en	sure that f	they have o	considered p	recautionary	issues.
С	Guide			The	target	reference	The target	reference point is such
	post			poir	nt is such	that the	that the st	cock is maintained at a
				stoc	k is maint	ained at a	level consis	stent with B_{MSY} or some
				leve	l consisten	t with B _{MSY}	measure o	r surrogate with similar
				or	some me	easure or	intent or	outcome, or a higher
				inte	nt or outco	ome.	relevant	precautionary issues
							such as the	e ecological role of the
							stock with	h a high degree of
							certainty.	
	Met?	The t	target reference	Y nointe are			N De isthese	nouning stock hismoss
	cation	that	produces MSY	lts nume	e FIVISY and prical value	a SSB _{MSY} . SSI 9 is smaller	B _{MSY} is the s	but there is a strict
		corre	espondance betw	veen B _{MSY}	and SSB _{MSN}	where B _{MSN}	r is multiplie	d by a maturity at age
		vecto	or to obtain SS	B _{MSY} . The	target re	ference poi	nts are the	refore consistent with
		main	ntaining the stock	at B _{MSY} . T	he fishery o	does not me	et the second	d element of SG 100 (or
		highe	er) nor the third	element (and takes i	into account	relevant pre	ecautionary issues such



PI 1.	.1.2	Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock				
		as the ecological role of th	as the ecological role of the stock with a high degree of certainty). SG 80 is met.			
d	Guide		For key low trophic level			
	post		stocks, the target			
			reference point takes			
			into account the			
			ecological role of the			
			stock.			
	Met?		Not Applicable			
	Justifi	Northern Albacore is not a	low trophic level species.			
	cation					
Refer	ences	Preece, et al. 2011, ICCAT 2013, ICCAT 2014				
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 80				80	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



PI 1.	.1.3	Where the stock is depleted, there is evidence of stock rebuilding within				
Scorie		a specified timeframe				
Tssue	ig	30.00	30.00	36 100		
a	Guide	Where stocks are		Where stocks are depleted.		
-	post	denleted rehuilding		strategies are demonstrated to be		
	•	strategies which have a		rebuilding stocks continuously		
		rosconship ovnoctation		and there is strong ovidence that		
				rebuilding will be complete within		
		of success, are in place.		the energified time frame		
				the specified timeframe.		
	Met?	Ŷ		Y		
	Justifi	PI 1.1.3 is scored because	the stock status is considered	ed to be depleted (Scoring Issue (b)		
	cation	does not meet 80). As s	tated by ICCAT Recommend	lation 2013-05 "the 2013 Standing		
		Committee on Research	and Statistics (SCRS) stoc	k assessment concluded that the		
		northern albacore stock	is overfished but that o	overfishing is not occurring, and		
		recommended a level of	f catch of no more than 2	28,000 t to meet the Convention		
		management objective by	2020".			
		All assessment models us	ed in the 2013 assessment	show a general stock decline from		
		1930 to the mid 1990s. S	Since 1995, all show that the	e decline has stopped and that the		
		stock is increasing. The ba	ase case (Figure 23 of the 2	013 SCRS report) indicates that the		
		stock is very close to SSBM	sy. Projections suggest that if	the catches remain the same, there		
		is a 75% probability that ta	arget biomass would be read	hed in 2019. If the catches reach the		
		TAC the biomass target	would be reached by 2027	with a 75% probability. Therefore		
		strategies are demonstra	ted to be rebuilding stocks	s continuously and there is strong		
		suidence that rebuilding u	will be complete within the co	asified timeframe SC 100 is met		
			viii be complete within the sp			
		3.5				
		3.3				
		3		-Base		
		2.5				
		use 2 BS				
		S 1.5	1			
			$\langle \rangle $	~~		
		1	$-\sqrt{-}$			
		0.5		\sim		
		0				
		1930 1940 19	250 1960 1970 19 Year	280 1990 2000 2010		
		Figure 23. Current spawning s	tock biomass relative to spawning	g stock biomass at MSY.		
b	Guide	A rebuilding timeframe	A rebuilding timeframe is	The shortest practicable		
	post	is specified for the	specified for the	rebuilding timeframe is specified		
		depleted stock that is	depleted stock that is	which does not exceed one		
		the shorter of 30 years	the shorter of 20 years	generation time for the depleted		
		or 3 times its generation	or 2 times its generation	stock		
		time. For space where 2	time. For eaces where 2	SLUCK.		
		time. For cases where 3	time. For cases where 2			

Public Certification Report



PI 1.	.1.3	Where the stock is de a specified timeframe	pleted, there is evidenc	e of stock rebuilding v	vithin
		generations is less than	generations is less than 5		
		5 years, the rebuilding	years, the rebuilding		
		timeframe is up to 5	timeframe is up to 5		
		years.	years.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν	
	Justifi	ICCAT Recommendation 2	013-05 states "Considering	that the 2013 Standing Co	ommittee
	cation	on Research and Statistics	s (SCRS) stock assessment co	ncluded that the northern	albacore
		stock is overfished but th	nat overfishing is not occurr	ring, and recommended a	level of
	catch of no more than 28,000 t to meet the Convention management objective by 202				
		The MSC defines generat	ion time as "The average ag	ge of a reproductive indivi	dual in a
		given fish stock". Northeri	n albacore becomes first mat	ture at age 5 and the avera	ge age in
		the age 5 and older catch	in the most recent year of th	e assessment (2011) is 7. T	he seven
		years between 2013 and 2	020 are shorter than 20 yea	rs and 2 generation times, b	out is not
		the shortest practicable r	ebuilding timeframe and is	not less (not to exceed im	plies less
		than) than one generation	time. Therefore SG100 is no	t met.	
С	Guide	Monitoring is in place to	There is evidence that		
	post	determine whether the	they are rebuilding		
		rebuilding strategies are	stocks, or it is highly		
		effective in rebuilding	likely based on		
		the stock within a	simulation modelling or		
		specified timeframe.	previous performance		
			that they will be able to		
			rebuild the stock within		
			a specified timeframe.		
	Met?	Y	Y		
	Justifi	Catches and CPUE are mo	nitored on a yearly basis. T	he results are reviewed ev	very year
	cation	during the species group r	meeting, the SCRS meeting a	nd the Commission meetin	g. A new
		stock assessment is perfo	ormed at regular intervals (3 years) or as needed if t	here are
		indications that the status	s of the stock has changed. I	CCAT is planning a new ass	sessment
		in 2016. Based on the mo	ost recent stock assessment,	, there is evidence that the	e stock is
		rebuilding within a specifie	ed timeframe. SG80 is met		
		ICCAT Report 2013			
Refer	ences	ICCAT Report 2014			
		ICCAT Recommendations 2	2013-05		
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		90
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



PI 1.	.2.1	There is a robust and	precautionary harvest	strategy in place
Scorin Issue	ıg	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
а	Guide post	The harvest strategy is expected to achieve stock management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.	The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and the elements of the harvest strategy work together towards achieving management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.	The harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed to achieve stock management objectives reflected in the target and limit reference points.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justifi cation	The MSC defines harvest harvest control rules and (implicit) and be tested by yearly basis. The stock is a of the species and the Su framework to make decis response to scientific adw have decreased. The harve scoring element b) and is the target and limit refere The ICCAT decision making 1. For stocks that are not of quadrant of the Kobe plo probability of maintaining 2. For stocks that are not upper right yellow quadra management measures, t advice, designed to result possible. 3. For stocks that are over of the Kobe plot), the Com into account, inter alia, th high probability of endin Commission shall adopt a biology of the stock and Su 4. For stocks that are over yellow quadrant of the K designed to rebuild these alia, the biology of the stoc As set above the harvest s achieve stock management Therefore SG100 is met.	strategy as "The combination astrategy as "The combination d management actions, whe MSE". The Northern albaco assessed periodically on a tir CRS updates the information sions (Rec 11-13) and manag- rice, TACs having been set a est strategy is responsive to the designed to achieve stock of nee points. framework in the Rec 11-13 overfished and not subject to t), management measures so the stock within this quadra t overfished, but are subject ant of the Kobe plot), the C aking into account, inter alia in a high probability of endir fished and subject to overfish mission shall immediately a ne biology of the stock and S g overfishing in as short a p plan to rebuild these stocks CRS advice. fished and not subject to over obe plot), the Commission stocks in as short a period as ck and SCRS advice. strategy is responsive to the nt objectives reflected in the	I very year. ICCAT has adopted a gement actions have been taken in as advised by the SCRS and catches the state of the stock (see below for management objectives reflected in a specifies that: overfishing (i.e., stocks in the green shall be designed to result in a high nt. t to overfishing, (i.e., stocks in the green shall be designed to result in a high nt. t to overfishing in as short a period as hing (i.e., stocks in the red quadrant dopt management measures, taking SCRS advice, designed to result in a period as possible. In addition, the staking into account, inter alia, the stake of the stock and is designed to the stock and is designed t



PI 1.	2.1	There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place			
b	Guide	The harvest strategy is	The harvest strategy may	The performance of the harvest	
	post	likely to work based on	not have been fully	strategy has been fully evaluated	
		prior experience or	tested but evidence	and evidence exists to show that	
		plausible argument.	exists that it is achieving	it is achieving its objectives	
			its objectives.	including being clearly able to	
				maintain stocks at target levels.	
	Met?	Y	Y	N	
	Justifi	Management measures o	n Northern albacore were	adopted by ICCAT starting in 1998	
	cation	(Recommendation by ICC	AT Concerning the Limitatio	on of Fishing Capacity on Northern	
		Albacore [Rec. 98-08]) and	d neriodically undated (the R	Recommendation by ICCAT on North	
		Atlantic Albacore Catel	h Limits for the Period	2008-2009 [Rec 07-02] the	
		Recommendation by ICCA	T to Establish a Rebuilding (Program on North Atlantic Albacore	
		[Rec 00-05] the Supple	mental Recommendation h	V ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding	
		Brogram on North Atla	ntic Albacoro [Poc 11.04	is and more recently the ICCAT	
		Supplemental Recommen	nuc Abacole [Nec. 11-04	ing The North Atlantic Albacare	
		Supplemental Recommen	12 OFI) Evidence evists to	show that the harvest strategy is	
		Rebuilding Program [Rec.	13-05]). Evidence exists to	show that the harvest strategy is	
	SDC will identify and test and idet				
		80 is therefore met. Cons	sidering that in 2016 the SC	LRS will identify and test candidate	
		reference points and asso	clate HCRs means that the p	performance of the narvest strategy	
-	Cuida	has not been fully evaluate	ea. Therefore, SG 100 is not i	met.	
С	Guide	Monitoring is in place			
	post	that is expected to			
		determine whether the			
		harvest strategy is			
		working.			
	Met?	Ŷ			
	Justifi	Catches and CPUE are more	nitored and reported on a ye	early basis. The results are reviewed	
	cation	every year during the sp	ecies group meeting, the S	SCRS meeting and the Commission	
		meeting. A new stock asse	essment is performed at reg	ular intervals (3 years) or as needed	
		if there are indications the	at the status of the stock ha	is changed. ICCAT is planning a new	
		assessment in 2016. Base	d on the most recent stock	assessment, there is evidence that	
_		the stock is rebuilding and	that the harvest strategy is	working. SG 60 is met.	
d	Guide			The harvest strategy is periodically	
	post			reviewed and improved as	
				necessary.	
	Met?			Y	
	Justifi	The stock is assessed regul	arly (every 3 years) or more	often if necessary. Data are updated	
	cation	every year. Each time the	ere is a new assessment, the	e reference points are re-estimated	
		(re-calculated) and re-ev	aluated (are they still app	ropriate) and the performance of	
		management is evaluated	d (is the objective of the Co	onvention met). The stock was last	
		assessed in 2013 and the	ne next assessment is plar	nned for 2016. SCRS is in regular	
		discussion with the Comm	ission to develop and furthe	r improve assessment methods and	
		evaluate reference points.	SG 100 is met.		
е	Guide	It is likely that shark	It is highly likely that	There is a high degree of certainty	
	post	finning is not taking	shark finning is not	that shark finning is not taking	
		place.	taking place.	place.	



PI 1.	2.1	There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place				
	Met?	Not relevant	Not relevant	Not relevant		
	Justifi	Fining is not taking place. Therefore this scoring guidepost is not applicable.				
	cation					
SCRS, 2013/120						
ICCAT Report 2013						
References ICCA		ICCAT Report 2014	ICCAT Report 2014			
		2015 COM- Draft Rec. HCR-NALB				
		http://iccat.int/Documents/Recs/compendiopdf-e/2011-13-e.pdf				
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 95			95		
COND	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A			N/A		



PI 1.	2.2	There are well define	I 1.2.2 There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place				
Scorir Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100			
а	Guide post	Generally understood harvest rules are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and which act to reduce the exploitation rate as limit reference points are approached.	Well defined harvest control rules are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and ensure that the exploitation rate is reduced as limit reference points are approached.				
	Met?	Y	N				
	Met? Justifi cation	Y In November the MSC selanguage from v2.0 for fish In addition, the MSC (FAN agreed rules or actions use in indicators of stock sta following the MSC Interpre 16 December 2015. The definition of HCRs curr at the SG60 level. As the understood' HCR in place whether the fishery will in they perceive as the 'gener The suite of recommendar Concerning the Limitation periodically updated the Limits for the Period 2008- Rebuilding Program on Recommendation by ICCA [Rec. 11-04]; and more the Concerning The North Atla development of a harvest indicating that when the n measures intended at rel scientific advisory committed in 2001 demonstrating its Except in two years (Figure These decisions, along with 2000s provide a formation	N ent a notification to CABs, peries that are being assessed (1 v2) defines harvest contro- ed for determining a manage tus with respect to refere etation on Harvest Control F rently given in the MSC voca MSC suggests, when determ in the fishery under assess of future take appropriate m rally understood' rule. tions adopted by ICCAT since of Fishing Capacity on N Recommendation by ICCAT 2009 [Rec. 07-02], the Reco North Atlantic Albacore T to Establish a Rebuilding I recently the ICCAT Suppler antic Albacore Rebuilding Pro- control rules. By making the eed arose it did make the ri building the stock consisten- tee. This is illustrated by ICCA intention to actively manage e 3), catches have been lower	in order to adopt the 'available' d under v1.3. If rule as "A set of well-defined pre- ement action in response to changes nce points". The rational below is Rules (HCRs) distributed to CABs the bulary applies at the SG80 level, not nining whether there is a 'generally ment, assessors need to determine anagement action in line with what the 1998: Recommendation by ICCAT orthern Albacore [Rec. 98-08] and on North Atlantic Albacore Catch mmendation by ICCAT to Establish a [Rec. 09-05], the Supplemental Program on North Atlantic Albacore mental Recommendation By ICCAT ogram [Rec. 13-05]), documents the ose decisions to adopt management int with the advice provided by its AT setting TACs on Albacore starting e the fisheries and rebuild the stock. r than the TACs.			
		target reference points are	ג שונח a narvest strategy tha e not achieved. Fishing morta	t reduces the exploitation rate when ality was successfully reduced below			



PI 1.	.2.2	There are well defined	d and effective harvest	control rules in place		
		F _{MSY} and biomass is nearly	y rebuilt to SSB _{MSY} . Recomm	nendation 11-13 establishes a clear		
		framework for making conservation and management measures:				
		1. For stocks that are not o	overfished and not subject to	overfishing (i.e., stocks in the green		
		quadrant of the Kobe plot	t), management measures s	hall be designed to result in a high		
		probability of maintaining	the stock within this quadrar	nt.		
		2. For stocks that are not	overfished, but are subjec	t to overfishing, (i.e., stocks in the		
		upper right yellow quadra	nt of the Kobe plot), the Co	ommission shall immediately adopt		
		management measures, ta	aking into account, inter alia	, the biology of the stock and SCRS		
		advice, designed to result i	n a high probability of			
		ending overfishing in as she	ort a period as possible.			
		3. For stocks that are over	fished and subject to overfis	hing (i.e., stocks in the red quadrant		
		of the Kobe plot), the Com	mission shall immediately a	dopt management measures, taking		
		into account, inter alia, th	e biology of the stock and S	SCRS advice, designed to result in a		
		high probability of ending	g overfishing in as short a p	period as possible. In addition, the		
		Commission shall adopt a	plan to rebuild these stocks	s taking into account, inter alia, the		
		biology of the stock and SC	RS advice.	C <i>i i</i>		
		4. For stocks that are over	fished and not subject to ove	erfishing (i.e. stocks in the lower left		
		yellow quadrant of the K	obe plot), the Commission	shall adopt management measures		
		designed to rebuild these	stocks in as short a period as	s possible, taking into account, inter		
		alia, the biology of the stoc	k and SCRS advice.			
		The TO sent by the MS	SC (See Appendix 3) misir	terpret ICCAT Rec 11 - 13. This		
		recommendation is not as	pirational; it is operational a	nd has been used by ICCAT to make		
		decisions on several s	pecies including albacore.	ICCAT adopts resolutions and		
		recommendations neither of which is aspirational, both are operational and are				
		implemented The team concludes that " harvest control rules are in place that are				
		consistent with the harvest strategy and ensure that the exploitation rate is reduced as				
		limit reference points are	e approached" but, while I	CCAT has made the right decision		
		repeatedly on northern Al	bacore, the rules and action	s cannot yet be described as "well-		
		defined" as specified in the	e MSC FAM v2. Therefore th	e SG80 is not met and a condition is		
		raised. It is important to hi	ghlight that the MSC is organ	nizing a pilot harmonization meeting		
		for the International Conv	ention for the Conservation	of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) fisheries,		
		scheduled for the fall of 20	16.			
b	Guide		The selection of the	The design of the harvest control		
	post		harvest control rules	rules takes into account a wide		
			takes into account the	range of uncertainties.		
			main uncertainties.			
	Met?		Y	N		
	Justifi	The decision making frame	ework developed and used b	by ICCAT (Rec. 11-13 along with the		
	cation	Kobe matrix) takes into a	account the main assessme	nt uncertainties using 10 different		
		assessment approaches to	describe the uncertainty in	stock size estimates (see Figure 7).		
		Four very different assess	ment models were used: a p	production model (ASPIC), and age-		
		length structured model	(Stock Synthesis 3), the bas	se case MultiFAn CL, and a Virtual		
		Population Analysis (VPA). Several configurations o	f the 4 assessment models were		
		investigated for a total of	9 alternative formulations in	addition to the base case. SG 80 is		
		reached. The decision fra	amework does not take acc	ount a wide range of uncertainties		



PI 1	.2.2	There are well defined	ere are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place				
		(e.g. implementation unce	rtainties). Therefore SG 100 i	s not met.			
С	Guide	There is some evidence	Available evidence	Evidence clearly shows the	hat the		
	post	that tools used to	indicates that the tools	tools in use are effec	tive in		
		implement harvest	in use are appropriate	achieving the exploitation	n levels		
		control rules are	and effective in	required under the	harvest		
		appropriate and	achieving the	control rules.			
		effective in controlling	exploitation levels				
		exploitation.	required under the				
			harvest control rules.				
	Met?	Y	Y	N			
	Justifi	In November the MSC se	ent a notification to CABs,	in order to adopt the 'av	vailable'		
	cation	language from v2.0 for fish	neries that are being assesse	d under v1.3. The definition	only at		
		the SG60 level.					
		Management measures a	adopted by ICCAT starting	in 1998 have been succe	ssful in		
		reducing fishing mortality	below F _{MSY} and almost suc	cessful in rebuilding SSB to	SSB _{MSY} .		
		Available evidence such	as having decreased F at o	r below F_{MSY} and having th	ne stock		
		rebuilding to very close to	B_{MSY} (or SSB _{MSY} which is eq	uivalent) indicates that the	tools in		
		use are appropriate and effective in achieving the exploitation levels required under the					
		harvest control rules. SG8	D is met.				
		However, the team recog	nizes that more evidence is n	eeded to clearly show that th	he tools		
		in use are effective in ach	ieving the exploitation levels	required under the harvest	control		
		rules. SG100 is not met.		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
		SCRS. 2013/120					
	ICCAT Report 2013						
References		ICCAT Report 2014					
		http://iccat.int/Documents	s/Commission/Press_release	2015 ENG.pdf			
		http://iccat.int/Documents	s/Recs/compendiopdf-e/201	1-13-e.pdf			
		MSC Interpretation on Har	vest Control Rules (HCRs). 16	5 December 2015.			
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		75		
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			2		



PI 1.	1.2.3 Relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy			the harvest strategy
Scorin Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
а	Guide post	Some relevant information related to stock structure, stock productivity and fleet composition is available to support the harvest strategy.	Sufficient relevant information related to stock structure, stock productivity, fleet composition and other data is available to support the harvest strategy.	A comprehensive range of information (on stock structure, stock productivity, fleet composition, stock abundance, fishery removals and other information such as environmental information), including some that may not be directly related to the current harvest strategy is available
	Mata	X		
	Met? Justifi cation	Y ICCAT has considered the s It concluded that for ma treated as a stock unit. Sin are treated as separate s Atlantic, North Pacific and have a serious potential fishing grounds, as well a information on fleet comp are not fishery independed information (on stock stru- fishery removals and oth some that may not be dire is met.	y stock structure of Albacore in nagement purposes, albaco milarly, albacore in the Medi stock units. Scientific studie I the Mediterranean, suggest impact on albacore stocks, s productivity and potential position and fishery removal ent indices of stock size. Th ucture, stock productivity, fl per information such as env ectly related to the current h	Y the Atlantic and neighboring areas. re in the North Atlantic should be terranean and in the South Atlantic s on albacore stocks, in the North t that environmental variability may affecting fisheries by changing the MSY of the stocks. There is detailed s. As for other tuna fisheries, there erefore, a comprehensive range of teet composition, stock abundance, vironmental information), including harvest strategy, is available. SG 100
b	Guide post	Stock abundance and fishery removals are monitored and at least one indicator is available and monitored with sufficient frequency to support the harvest control rule.	Stock abundance and fishery removals are regularly monitored at a level of accuracy and coverage consistent with the harvest control rule, and one or more indicators are available and monitored with sufficient frequency to support the harvest control rule.	All information required by the harvest control rule is monitored with high frequency and a high degree of certainty, and there is a good understanding of inherent uncertainties in the information [data] and the robustness of assessment and management to this uncertainty.
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν
	Justifi cation	All information required to considered reasonably acc in the data and the SCRS un better understand the und the estimated uncertainty work to evaluate the robu	by the harvest control rule is curate. There is a good unde uses several assessment meth certainties in assessment res y. The fishery meets all of t ustness of assessment and r	s monitored at least yearly and it is erstanding of inherent uncertainties hods, in addition to the base case, to ults. Management is consistent with the SG80. While there is on-going management to the uncertainty the



PI 1.	.2.3	Relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy				
		results are not yet available	e. SG 100 is not met.			
с	Guide post		Thereisgoodinformation on all otherfisheryremovalsfromthe stock.			
	Met?		Υ			
	Justifi cation	ICCAT requires that all, Ion metres length overall and t States within the ICCAT are and to record, inter alia, th for each of a comprehensi project called "IM12recrea activities. During 2012 and significant compared to co and notified. There is good is met.	ngline, pole and line, handli those under 24 metres if the ea of competence to keep a ne weight (kg) or number b ive list of species. In relatio " carried out by Azti to mo d 2013 the catches were ommercial catches. All the information on all other fisl	ne and troll fishing vessels ey fish outside the EEZs of bound paper or electronic y species per set/shot/fishi n to recreational catches t nitor the catches from thes less than 120 t. These da recreational catches are co hery removals from the sto	over 24 their flag logbook ng event here is a fishing ta is not ontrolled ck. SG 80	
Refer	ences	 ICCAT Report 2013 ICCAT Report 2014 Ruiz, J., Zarauz, L., Andonegri, E., Mugerza, E., Artetxe, I. 2014. Informe parcial Establecimiento de un sistema de recogida sistemática de datos sobre PESCARECREATIVA. AZTI Tecnalia. 				
OVER	ALL PER	FORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORE:		90	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



PI 1.2.4		There is an adequate assessment of the stock status			
Scori	ıg	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
Issue					
а	Guide		The assessment is	The assessment is appropriate for	
	post		appropriate for the stock	the stock and for the harvest	
			and for the harvest	control rule and takes into	
			control rule.	account the major features	
				relevant to the biology of the	
				species and the nature of the	
				fishery.	
	Met?		Y	Y	
	Justifi	The base case assessme	ent is with MultiFan CL sp	pecifically developed for Northern	
	cation Albacore. MULTIFAN-CL is a computer program that implements a statistical, size-ba				
	age-structured, and spatial structured model. The model is fit to time series of c				
	size composition data from either one or many fishing fleets. Size composition data				
		be in the form of either le	ength or weight-frequency da	ata, or both. The model may also be	
		fit simultaneously to tagg	ing data, if available. Other in	nformation is provided to the model	
	in the form of fishing effort data and prior information on estimates of variou				
and fisheries parameters and their variability (Hampton et. al., 2002). The data				n et. al., 2002). The data used in the	
	albacore tuna assessment consisted of catch, effort and length- frequency data f fisheries. The use of tag release-recapture data was intended, however, but was				
		to allow comparison with	n the previous stock assessi	ment. Therefore, the considers the	
		assessment is appropriate	e for the stock and for the	harvest control rule and takes into	
		account the major featur	es relevant to the biology o	f the species and the nature of the	
		fishery. SG100 is met.			
b	Guide	The assessment			
	post	estimates stock status			
		relative to reference			
		points.			
	Met?	Y			
	Justifi	The most recent assessme	nt for the North Atlantic sto	ck of albacore was conducted by the	
	Cation Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) of the International Commissi				
		the Conservation of Atlan	tic Tuna (ICCAT) in 2013 usin	g data up to 2011. In October 2014.	
		the SCRS updated the cate	ch information to 2013.	8	
	the SCRS updated the catch mormation to 2013.				
		The different models an	id assumptions provide a	wide range of B/BMCV and E/EMCV	
		estimates but most of mo	del formulations concluded	that:	
		Overfishing is not	t occurring. The ratio of Ecur	rent/F is estimated at 0.72 (range	
		0.55-0.70).	toccurring. The ratio of real		
		0.55 - 0.75),	coment medel runs indicate	that the stack has been increasing	
		viose the mid 10	one but the steek remains and	artiched being clightly below SCP	
			0.04 range of 0.74 1.14 T =	ernsheu, being signity below SSB _{MSY}	
		(SSBCUI/SSB _{MSY} =	0.54 range of 0.74-1.14). The	1 alio 01 330cui/01111 = 2.4	
	Cuida		The encourse to the	The encourse to be a set of the	
C	nost	identifies major sources	uncortainty into account	assessment takes into	
	ρυστ	identifies major sources	uncertainty into account.	account uncertainty and is	
		of uncertainty.		evaluating stock status relative to	



PI 1.	.2.4	There is an adequate assessment of the stock status				
				reference points in a probabilistic		
				way.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Y		
	Justifi	Figure 6 shows that the assessment takes into account uncertainty and evaluates st				
	cation	status relative to referen	ce points in a probabilistic w	ay (the cloud of blue points around		
the point estimate (black dot) gives the confidence intervals around the estimate				tervals around the estimates of the		
		most recent fishing morta	lity and biomass. SG 100 is m	net.		
d	Guide			The assessment has been tested		
-	post			and shown to be robust		
	•			Alternative hypotheses and		
				assessment approaches have		
				been rigorously explored		
	Mot2			v		
	Tuetifi	The most recent assessme	ht for the North Atlantic stor	k of albacare was conducted by the		
	cation	Standing Committee on B	esearch and Statistics (SCRS)	of the International Commission for		
	cation	the Concernation of Atlan	tio Tuno (ICCAT) in 2012 usin	a data un to 2011. In October 2014		
		the COnservation of Atlan	the information to 2012			
		The different models or	a accumptions provide a	wide range of D/D and Γ/Γ		
		antimates but most of mo	del fermulations provide a	while range of B/B _{MSY} and F/F _{MSY}		
		estimates, but most of mo				
		Overnishing is not occurri	ng. The ratio of Fcurrent/F _M	sy is estimated at 0.72 (range 0.55-		
		0.79); Wost of the assessments	nent model runs indicate that	t the stock has been increasing since		
		the mid-1990s but the	e stock remains overfish	ed, being slightly below SSB _{MSY}		
		(SSBcur/SSB _{MSY} =0.94 rang	e of 0.74 -1.14). The ratio of S	SBcur/Blim = 2.4.		
		Stock status determination	n took the results of all asses	sment methods into account. SG100		
		is met.				
		Estimates of northern Atla	antic albacore spawning stoc	k size between 1930-2011 according		
		to the Multifan-CL Base	e Case and the different s	sensitivity runs considered in the		
		assessment.				
		Figure 7 (pasted below)	shows the results from the	e base case and other assessment		
		methods used:				
		605000,00		-Base		
				Altic		
		500000,00	-			
		A		Alt4		
		40000.00	The adv	Alt5 Alt5		
			all m	Alt 7		
		300000.00		-Tag		
		200000.00		ma the		
			V			
		100000.00				
		0.00				
		1925 1985	1945 1955 1965 1975 Year	1985 1995 2005 2015		
		<u> 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997</u>				
е	Guide		The assessment of stock	The assessment has been		
	post		status is subject to peer	internally and externally peer		

Public Certification Report



PI 1.2.4		There is an adequate assessment of the stock status				
			review.	reviewed.		
	Met?		Y	Y		
	Justifi The assessment of stock status is subject to peer review in the SCRS process. The			The SCRS		
	cation	process involves external peer reviewers. SG100 is met.				
		ICCAT Report 2013				
Refer	ences	ICCAT Report 2014				
		SCRS/2013/058. ICCAT, 70	S/2013/058. ICCAT, 70(3): 1094-1107 (2014)			
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 10					
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



PI 2	PI 2.1.1 The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retaine species				
Scori	ng Issue	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guidepost	Main retained species	Main retained species	There is a high degree of	
		are likely to be within	are highly likely to be	certainty that retained species	
		biologically based	within biologically	are within biologically based	
		limits (if not, go to	based limits (if not, go	limits and fluctuating around	
		scoring issue c below).	to scoring issue c	their target reference points.	
	Met?	Y	y	N	
	Justification	Retained species of the	Spanish troll fleet in the	Cantabrian Sea (appart from the	
		target species) for the p	eriod 2009-2014 according	to the ICCAT Database is limited	
		to: Bigeve tuna, Skipiac	k tuna and Bluefin tuna (Ta	able 3-4). None of these species	
		accounts for 1% of the l	adings. This data is consist	ent with information provided by	
		AZTI for the period 20	005-2014 (see 3.4.5 for r	nore details), with the analysis	
		performed by the IFO w	ith official landing data fro	m 2004-2006 (Castro et al 2011)	
		and with the AZTI staf	f observations and notes	recorded during the Hegalabur	
		campaing (Arrizagalaha	ners Comm)		
			pers. commy.		
		Although the retained	species mentioned above	are below 5% in weigth of the	
		landings they are highly	valuable species therefore	the assessment team considered	
		them as main retain sne	cies according the MSC cert	ification procedures	
		main retain spe			
		Below is provided detail	ed information on each of t	he three retained species for the	
		scoring per elements:			
		Bigeye tuna (Thunnus o	besus) is the main retaine	d species of this fishery. In 2013	
		the total catch was 60 t	ons (1.6% of total catch in	the year and an average of 0.7%	
		between 2009 and 2013	s), see Table 3-4 . Atlantic b	igeye stock catches in 2013 were	
		about 63,000 t and the	TAC actually is 85000t (ICC	AT REPORT 2014-2015 (I)). Based	
		on the conclusions of th	ne last assessment conduct	ed by SCRS in 2010 overfishing is	
		not occurring (F2000/FMS	v ratio is estimated at 0.	95), the stock is not overfished	
		(B2000/BMSV ratio is estim	ated at 1.01) and since 200)1 the bigeve tuna catch is below	
		the estimated May (92.00	00 t with a range: 78,700 to	101.600 t) (ICCAT REPORT 2014-	
		2015 (I)), which is highly	likely to be within biologic	ally based limits. This meets SG80	
		for this species. Estimat	es of reported catches have	e generally been consistent with	
		the TAC since 2005 only	v in 2011 catches were 0.1	% above 85 000t However there	
is uncortainty in these estimates the mode		estimates the model runs	considered plausible ranged for		
		Brook/Bury from 0.72 to	1 34 and Emp/Eury from 0	65 to 1 55 Eurthermore catches	
		for 2006-2012 are still u	inder revision (ICCAT REPC	NRT 2014-2015 (I)) Therefore the	
		SG100 is not met becau	se there is not a high degree	of certainty for this species	
			se there is not a flight degree	or certainty for this species.	
		The catch of Skipjack tu	na (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) v	vas 49 tons in 2013 (0.8% of total	
		catch in the year and an	average of 0.2% between	2009 and 2013). Skipjack catches	
		in the eastern Atlantic	Ocean skipjack stock in 20	13 were about 203,500 t (ICCAT	
		REPORT 2014-2015 (I)).	Based on the conclusions of	of the last assessment conducted	

Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.1 Troll fishery



PI 2	.1.1	The fishery does not retained species and species	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species			
		by SCRS in 2014 the east Atlantic stock is not under overfishing (F_{2009}/F_{MSY} is likely below 1.0), the stock is not overfished (B_{2009}/B_{MSY} ratio is likely above 1.0) and the _{MSY} value is probably higher than previous estimates (143,000-170,000). This meets SG80 for this species but the SG100 is not meet because there is not a high degree of certainty for these species.				
		Bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) , catches were less than 0.5 t the years (2009-2013) and 0 t in 2013. Bluefin catches in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean in 2013 were about 13,333 t (ICCAT REPORT 2014-2015 (I)). Based on the conclusions of the ICCAT's SCRS update of the 2012 assessment of Atlantic bluefin tuna stock conducted in 2014 the East Atlantic and Mediterranean overfishing is not occurring (F_{2013} /F0.1 is 0.36-0.40), the stock is not overfished (B_{2013}/B_{MSY} ratio is 1.10-1.11 for the medium recruitment scenario and reported catch scenario. MSY value is 33,662-36,835 (23,256-74,248 for all recruitment scenarios considered). Recommendation 14-04, ICCAT chose MSY to be the lowest value estimated by SCRS. SG80 is met for this species but there still is considerable uncertainty: under one of the high recruitment scenarios B_{MSY} would be considerably larger and therefore current biomass, under that scenario, would be lower than B				
		because there is not a hi	igh degree of certainty for t	his species.		
		As this PI is comprised	of differing scoring eleme	nts (species) and main retained		
h	Guidenost	species are nighty likely t	o be within biologically bas	Target reference points are		
5	Guidepost			defined for retained species.		
	Met?			N		
	Justification	The preamble to the I	CCAT Convention states:	"The Governments whose duly		
		authorized representativ in the populations of tu desiring to co-operate in will permit the maximum conclude a Convention f fishes of the Atlantic Oce	es have subscribed hereto, una and tuna-like fishes for maintaining the populatio n sustainable catch for foo for the conservation of the an []". This implies that IC	considering their mutual interest bund in the Atlantic Ocean, and ns of these fishes at levels which d and other purposes, resolve to resources of tuna and tuna-like CAT uses MSY reference points.		
		Target reference points a For skipjack, the SCRS s fishing mortality is likely points are defined for ski	are defined and calculated tates that current biomass below F _{MSY} . SG100b is not ipjack.	for bigeye tuna and bluefin tuna. is likely above B _{MSY} and current met because no target reference		
C	Guidepost	If main retained species are outside the limits there are measures in place that are expected to ensure that the fishery does not hinder recovery and	If main retained species are outside the limits there is a partial strategy of demonstrably effective management measures in place such that the fishery does not hinder			



PI 2	.1.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species			
		rebuilding of the	recovery and		
		depleted species.	rebuilding.		
	Met?	NA	NA		
	Justification	Retained species are not	outside limits. Therefore tl	his PI is not applicable.	
d	Guidepost	If the status is poorly			
		known there are			
		measures or practices			
		in place that are			
		expected to result in			
		the fishery not causing			
		the retained species to			
		be outside biologically			
		based limits or			
		hindering recovery.			
	Met?	Y			
	Justification	All retained species are r	nonitored by ICCAT. The sto	ock status is known and	there are
		measures or practices ir	place that are expected to	o result in the fishery no	t causing
		the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering recovery			
		(ICCAT 2014). Then, SG 6	60 is met.		
Defer		ICCAT Recommendation	11-13, ICCAT Recommer	ndation 14-04, Majkows	ki, 2003,
Kerer	ences	ICCAT Manual, ICCAT 20	14; Castro et al., 2011, ICCA	AT basic texts	
OVER	ALL PERFORM	ANCE INDICATOR SC	ORE:		80
CONE	DITION NUMBE	R (if relevant):			NA



	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is					
PI 2.	1.2	designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or				
		irreversible harm to retained species				
Scoring		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
Issue	Guido	There are measures in	There is a nartial strategy	There is a strategy in place for		
a	nost	nlace if percessary that	in place if percentary	managing rotained species		
	pose	place, il flecessaly, tilat	that is evenested to	managing retained species.		
		are expected to	that is expected to			
		maintain the main	maintain the main			
		retained species at	retained species at levels			
		levels which are highly	which are highly likely to			
		likely to be within	be within biologically			
		biologically based limits,	based limits, or to ensure			
		or to ensure the fishery	the fishery does not			
		does not hinder their	hinder their recovery			
		recovery and rebuilding.	and rebuilding.			
	Met?	Y	Y	N		
	Justifi	The high selectivity of thi	s gear is the main strategy	for managing retained species. The		
	cation	small proportion of retain	ed species in the nominal ca	atch (1.8% by weigh of total catch in		
		2013) means that gear its	elf can be considered a parti	al strategy in place, that is expected		
		to maintain the main re	tained species at levels wl	hich are highly likely to be within		
		biologically based limits,	or to ensure the fishery d	oes not hinder their recovery and		
		rebuilding.				
		In the MSC assessments f	or Albacore Fishing Associa	tion South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jig		
		Fishery, and American Alb	acore Fishing Association No	orth Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and		
		Troll/Jig Fishery, the troll	gear was considered to co	nstitute an operational strategy for		
		managing retained specie	es on the grounds that the	gear is clearly designed for and is		
		successful at catching alba	acore rather than other speci	es.		
			·			
		However, in addition to a	highly selective fishing operation	ative, there is a strategy in place for		
		managing retained specie	es, including TACs and guide	elines for developping management		
		measures in ICCAT mana	ged stocks (ICCAT Recomme	endation 11-13). Specific regulatory		
		measures are also implem	ented for the 3 retained spe	cies as explained below:		
		Bigeye tuna: the main bin	ding conservation regulatory	y measures established by ICCAT for		
		bigeye are the measures	on banning fishing on FADs	[Rec. 98-01] and [Rec. 99-01] or on		
		complete closure to surfa	ce fleets [Rec. 04-01] and [F	Rec. 11-01] which replaces the [Rec.		
		04-01] have been implem	ented to protect yellowfin a	nd bigeye tuna juveniles. The actual		
		2012-2015 management	plan provides a very com	prehensive management plan that		
		combines multiple conservation elements with enforcement ones.				
		Skipjack tuna: Atlantic Oc	ean Eastern Skipjack Tuna st	tock is not overfished ($B > B_{MSY}$) and		
		overfishing is not occurri	ng (F < F_{MSY}), therefore is n	ot necessary to have an additional		
		partial strategy in place the	nat is expected to maintain t	the skipjack tuna at levels which are		
		highly likely to be within b	piologically based limits, or to	o ensure the fishery does not hinder		
		their recovery and rebuil	ding. Several ICCAT time/are	ea regulatory measures on banning		

Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.2 Troll fishery



PI 2.1.2	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to retained species
	fishing on FADs [Rec. 98-01] and [Rec. 99-01] or on complete closure to surface fleets [Rec. 04-01] and [Rec. 11-01] have been implemented to protect yellowfin and bigeye tuna juveniles, affects this skipjack stock.
	Bluefin tuna: the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin stock has been the subject of a rebuilding program since 2006 (ICCAT Rec. 06-05), which has been amended every year in 2007-2010 and again in 2012 (Rec. 12-03) The plan aims to rebuild the stock to B_{MSY} by 2022 with at least 60% probability. There are continuing positive signs of the success of the rebuilding plan and the efficiency of the management measures taken by the Commission (ICCAT 2014). Furthermore, the ICCAT recommendation 14-04 provides a very comprehensive management plan that combines multiple conservation elements with enforcement ones.
	Another Spanish regulation providing tuna conservation measures is Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management Plan for the registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste. This Order bans the use of pelagic or semi- pelagic seine fishing practices in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste in Spanish territorial waters. Additionally, fishing, retaining on board, transportation, and landing of any species of tuna using bottom trawl practices is banned.
	Spanish regulations, such as Order AAA/642/2013, of 18 of April, regulating Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing in the West Atlantic and the Mediterranean assigns part of the quota for bluefin tuna to troll vessels authorised to fish for albacore (<i>Thunus alalunga</i>). In this case, retaining a quantity of Atlantic bluefin tuna over 5% of the total catch on board in weight or number of specimens is not authorised at any time after the fishing operation. The number of specimens will only apply for tuna and tuna-like species managed by ICCAT. These catches are to be deducted from the quota assigned to each fleet group. Bycatches of Atlantic bluefin tuna are subject to the regulations on minimum sizes, authorised ports, documentation, transfer, port control, and the sales measures contemplated in this order.
	In addition, Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC states that "all catches of species which are subject to catch limits [] caught during fishing activities in Union waters or by Union fishing vessels outside Union waters in waters not subject to third countries' sovereignty or jurisdiction, in the fisheries and geographical areas listed shall be brought and retained on board the fishing vessels, recorded, landed and counted against the quotas where applicable, except when used as live bait".
	Therefore, for the main retained species, including bigeye, bluefin and skipjack tuna, the assessment team believes that <u>there are measures in place</u> , that are expected to maintain the main retained species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding, so the fishery meets the requirements of the SG 60 level for all the elements of this scoring issue.



PI 2.	.1.2	There is a strategy designed to ensure irreversible harm to re	in place for managing the fishery does not etained species	ng retained species that is pose a risk of serious or
		Further, there is a partial species at levels which are the fishery does not hin requirements of the SG 8 assessment team has det retained species, so the fis	strategy in place that is expe e highly likely to be within b ider their recovery and rel 0 level for all the elements termined that there is not shery does not meet the SG 1	ected to maintain the main retained iologically based limits, or to ensure building, so the fishery meets the of this scoring issue. However, the a full strategy in place for maining 100 level for this scoring issue.
b	Guide post	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/species).	There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.	Testing supports high confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.
	Met?	Υ	Y	N
	Justifi cation	 Periodical assessment and revisions of the stock status of main retained tuna species a testing the measures/partial strategy described in previous guidepost. Below, there is summary of the main results for each of the 3 retained tuna species Bigeye tuna: The outlook for Atlantic bigeye tuna, considers the quantified uncertainty the 2010 assessment, which provide a characterization of the prospects of the sto achieving or being maintained at levels consistent with the Convention Objective (i.e. MIS over time, for different levels of future constant catch. It is noteworthy that the modele probabilities of the stock being maintained at levels consistent with the Convention Objective (ICCAT 2014). Skipjack tuna: There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy working as there is no evidence of a fall neither in yield nor in the average weight individuals captured. The estimated value of the MSY, according to the catch-or assessment model, has tended to increase in recent years but at a growth rate that lower than that observed for the catches for the same period. However, according to the model, although it is unlikely that the eastern skipjack stock is overexploited, and curre catches could be at (or even above) the MSY. Furthermore, ICCAT time/area regulato measures on banning fishing on FADs ([Rec. 11-01]) have been implemented to prote yellowfin and bigeye tuna juveniles. 		
		Bluefin tuna: The results biomass (SSB) reached a start of the 70s, later dro decade of the 2000s. The period in all the research when updating the 2012 b	of the updated evaluation maximum of over 300,000 t pping to approximately 150, SSB showed clear signs of a s undertaken by the Committe paseline case, which correspo	indicate that the spawning stock both at the end of the 50s and the 000 t around the middle of the first sharp upturn during the most recent ee, even to almost 585,000 t in 2013 onds to the maximum estimated SSB



PI 2.	.1.2	There is a strategy designed to ensure irreversible harm to re	in place for managing the fishery does not the fishery does not etained species	ng retained species that is pose a risk of serious or	
		during the period. The Co updated assessment has it younger and older fish ha the Committee also showed the reference target F0.1 uncertainties than FMAX reported and inflated cato Convention Objectives, cu SSB2013/SSB0.1= 1.10 and medium recruitment. In the (high recruitment scenario expected under a F0.1 strates 55% (high recruitment) to Summarizing based mainly	ommittee perception of the improved in comparison to p ve declined during the recer- ed a clear increase of the SSE (a reference point used as a) in both catch scenarios: ch scenarios, respectively. If irrent SSB is most likely to b d 1.11 for reported and inflat he reported catch scenario, to) to 160% (low recruitment ategy. In the inflated catch sc 174% (low recruitment) (ICC	stock status derived from the 2014 previous assessments, as F for both at years. All the runs investigated by 8. F2013 appears to clearly be below proxy for F_{MSY} that is more robust to F2013/F0.1= 0.4 and 0.36 for the F2013 would be consistent with the e above the level expected at F0.1: red catch scenario when considering the median of the SSB is about 67% at scenario) of the biomass that is renario, the median SSB ranges from AT 2014).	
		there is some objective ba some information directly However, the assessment by third part the team can	asis for confidence that mean about the fishery and/or s team considers that so far anot support high confidence	sures in place are working based on pecies, and therefore SG80 is met. testing is not in all cases monitored and then SG100 is no met.	
С	Guide post		There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.	
	Met?		Y	Y	
	Justifi	The low diversity and catches of retained species in this fleet (see Table 3-4 and on-line			
	cation	ICCAT Database) gives cle species is being implemen	ar evidence that the strateg ted successfully. Therefore, S	y to minize its impact on non target GG100 is met.	
d	Guide post			There is some evidence that the strategy is achieving its overall objective.	
	Met?			Υ	
	Justifi cation	All retained species are as presents evidences that the ICCAT recommendations objectives. Historical catches statistical database) show very low levels.	sessed by ICCAT. The report in the regular ICCAT stock assess are being implemented the records for the troll fishery that catches of species oth	issued in 2014 by SCRS (ICCAT 2014) ment, TAC management system and and also achieving their overall (available through the on-line ICCAT er than albacore are maintained at	
e	Guide post	It is likely that shark finning is not taking	It is highly likely that shark finning is not	There is a high degree of certainty that shark finning is not taking	
		place.	taking place.	place.	
	Met?	NA	NA	NA	
	Justifi	There is a high degree of	certainty that shark finning	is not taking place. For the Spanish	
cation fleet is illegal to fish pelagic sharks with the fishing gears assessed accord ARM/1647/2009. In practical terms there are not opportunities for sharks				gears assessed according to Orden portunities for shark finning while	



PI 2.1.2	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of seri irreversible harm to retained species	that is ous or		
	trolling. Therefore, this guidepost is not applicable for this fishery.			
	Orden ARM/1647/2009, de 15 de junio, por la que se regula la pesca de	especies		
	altamente migratorias.			
	ICCAT Recommendation 14-04; Orden AAA/642/2013, de 18 de abril, por la que se regula			
References	la pesquería de atún rojo en el Atlántico Oriental y Mediterráneo; ICCAT Recommendation			
	11-13; Orden AAA/1307/2013, de 1 de julio, por la que se establece un Plan de gestión			
	para los buques de los censos del Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste; ICCAT			
	2014; ICCAT statistical database.			
OVERALL PER	FORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	90		
CONDITION N	UMBER (if relevant):	N/A		



Eraia			liery			
		Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequate to				
PI 2.	1.3	determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the				
Casula		strategy to manage re		50.400		
SCOFIE	ıg	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
a	Guide	Qualitative information	Qualitative information	Accurate and verifiable		
-	post	is available on the	and some quantitative	information is available on the		
	•	amount of main	information are available	catch of all retained species and		
		retained species taken	on the amount of main	the consequences for the status		
		by the fichery	rotained species taken	of affected populations		
		by the inshery.	retained species taken	of affected populations.		
	Mata	N .	by the fishery.	Y.		
	Met?	Y	Y			
	JUSTITI	It is compulsory to record	all retained species in the el	lectronic logbook and report it daily		
	cation	to the General Secreta	riat for Fishing. This data	a is verified in port inspections.		
		Furthermore, the possibil	ity of an inspection being ca	irried out at sea requires fishermen		
		to ensure information in	the logbook is correct and p	properly updated. AZTI monitors all		
		landings in the Basque C	country, comparing the fish	market data with the data in the		
		logbook, and getting scier	ntific data as required by ICC	AT (e.g. catch, effort, size as well as		
		other data such as tag-ree	capture information). These	data are put together with the rest		
		of the national data and s	submitted to ICCAT. The ICC/	AT statistical database contains troll		
		fishery catch data since	1950. There is no reason to	o suspect catches exceed reported		
		landings given the lack of	incentive to misreport catch	nes of those species (i.e. the annual		
		catches by the albacore fi	shery are less than the TAC	. Therefore, accurate and verifiable		
		information is available or	n the catch of all retained sp	pecies and the consequences on the		
		status of affected populat	ions. SG100 is met.			
b	Guide	Information is adequate	Information is sufficient	Information is sufficient to		
-	post	to qualitatively assess	to estimate outcome	guantitatively estimate outcome		
	-	outcome status with	status with respect to	status with a high degree of		
		respect to biologically	hiologically based limits	certainty		
		hased limits	biologically based littles.	certainty.		
	Met?	Y	γ	γ		
	Justifi	The assessment team con	siders that the monitoring	process described above provides		
	cation	sufficient information to quantitatively estimate outcome status of the retained species				
		with a high degree of cert	ainty SG 100 is met	sine status of the retained species		
6	Guida	Information is adequate	Information is adequate	Information is adequate to		
	post	to support measures to	to support a partial	support a strategy to manage		
	pose	to support measures to	stratogy to manage main	support a strategy to manage		
		manage main retaineu		with a high degree of containty		
		species.	retained species.	with a high degree of certainty		
				whether the strategy is achieving		
				its objective.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Y		
	Justifi	The assessment team con	siders that the monitoring p	rocess described above is adequate		
	cation	to support and evaluate	the strategy developed by	ICCAT (see 2.1.2) to manage the 3		
		retained species of this fis	hery. Therefore, SG100 is me	et.		
d	Guide		Sufficient data continue	Monitoring of retained species is		
	post		to be collected to detect	conducted in sufficient detail to		
			any increase in risk level	assess ongoing mortalities to all		

Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.3 Troll fishery

Public Certification Report



PI 2	.1.3	Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage retained species				
			(e.g. due to changes in	retained species.		
			the outcome indicator			
			score or the operation of			
			the fishery or the			
			effectiveness of the			
			strategy)			
	Met?		Y	Y		
	Justifi	All species that are retained	d in the Cantabrian sea alba	core fishery are reported (e	lectronic	
	cation	logbooks) and monitored at landings There is dockside monitoring during offloading and				
		also at sea inspections. AZTI monitors all landings in the Basque Country, comparing the				
		fish market data with the data in the logbook, and getting scientific data as required by				
		ICCAT. According to the Spanish authorities logbook verifications have confirm the				
		consisteny of the information collected. SG100 is met				
Deferre		Site visit interviews, ICAAT statistical database, data on landings in the Basque Country				
Refer	ences	(provided by AZTI)				
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORE:		100	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



PI	2.1.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species				
Sc	orina Issue	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guidepost	Main retained species are likely to be within	Main retained species are highly likely to be within	There is a high degree of certainty that retained		
		biologically based limits	biologically based limits (if	species are within		
		(if not, go to scoring	not, go to scoring issue c	biologically based limits and		
		issue c below).	below).	fluctuating around their		
		,	,	target reference points.		
	Met?	Υ	Y	N		
	Justification	Retained species of the Sp	panish pole and line fleet in th	e Cantabrian Sea (appart from		
		the target species) for t	he period 2009-2014 accord	ing to the ICCAT Database is		
		limited to: Bigeye tuna an	d Skipjack tuna (Table 3-4). N	Ione of these species accounts		
		for 1% of the ladings. This	data is consistent with inform	nation provided by AZTI for the		
		period 2005-2014 (see 3.4	4.5 for more details), with the	analysis performed by the IEO		
		with official landing data	from 2004-2006 (Castro et al	2011), and with the AZTI staff		
		observations and notes re	ecorded during the Hegalabur	campaing (Arrizagalaba, pers.		
		Comm).				
		Although the retained sp	pecies mentioned above are	below 5% in weigth of the		
		landings they are highly v	valuable species, therefore the	e assessment team considered		
		them as main retain speci	es according the MSC certifica	tion procedures.		
		Below is provided detailed information on each of the two retained species:				
		Bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>) is the main retained species of this fishery. In 2013 total catch reached a maximum (180 tons 4% of total catch in that year) and an average of 0.1% between 2009 and 2013. Atlantic bigeye stock catches in 2013 were about 630000 t and the TAC actually is 85,000t (ICCAT, 2014). Based on the conclusions of the last assessment conducted by SCRS in 2010, overfishing is not occurring (F_{2009}/F_{MSY} ratio is estimated at 0.95), the stock is not overfished (B_{2009}/B_{MSY} ratio is estimated at 1.01) and since 2001 the bigeye tuna catch is below the estimated $_{MSY}$ (92000 t with a range: 78700 to 101600 t) (ICCAT REPORT 2014-2015 (I)), which is highly likely to be within biologically based limits. This meets SG80. Reported catches have been consistent with the TAC since 2005, only in 2011 catches were 0.1% above 85000t. However, there is uncertainty in these estimates the model runs considered plausible ranged for B_{2009}/B_{MSY} from 0.72 to 1.34 and F_{2009}/F_{MSY} ratios 0.65 to 1.55. Furthermore, catches for 2006-2012 are still under revision (ICCAT REPORT 2014-2015 (I)). SG100 is not met. Skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>) The nominal catch was under 0.5 t in 2013. Skipjack tuna catches were only recorded in 2013 during the 1950 to 2013 period. Its retention is exceptionally rare and has a negligible impact. Skipjack catches from the eastern Atlantic Ocean skipjack stock in 2013 were about 203,500 t (ICCAT, 2014). Based on the conclusions of the last evaluation conducted by SCRS in 2014, overfishing is not occurring for the east Atlantic stock (F_{2009}/F_{MSY} is probably less than 1.0), the stock is not overfished (the B_{2009}/B_{MSY} ratio is probably more than 1.0), and				

Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.1 Pole and line fishery



PI	2.1.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species
		the MSY value is probably higher than previous estimates (143,000-170,000). However SG100 is not met.
		According to the MSC Requirements <u>live bait species shall be consider as retained</u> <u>species</u> . Research was carried out to know the list of bait species used by the fishery under assessment (references). During the site visit information was validated with stakeholders involved in the fishery (AZTI, client, MAGRAMA).
		The baitfish-tuna ratio can vary due to the baitfish species used, fishing style, and other factors. Based on the estimates provided by fishermen, it is thought that approximately bait represents 4% of the total albacore catch by weight. Other references as Gillett 2011 (3%), American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery assessment (2.5%-3%) or Mexico Baja California Pole & Line Yellowfin & Skipjack Tuna Fishery (5%) provides a reference to estimate the use of live bait. Opting for more precautionary option, in the absence of official public data, it is considered the live tuna bait- ratio of 5% of the nominal tuna catches. There is also no data available on the proportion of each species used, so that 5% will be applied to all species. Between 2009 and 2013, in 2012 there was a maximum catch of 6,199 t of tuna, therefore, applying the 5% up to 310 t was required. All species are considered as commercial species with a high value and LTL species. For this reason the species are analyzed as main species:
		Anchovy (<i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>), the Figure 28 shows that the estimated biomass in 2014 is 66158 t with 90% probability interval is 46,981 and 92,833 t. The biological risk, defined as the probability of SSB in 2014 being below B_{lim} (21000 t), is 0. The assessment model is a two-stage Bayesian biomass dynamic model that takes uncertainty into account while giving probability intervals for each estimate. Therefore there is a high degree of certainty that the stock has been fluctuating around its target reference point over recent years. However, since the stock was very low between 2004-2010, which cause the fishery to be closed between 2005 and 2009, the stock has not been fluctuating around its target reference point over a long
		2009, the stock has not been fluctuating around its target reference point over a lor period and thus does not reach a score of 100.







ΡI	2.1.1	The fishery does not pretained species and species	pose a risk of serious or i does not hinder recovery	rreversible harm to the of depleted retained
		the ranges of data variab highly likely the stock is w Horse Mackerel (Trachur Vb, VIa, VIIa-c, e-k, and S has varied between 0.65 0.64 million t in 2014 whi has been increasing since 2004 onwards. Since the recruitment continues to safe biological limits (ICES use scoring issue c.	bility (ICES, 2013) and into the ithin biologically based limits. Sus trachurus). ICES evaluates Subarea VIII (Western stock) a and 1.72 million t during 199 ch puts the stock at almost Bt 2007 and is now above F_{MSY} . R 2014 stock biomass is the sec be low and F is above F_{MSY} , th 5, 2014). For this reason SG60	e limits of B_{lim} . Therefore it is SG80 is met but not SG100. the stock in Divisions IIa, IVa, nd concludes that SSB, which 5–2012, is estimated to be at rigger (0.63). Fishing mortality ecruitment has been low from ond lowest in the time series, he stock is likely to be outside is not met and is necessary to
b	Guidepost			Target reference points are defined for retained species.
İ	Met?			N
	Justification	The preamble to the IG authorized representatives the populations of tuna a to co-operate in maintains the maximum sustainable Convention for the conse Atlantic Ocean []". This i Target reference points an For skipjack, the SCRS st fishing mortality is likely b In relation to live bait spec Anchovy (Engraulis encra The Bay of Biscay anchovy (minimum estimated biom 21,000t. Mackerel (Scomber scomb MSY target and other pre 0-1 above. Table 0-1. ICES Reference	CCAT Convention states: " <i>Tf</i> s have subscribed hereto, cons nd tuna-like fishes found in th ing the populations of these fis e catch for food and other pu- rvation of the resources of tu mplies that ICCAT uses $_{MSY}$ refe re defined and calculated for ates that current biomass is below F_{MSY} . cies: rsicolus) , there is a defined ta y stock reference points was ap mass which still produced a sul brus) , for the NEA mackerel W cautory approach as Blim, Bpa e points for NEA mackerel as	The Governments whose duly idering their mutual interest in the Atlantic Ocean, and desiring thes at levels which will permit the proposes, resolve to conclude a and and tuna-like fishes of the erence points. bigeye tuna and bluefin tuna. likely above B_{MSY} and current arget reference point by ICES. oproved in October 2013. Blim bstantial recruitment) is set at KPELA proposed MSY Btrigger, a, Flim and Fpa, see the Table as proposed by WKPELA (ICES



PI	2.1.1	The fishery do retained spec species	bes not p ies and d	ose a risk of s loes not hinde	erious or irreversible har recovery of depleted ret	m to the tained
		Туре		Value	Technical basis	
		Management	SSBtrigger	N/A	Revision required	
		Plan	F target	N/A	Revision required	
		MSY	MSY Btrigger	2.36 million t	Proxy based on Bpa	
		Approach	MSY targe	et 0.25	Stochastic simulation conducted at 2014	t WKPELA
			Blim	1.84 million t	Bloss in 2002 from WKPELA 2014 assessment	benchmark
		Precautionary Approach	Вра	2.36 million t	exp(1.654*σ)*Bim, σ=0.15	
			Flim	0.39	Floss, the F that on average leads t	o Blim
			Fpa	0.26	F that on average leads to Bpa	
		Horse Mackerel and dynamics of defined stock-r proxy for F _{MSY} for in this year's as year no further time-series and F _{MSY} and _{MSY} Btri Neither for sard	(Trachurus of this stoc ecruitment or this stoc sessment i analysis o the lack o gger are es	s trachurus), give ck during the as t relationship, la k (ICES, 2013=W is 0.12, thus ver on reference poi of a well-defines stimated (WGHA	en the apparent stability in the operators sessment period, and the lack st year F35%SPR (0.11) was ac GHANSA 2013). The F35%SPR a y close to the value adopted in the ware carried out given the S-R relationship. For horse ma NSA REPORT 2014). reference points. Therefore So	exploitation c of a well- lopted as a s estimated a 2013. This (still) short ckerel both G100 is not
		met.				
C	Guidepost	If main retained are outside th there are mea place that are e to ensure th fishery does no recovery and re of the depleted	species e limits sures in expected hat the t hinder ebuilding species.	If main retain are outside there is a part of demonstrab management r place such that does not hind and rebuilding.	ed species the limits ial strategy ly effective neasures in the fishery er recovery	
	Met?	Y		Y		
	Justification	 Only horse mackerel is outside the limits, and therefore is the only retained species assessed here. Horse mackerel is outside safe biological limits. The harvest strategy is implied under the CFP for all European stocks: to be maintained at levels that can support MSY. In addition, since 2008 a management plan for horse mackerel has been used to set the 				



ΡI	2.1.1	The fishery does not p retained species and species	pose a risk of serious or i does not hinder recovery	irreversible harm of depleted reta	to the ined
		EU TAC. The management plan was initially deemed precautionary by ICES in the short term only, because some relevant scenarios were not evaluated. Further evaluation in 2013 suggests that, in its current configuration, the HCR is not robust to more than 2 years of very low recruitment (ICES, 2013). Considering that the horse mackerel western stock is experience overfishing and close to being overfished indicates that this strategy has not been responsive to stock status, as also indicated by ICES evaluation. However, the general management approach is likely to work in the long term as the reductions of the TACs, associated to a Landing Obligation, should lead to a limit on fishing mortality, the TACs have been set above scientific advice for the last 2 years. Furthermore, a revised management plan is currently under development (ICES, 2014) which is likely to take into account periods of low recruitment in the HCR. Until this revised management plan is evaluated to be precautionary and used to set the TACs, the harvest strategy will not meet its objectives of preventing the main targeted fisheries of hindering stock recovery and rebuilding. However, since the fishery under assessment only contributes to 0.2% of the catches at stock level, it is the conclusion of the assessment team that with the actual plan in developing and the reached of the fishery on the stock, it will not hinder stock recovery and rebuilding. Therefore SG80 is met.			
d	Guidepost	If the status is poorly known there are measures or practices in place that are expected to result in the fishery not causing the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering recovery.			
	Met?	γ			
	Justification	All species are monitored by ICCAT (tuna species) or ICES (live bait species). The stock status is known and there are measures or practices in place that are expected to result in the fishery not causing the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering recovery (ICCAT 2014). The stock status of live bait species is being quantitatively assessed by ICES. The status is well known, so only the status of the sardine stock is not determined with a low risk. As stated above, there are specific management measures to safeguard the sardine stock at the moment: a minimum landing size and closed areas. These measures, associated to the fact that the fishery accounts for a negligible percentage of			
		international landings, are nevertheless expected to prevent the fishery of causing the retained species to be outside biologically based limits or hindering their recovery. Then, SG 60 is met.			
Re	ferences	Gilman 2011, ICCAT 2014, ICES WGHANSA REPORT 2	ISSF 2015; Castro et al., 2011 014; ICES Advice May 2014	; ICES WGWIDE REPO	ORT 2014,
OV	ERALL PERFOR	MANCE INDICATOR SC	ORE:		80



PI 2.1.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted reta species	to the ined
CONDITION NUME	BER (if relevant):	N/A



Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.2 Pole and line fishery

		There is a strategy	in place for managi	ng retained species that is		
PI 2	.1.2	designed to ensure	the fishery does not	pose a risk of serious or		
		irreversible harm to r	etained species			
Scorii	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
Issue						
а	Guide	There are measures in	There is a partial	There is a strategy in place for		
	post	place, if necessary,	strategy in place, if	managing retained species.		
		maintain the main	necessary, that is			
		rotained energies at	the main retained			
		levels which are highly	species at levels which			
		likely to be within	are highly likely to be			
		hiologically be warm	within biologically			
		limits, or to ensure the	based limits, or to			
		fishery does not hinder	ensure the fishery does			
		their recovery and	not hinder their			
		rebuilding.	recovery and			
			rebuilding.			
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi	The high selectivity of thi	s gear is the main strategy	for managing retained species. The		
	cation	small proportion of retain	ed species in the nominal ca	otch (1.2% by weigh of total catch in		
		2013) means that a partia	I strategy is already in place	e. In the MSC assessments American		
		Albacore Fishing Associati	on North Pacific Albacore P	ole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery, the		
		Pole and line gear was c	considered to constitute an	operational strategy for managing		
		retained species on the gi	then other species. That	riv designed for and is successful at		
		retained species at levels v	which are highly likely to be	within biologically based limits or to		
		ensure the fishery does no	t hinder their recovery and r	ehuilding		
				eseneng.		
		However, in addition to a highly selective fishing operative, there is a strategy in place for				
		managing retained species, including TACs and guidelines for developping management				
		measures in ICCAT mana	<u>ged stocks</u> (ICCAT Recomm	endation 11-13). Furthermore, the		
		Spanish Order AAA/1307/2	2013 (Plan de gestión para la	os buques de los censos del Caladero		
		Nacional del Cantábrico y	Noroeste) forbids fishing, ret	ention on board, transportation and		
		offloading of any species o	f tuna with any kind of trawl			
		Coocifie requieters record	en and also implemented for	the 2 retained energies as surplained		
		below:	es are also implemented for	the 2 retained species as explained		
		Bigeye tuna: The main bin	ding conservation regulator	y measures established by ICCAT for		
		bigeye are the measures on banning fishing on FADs [Rec. 98-01] and [Rec. 99-01] or on				
		complete closure to surface fleets [Rec. 04-01] and [Rec. 11-01] which replaces the [Rec.				
		04-01] have been impleme	ented to protect yellowfin a	nd bigeye tuna juveniles. The actual		
		2012-2015 management	plan provides a very com	prehensive management plan that		
		combines multiple conserv	vation elements with enforce	ement ones.		
		Skipjack tuna: Atlantic Oc	ean Eastern Skipjack Tuna s	stock is not overfished ($B>B_{MSY}$) and		


	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is				
PI 2.1.2	designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or				
	irreversible harm to retained species				
	overfishing is not occurring (F <f<math display="inline">_{\rm MSY}), therefore it is not necessary an additional partial</f<math>				
	strategy in place that is expected to maintain the Skipjack tuna at levels which are highly				
	likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their				
	recovery and rebuilding. It meets 80. Currently there is no specific regulation in place for				
	skipjack tuna. However, several ICCAT time/area regulatory measures on banning fishing				
	on FADs [Rec. 98-01] and [Rec. 99-01] or on complete closure to surface fleets [Rec. 04-01]				
	and [Rec. 11-01] have been implemented to protect yellowfin and bigeye tuna juveniles.				
	Therefore, for the main retained species, the assessment team believes that there are				
	measures in place, that are expected to maintain the main retained species at levels which				
	are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not				
	hinder their recovery and rebuilding, so the fishery meets the requirements of the SG 60				
	level for all the elements of this scoring issue. Further, there is a partial strategy in place				
	that is expected to maintain the main retained species at levels which are highly likely to				
	be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery				
	and rebuilding, so the fishery meets the requirements of the SG 80 level for all the				
	elements of this scoring issue. All the same, the team cannot confirm a strategy to manage				
	all retained species is in place, and as such, SG100 is not met.				
	For live bait species, Order AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, establishing a Management plan for				
	the registered boats in the Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste (Annex I.8)				
	regulates live bait fisheries, which can only be practised as support for tuna fishing and, as				
	such, is exclusive to vessels authorised to the fish tuna with rods and live bait, and will be				
	subject to the following regulations:				
	a) Live bait catches can only be used as bait.				
	b) The minimum mesh size must be at least 10 millimetres.				
	c) The vessels must be equipped with tanks to keep the bait alive. The quantity of live bait				
	caught during the specific operations must not exceed the capacity of the aforemention				
	d) The vessels must not use more than one support boat when fishing with artificial light to				
	catch live bait.				
	e) The live bait fishery activity is exempt from the guidelines that regulate fishing effort in				
	this order, as well as compliance of those relating to small sizes included in COUNCIL				
	REGULATION (EC) No 850/98 of 30 March 1998 for the conservation of fishery resources				
	through technical measures for the protection of juveniles of marine organisms,				
	prohibiting the catch and storage on board of species other than those specified as live				
	bait.				
	Since the capture of species for live bait is negligible compared to the catches of these				
	species by different international fleets the Order AAA / 1307/2013 is considered an				
	adequate strategy in place for managing live bait species. Others strategies in place for				
	managing live bait species are specific to each one, see below.				
	Mackerel: There are technical measures to regulate the Northeast Atlantic Mackerel				
	catches as catch limitation, management plan, minimum size, quota adaptation, high-				
	grading (discarding fish of lower commercial value due to limited space on board) is				



		There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that				
PI 2.	1.2	designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or				
		irreversible harm to retained species				
		banned in European water and in Spain thre is a national catch limitations by gear,				
		semester and area (ICES WGWIDE REPORT 2014).				
		Anchovy: A long-term management plan was proposed by the EC in 2009. This plan has				
		not yet been formally adopted by the EU due to administrative delays. Nevertheless, the				
		plan has been used since 2010 for establishing the TAC for the period between 1st July and				
		30th June, while it's HCR has been extensively tested and proven precautionary (STECF,				
		2014). The plans objective is to "maintain the biomass of the stock of anchovy in the Bay of				
		Biscay at a level that allows its sustainable exploitation in accordance with maximum				
		sustainable yield, on the basis of scientific advice, and while ensuring as much stability and				
		profitability for the fishing sector as is practicable". The plan follows a harvest control rule				
		that should ensure the exploitation of the anchovy at high yields, guarantee the stability of				
		the fishery and have a low risk of stock collapse (EC, 2009). The HCR includes provisions to				
		close the fishery when stock biomass falls under the limit reference point (Btrig = 24000 t)				
		and a minimum TAC when stock is between limit and target reference point (Bpa = 33000				
		t) The plan reference points used in the harvest control rule are generally more				
		conservative than the current ICES reference points (ICES WGHANSA REPORT 2014)				
		Additional management measures are also adonted such as a highgrading ban technical				
	Auditional management measures are also adopted, such as a nigrigrading ban, tech					
		concludes that the harvest strategy is responsive to the state of the stock and is designed				
		to achieve stack management chiestives reflected in the target and limit reference points				
		Cordiney There are no management objectives for these ficheries and there is no				
		sardine: There are no management objectives for these lisheres and there is no				
		International TAC. Catch are mainly taken by France and Spain in areas Villa, b, d and by				
	France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom in area VII. The trends in indicator					
		area VIIIa, b, d, suggest no change in the perception of the stock status since 2013 and thus				
		no reason to reopen the advice established in 2013 for 2013 and 2014. Sampling program				
		has started at 2014 but several years of data collection would be necessary before the				
		time-series of data are long enough. (ICES WGHANSA REPORT 2014).				
		Horse Mackerel: The catches of horse mackerel are currently mainly limited by effo				
		limitations of the bottom-trawl fleets, due to management plans for other species caught				
		in the same mixed-fisheries (e.g. hake), and to a low demand of this species in the market,				
		which makes its price to drop sometimes to levels unprofitable to fishermen. Although the				
		catch in 2013 (29,000 t) was close to the TAC (30,000 t), usually the catches were below				
		the TACs. According to the short-term forecast, fishing at F_{MSY} implies increasing current F				
		by 2.5, corresponding to catches in 2015 of 52,000 t (50% above the TAC set for 2014).				
	For all the reasons explained above the assessment team considers that there is a pa					
	strategy in place for all retained species that is expected to maintain the main retained					
	species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure					
	the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding. SG 80 is met. However, it can no					
	be considered that there is a full strategy in place for managing all retained spec					
		(including bait species) and SG100 is not reached.				
b	Guide	The measures are There is some objective Testing supports high				
	post	considered likely to basis for confidence confidence that the strategy				
		work, based on that the partial strategy will work, based on information				



		There is a strategy	in place for managing	ng retained species that is	
PI 2.	1.2	designed to ensure	the fishery does not	pose a risk of serious or	
	irreversible harm to retained species				
		plausible argument	will work, based on	directly about the fishery	
		(e.g., general	some information	and/or species involved.	
		experience, theory or	directly about the		
		comparison with	fishery and/or species		
		similar	involved.		
		fisheries/species).			
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν	
	Justifi	Periodical assessment and	revisions of the stock status	of tuna retained species are testing	
	cation	the measures/partial stra	tegy described in the previ	ous guide post. Below, there is a	
		summary of the main resu	Its for each of the 3 retained	tuna species:	
		Bigeye tuna, The outlook	for Atlantic bigeye tuna, cor	siders the quantified uncertainty in	
		the 2010 assessment, wh	nich provide a characterizat	ion of the prospects of the stock	
		achieving or being maintai	ned at levels consistent with	the Convention Objective (i.e. $_{MSY}$),	
		over time, for different lev	vels of future constant catch	. It is noteworthy that the modeled	
		probabilities of the stock	being maintained at leve	ls consistent with the Convention	
		Objective over the next fi	ve years are about 60% for	a future constant catch of 85,000 t	
		(ICCAT 2014).			
		Skipjack tuna: There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy is			
		working as there is no evidence of a fall neither in yield nor in the average weight of			
		individuals captured. The estimated value of the $_{\mbox{MSY}}$, according to the catch-only			
		assessment model, has tended to increase in recent years but at a growth rate that is			
		lower than that observed	for the catches for the same	period. However, according to this	
		model, although it is unl	ikely that the eastern skipj	ack stock is overexploited, current	
		catches could be at (or even above) the MSY. Furthermore, ICCAT time/area regulatory			
		measures on banning fishing on FADs [Rec. 98-01] and [Rec. 99-01] or on complete closure			
		to surface fleets [Rec. 04-01] and [Rec. 11-01] have been implemented to protect yellowfin			
		and bigeye tuna juveniles.			
		In relation to live bait spe	cies the quantity is negligible	e compared to the catches of these	
		species by different inte	rnational fleets the Order	AAA / 1307/2013. There is some	
		objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work (SG80 is met).			
		Summarizing, based mainly	y on the information availabl	e for the 3 tuna species considered,	
		there is some objective ba	sis for confidence that meas	sures in place are working based on	
		some information directly	about the fishery and/or s	pecies, and therefore SG80 is met.	
		However, the assessment	team considers that so far te	sting is not in all cases monitored by	
		third part the team cannot	support high confidence and	then SG100 is no met.	
С	Guidep		There is some evidence	There is clear evidence that the	
	ost		that the partial strategy	strategy is being implemented	
			is being implemented	successfully.	
			successfully.		
	Met?		Y	Ν	
	Justific	The low diversity and catches of retained species in the Pole and line fishery (see Table 3-4,			



PI 2.	1.2	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible barm to retained species.				
		irreversible narm to r	etained species			
	ation	and on-line ICCAT Database) and the negligible impact of the fishery on the live				
		species stocks, gives son	ne evidence that the parti	al strategy is being impl	emented	
		successfully to minize its	impact on non target spe	ecies. However the SG 10	10 is not	
		considered to be met wit	h as the management of the	e bait species is considered	to be a	
		partial strategy and there I	ere has been no specific testing carried out.			
d	Guidep			There is some evider	nce that	
	ost			the strategy is achie	ving its	
				overall objective.		
	Met?			Y		
	Justific	All retained species are as	sessed by ICCAT (tuna speci	es) and ICES (in the case o	f the live	
	ation	bait species). The report is	ssued in 2014 by SCRS (ICCA	T 2014) presents evidences	that the	
		regular ICCAT stock asses	sment, TAC management sy	stem and ICCAT recomme	endations	
		are being implemented. I	n ICES WGWIDE REPORT 20	014 (to mackerel), ICES W	/GHANSA	
		REPORT 2014 (to sardine,	anchovy and horse mackerel) there are some evidences	s that the	
		regular ICES stock assessm	nent management system ar	nd recommendations are a	lso being	
		implemented. There is so	me evidences that theseme	asures are achieving the	ir overall	
		objectives. Historical catch	h records for the pole-and-li	ne fleet (available through	1 the on-	
		line ICCAT statistical data	abase) show that catches o	f species other than alba	core are	
		maintained at very low lev	els.			
		There is not public official	data for Live bait species b	ut it is monitored by the S	ecretaría	
		general de pesca.	·	,		
		To conclude, there is some	e evidence that the is achievir	ng its overall objective for a	II species	
		including bait.		с ,	·	
е	Guidep	It is likely that shark	It is highly likely that	There is a high de	gree of	
	ost	finning is not taking	shark finning is not	certainty that shark fi	nning is	
		place.	taking place.	not taking place.		
	Met?	NA	NA	NA		
	Justific	There is a high degree of	certainty that shark finning	is not taking place. For the	Spanish	
	ation	fleet is illegal to fish pela	gic sharks with the fishing	gears assessed according	to Orden	
		ARM/1647/2009. In pract	ical terms there are not op	portunities for shark finni	ng while	
		trolling. Therefore, this gui	idepost is not applicable for t	his fishery.		
		Orden ARM/1647/2009,	de 15 de junio, por la qu	e se regula la pesca de	especies	
		altamente migratorias, (Gilman, 2011; ISSF, 2015;	ICCAT Manual, IEO, 200)8; ICES	
		WGWIDE REPORT 2014	; , ICES WGHANSA REPOR	RT 2014; Orden AAA/130)7/2013,	
References de 1 de julio, por la que censos del Caladero Nacio		de 1 de julio, por la qu	e se establece un Plan de	e gestión para los buque	s de los	
		censos del Caladero Nac	ional del Cantábrico y Noro	beste		
Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme Dr. Mil			Mike Laurs. American	Albacore		
		Fishing Association Sout	h Pacific Albacore Troll/Jia	Fishery		
OVERA	LL PERFC	RMANCE INDICATOR SCO	DRE:		85	
CONDI	TION NU	MBER (if relevant):			NA	
		(u	



	Treformation on the nature and extent of retained encodes is adapted to				
DT 2	12	determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the			
FI 2.	1.5	strategy to manage retained species			
Scorin	าต	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
Issue	-9				
а	Guide	Qualitative information	Qualitative information	Accurate and verifiable	
	post	is available on the	and some quantitative	information is available on the	
		amount of main	information are available	catch of all retained species and	
		retained species taken	on the amount of main	the consequences for the status	
		by the fishery.	retained species taken	of affected populations.	
			hy the fishery		
	Met?	Y	Y Y	N	
	Tustifi	It is compulsory to record	all retained species in the el	ectronic logbook and report it daily	
	cation	to the General Secretariat	for Fishing. This data is vorifi	ad in port inspections. Furthermore	
	cation	to the general secretariat	of Fishing. This udid is verifi		
		the possibility of an inspe	ection being carried out at	sea requires insiermen to ensure	
		Information in the logbool	k is correct and properly up	dated. AZTI monitors all landings in	
		the Basque Country, com	paring the fish market data	with the data in the logbook, and	
		getting scientific data as r	equired by ICCAT (e.g. catch	h, effort, size as well as other data	
	such as tag-recapture information). These data are put together with the rest of				
		national data and submitted to ICCAT. The ICCAT statistical database contains troll fish			
		catch data since 1950. There is no reason to suspect catches exceed reported landing			
		given the lack of incentive	to misreport catches of thos	e species (i.e. the annual catches by	
		the albacore fishery are lea	ss than the TAC). Therefore,	accurate and verifiable information	
		is available on the catch of all retained species and the consequences on the status			
		affected populations.			
		An estimated weight and species composition of the live bait catches is recorded in t			
	electronic logbook as discards. As these catches are not offloaded, no cross checking of				
	estimated weigths can be obtained. Although there is the possibility that part of the cat				
		is not declared, inspections at sea serve as a deterrent. as reported by the fisherme			
		during site visit Therefore, live hait used in Pole and line fishing are recorded but there i			
		no public access to this information and there is no knowledge about ICES making use			
		no public access to this information and there is no knowledge about ICES making use			
		Therefore accurate and	varifiable information is a	vallable on the eatch of the main	
		retained species and the	consequences on the status	of affected populations. However,	
		SG100 is not met because	e as there is no accurate an	d verifiable information on the live	
		bait cathes allowing to un	iderstand the consequences	for the status of those populations	
		exploited as bait.			
b	Guide	Information is adequate	Information is sufficient	Information is sufficient to	
	post	to qualitatively assess	to estimate outcome	quantitatively estimate outcome	
		outcome status with	status with respect to	status with a high degree of	
		respect to biologically	biologically based limits.	certainty.	
		based limits.			
	Met?	Υ	Υ	N	
	Justifi	The monitoring process de	escribed in (2.1.3a) provides	sufficient quantitative information	
	cation	of the main retained spe	cies, but there are some s	hortages in relation with the data	
		collection when it comes	s to live bait species (see	2.1.3a for more details), but still	
		information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status with a high degree of			

Evaluation Table for PI 2.1.3 Pole and line fishery



PI 2.1.3 Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequated determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of strategy to manage retained species					uate to of the	
		certainty. Therefore, SG 80 is reached. SG100 is not met because it cannot be				
		quantitatively estimated.				
С	Guide	Information is adequate	Information is adequate	Information is adequ	ate to	
	post	to support measures to	to support a partial	support a strategy to	manage	
		manage main retained	strategy to manage main	retained species, and	evaluate	
		species.	retained species.	with a high degree of	certainty	
				whether the strategy is a	achieving	
				its objective.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi	All data on tuna catches of	of retained in the Cantabria	n sea albacore fishery are	available	
	cation	since 1950 in the ICCAT	statistics database. The ba	itfish catches are registre	d in the	
		logbook but there are not	public statistical of baitfish c	capture (See 2.1.3b). It is co	nsidered	
		that these are adequate to	support a partial strategy to	o manage those species, th	en SG 80	
		is met. SG100 is not met b	ecause is not enough to eval	uate with a high degree of	certainty	
		whether the strategy is ach	nieving its objective.			
		The assessment team con	siders that the monitoring p	rocess described above is a	adequate	
		to support and evaluate th	e strategy developed by ICC/	AT (see 2.1.2) to manage th	ie 2 main	
		shortages in relation with	snery, and therefore SG80 i	ames to live bait species (s	are some	
		for more details) SC100 is	net considered to be met	omes to live ball species (s	ee 2.1.3a	
d	Guide		Sufficient data continue	Monitoring of retained a	nocios is	
u	post		to be collected to detect	conducted in sufficient	detail to	
	•		any increase in risk level	assess ongoing mortaliti	es to all	
			(e.g. due to changes in	retained species.		
			the outcome indicator			
			score or the operation of			
			the fishery or the			
			, effectiveness of the			
			strategy)			
	Met?		Y	Ν		
	Justifi	All species that are retaine	ed in the Cantabrian sea alba	core fishery are reported (e	electronic	
	cation	logbooks) and monitored	at landings There is docksid	le monitoring during offloa	ding and	
		also at sea inspections. AZTI monitors all landings in the Basque Country, comparing the fish market data with the data in the logbook, and getting scientific data as required by ICCAT. According to the Spanish authorities logbook verifications have confirm the				
		consisteny of the informa	tion collected. However, as	ther are some shortages ir	relation	
		with the data collection when it comes to live bait species and therefore the mortalities of			talities of	
		those species might not be	e sufficiently detailed SG100	is not considered to be met	t.	
Refer	ences	ICES WGHANSA REPORT 2	014; site visit information; IC	AAT statistical database		
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		80	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



Evaluation Table for PI 2.2.1 Troll fishery

Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100	
a Guide post Main bycatch species Main bycatch species are highly likely to be within biologically based limits There is a high degree of certa that bycatch species are within biologically based limits if not, go to scoring issue b below). if not, go to scoring issue b below). if not, go to scoring issue b below). N	ertainty within
Metr Y N Justification The CR (v1.3) defines by catch species as "organisms that have been taken incidentally are not retained". Troll fishery is considered very selective fishing method and non-targeted fish is selecatured (Majkowski, 2003). Discards are insignificant in this kind of fishing act (Kelleher, 2008). In the MSC assessments for Albacore Fishing Association South Pacific Albacore Pole & Line Troil/Jig Fishery, and American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line Troil/Jig Fishery, the troil gear was considered to constitute an operational strateg minimize bycatch species as it is clearly designed for and is successful at catching alba rather than other species. The ICCAT sub-committee on ecosystems performed an assessment on the impain ICCAT fisheries on seabird populations between 2007 and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 2009, 20 Tusk (Tusk et al 2011) performed an Ecological Risk Assessment with the results of ICCAT assessement, concluding that neither live bait nor trolling were significant soci of discards for seabirds. Therefore, there is no evidence of interactions between tuna and non-ETP seabirds, marine mammals, turtles, sharks, rays or non commercial species in Bay of Biscay waters All this information is consistent with the feedback from stakeholders at the site visi stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT and fishermen) since they all agreed that bycatch levels exceptionally low and negligible in its impact. Therefore, there are no_main bycas species in the Cantabrian Sea Albacore troll fishery. Attending to GCB3.8.2 "[]The terms 'likely' and 'highly likely' in SG60 and SG80 ma addressed qualitatively or quantitatively, but SG100 would usually require quantit evidence and exceptions would need strong jus	ally and seldom activity. Froll/Jig ine and tegy to Ibacore pact of , 2010). of the sources ina troll cial fish visit the vels are bycatch ed that may be ntitative eriod of at there e, and it owever, ly reach



PI 2	I 2.2.1 The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery depleted bycatch species or species groups				to the /ery of	
b	Guide	If main bycatch species	If main bycatch species			
	post	are outside biologically	are outside biologically			
		based limits there are	based limits there is a			
		mitigation measures in	partial strategy of			
		place that are expected	demonstrably effective			
		to ensure that the	mitigation measures in			
		fishery does not hinder	place such that the			
		recovery and rebuilding.	fishery does not hinder			
			recovery and rebuilding.			
	Met?	NA	NA			
	Justifi	There are no main bycatch species in the fishery. The rationale was explained in the				
	cation	Scoring Issue a.				
С	Guide	If the status is poorly				
	post	known there are				
		measures or practices in				
		place that are expected				
		to result in the fishery				
		not causing the bycatch				
		species to be outside				
		biologically based limits				
		or hindering recovery.				
	Met?	Υ				
	Justifi	There are no main bycatch	species in the fishery, see, a	bove.		
	cation	The selectivity of troll gear	results in very low bycatch	species so its effect on these	e species	
		is negligible in its impact	. As recognized in the MSC	C assessments for Albacore	e Fishing	
		Association South Pacifie	c Albacore Troll/Jig Fisher	y and American Albacore	Fishing	
		Association North Pacific A	Albacore Pole & Line and Tro	II/Jig Fishery the current tro	oll fishing	
		practices would comprise	a 'partial strategy' that wou	ld not hinder recovery or re	ebuilding	
		of populations. Therefore,	SG60 is met.			
Refer	ences	Majkowski, 2003; ISSF, 201	L5; Information gathered dur	ing the audit visit, MSC Cer	tification	
		Requirements Guidance V	1.3			
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		80	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



Evaluation Table for PI 2.2.2 Troll fishery

PI 2.	2.2	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations				
Scorir Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guide post	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	There is a strategy in place for managing and minimizing bycatch.		
	Met?	Y	Y	N		
	Justifi cation	 The CR v1.3 defines a partial strategy as a "cohesive arrangement which may considered a very selection or more measures, an understanding of how it/they work to achieve an outcome awareness of the need to change the measures should they cease to be effective not have been designed to manage the impact on that component specifically." Based on bibliographic references, troll fishery is considered a very selection method and non-targeted fish is seldom captured (Majkowski, 2003). This most typically results in very small bycatch rates of non-target species (ISSF, 2015). assessments for Albacore Fishing Association South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jig American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line ar Fishery, the troll gear was considered to constitute an operational strategy for bycatch species as it is clearly designed for and is successful at catching albact than other species. 				
		This rationale can also be applied to the troll fishing gear used in the Cantabrian sea albacore fisheryas fish are immediately hauled aboard once they bite the hook. Fishermen are also quickly able to discern if a targeted albacore shoal is comprised of fish that are too small to be retained for economic or regulatory reasons even though there is no minimum size. Then, the lines can be quickly pulled in and the vessel moves to find another shoal containing larger, marketable albacore. The fishing strategy ensures that the fishery does not pose the risk of causing serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations. During the site visit, the stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT, and the fishermen) agreed that bycatch levels are exceptionally rare and have a negligible impact. Furthermore, discards are believed to have high post release survival rates. (Gilman, 2011). Therefore, the previously described practices undertaken on the evaluated fleet can be considered as or represent a partial strategy that is expected to maintain bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the				



PI 2.2.2 The byca		There is a strategy i ensure the fishery do bycatch populations	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations			
		Therefore the assessment tea has determined that there are both measures and a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not hinder their recovery and rebuilding, thuse meetingthe requirements of the SG60 and 80 levels. There is not however a complete strategy in place for managing and				
		minimizing bycatch, so the	e fishery does not meet the re	equirements of the SG 100 level.		
b	Guide post	The measures are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar ficherias (spacios)	There is some objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.	Testing supports high confidence that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or species involved.		
	Mot2	v	v	Ν		
	Justifi cation	The stakeholders consulted during the site visit agreed that bycatch cannot be taken in large quantities by the troll gear used in the fishery. Based on references in the literature, troll is considered a very selective fishing method and non-targeted fish is seldom caught (Majkowski, 2003). This mode of fishing typically results in very small bycatch rates of non-				
		target species (ISSF, 2015 Based on these references the partial strategy worki (SG80), but there isn't e strategy is being successfu	i). However, there is no qua s which show there is an object ng, based on direct data on ither an observer program. Illy implemented cannot be connot be	ntitative bycatch data on the fleet. ective basis for having confidence in the fishery and/or species involved As such, clear evidence that the onfirmed (SG 100 is not met).		
C	Guide post		There is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully.	There is clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully.		
	Met?		Y	N		
	Justifi cation	The information available on bycatch levels is very limited, and the quantitative data are not publicly available. This mode of fishing typically results in very small bycatch rates of non-target species (ISSF, 2015) as it is explained in the issues above, then there is some evidence that the partial strategy is being implemented successfully (meet SG80). However, as bycatch (as defined by MSC certification requirements) is not recorded and there is no observer coverage there is no clear evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully (SG 100 is not met).				
d	Guide post			There is some evidence that the strategy is achieving its overall objective.		
	Met?			N		
	Justifi cation	As bycatch is not recorded some evidence that the st	and there is no observer cov rategy is achieving its overall	verage it cannot be said that there is objective. SG100 is not met.		
Refer	ences	Majkowski, 2003; ISSF, 201 Site visit interviews	15			

Public Certification Report



PI 2.2.2	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is design ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible h bycatch populations	ned to narm to			
	http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_es.htm				
	Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike Laurs, American Albacore Fishing				
	Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery				
	Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike Laurs, American Albacore Fishing				
	Association South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jig Fishery				
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:85					
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):					



Evaluation Table for PI 2.2.3 Troll

PI 2.	2.3	Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch				
Scorin Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guide post	Qualitative information is available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery.	Qualitative information and some quantitative information are available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery.	Accurate and verifiable information is available on the catch of all bycatch species and the consequences for the status of affected populations.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi cation	At the site visit the stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT and fishermen) agreed that bycatch levels are exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact and so there are no main bycatch species in the Cantabrian Sea Albacore troll fishery. This is in agreement with bibliographic references and other MSC assessement of trolling fisheries as stated above. Therefore, there is a consensus that discard levels are very limited, and as such, effectively negligible in its impacts. Therefore, qualitative information and some quantitative information are available on the amount of main bycatch species taken by the fishery, SG 80 is reached but not SG100.				
b	Guide post	Information is adequate to broadly understand outcome status with respect to biologically based limits	Information is sufficient to estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits.	Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits with a high degree of certainty.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi cation	The information available based on literature, other MSC assessments and the feedback collected from the stakeholders during the site visit shows that bycatch levels are are very limited, and as such, effectively negligible in its impacts. Therefore, information is sufficient to estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits and SG 80 is met. However, the fact that there is not enough quantitative information from the fleet to quantitatively estimate outcome status with respect to biologically based limits with a high degree of certainty leads to SG 100 is not met.				
С	Guide post	Information is adequate to support measures to manage bycatch.	Information is adequate to support a partial strategy to manage main bycatch species.	Information is adequate to support a strategy to manage retained species, and evaluate with a high degree of certainty whether the strategy is achieving its objective.		
	Met?	Y	Y	N		
	Justífi cation	The information available collected from the stakeho limited, and as such, effect neither pole and line non Besides, discards are belie information is adequate	based on literature, other folders during the site visit sh stively negligible in its impact r troll tuna fishing are majo eved to have high post releas to support a partial strateg	MSC assessments and the feedback ows that bycatch levels are are very cs. Tusk et al (2011) considered that or sources of discards for seabirds. e survival rates (Gilman, 2011). This y to manage main bycatch species		



PI 2.	2.3	Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch				
		(SG80 is meet). But there	is not quantitative informa	tion about troll fishery by	catch, SG	
		100 is not meet.				
d	Guide		Sufficient data continue	Monitoring of bycatch	data is	
	post		to be collected to detect	conducted in sufficient	detail to	
			any increase in risk to	assess ongoing mortaliti	es to all	
			main bycatch species	bycatch species.		
			(e.g., due to changes in			
			the outcome indicator			
			scores or the operation			
			of the fishery or the			
			effectively of the			
			strategy).			
	Met?		Υ	Ν		
	Justifi	There are no bycatch speci	es, all incidental captures are	e either retained or are con	sidered	
	cation	under the ETP criterion.	Therefore, SG80 is met. Ho	owever as there are not o	on board	
		observer program and monitoring of bycatch data by third parts is conducted in sufficient				
		detail to assess ongoing mortalities to all bycatch species (SG100 is not met).				
Defe		Information gathered duri	ng the audit visit.			
Refer	ences	Majkowski, 2003; ISSF, 201	.5			
OVER	ALL PERF	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		80	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A	



PI 2.	.2.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery of depleted bycatch species or species groups			
Scorin Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
a	Guide post	Main bycatch species are likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue b below).	Main bycatch species are highly likely to be within biologically based limits (if not, go to scoring issue b below).	There is a high degree of certainty that bycatch species are within biologically based limits.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Y	
Met? Y Y Y Justifi cation Pole and line fishery is highly selective, so catches by this gear are almost limited to the target tuna species (ICCAT Manual, IEO, 2008). Discards are belie high post release survival rates. (Gilman, 2011). In Table 3-3 was shown a list of fish species known to have interacted with according to ICCAT (http://www.iccat.int/en/bycatchspp.htm). For bait boats f area under assessement the list is reduced to 8 different species and all of commercial valuable species. An analysis of the ICCAT bycatch list (Arrizabalagi revealed that, among the different fishing gears used for fishing tuna, live ba with fewest interactions with non target species. This is in accordance observations during an acoustic campaign on board a live bait vessel underta by AZTI where no interactions with other species than commercial fish spi recorded (Arrizabalaga pers.comm). The ICCAT sub-committee on ecosystems performed an assessment on the ICCAT fisheries on seabird populations between 2007 and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 1 Tusk (Tusk et al 2011) performed an Ecological Risk Assessment with the re ICCAT assessement, concluding that neither live bait nor trolling were signifit of discards for seabirds. Therefore, there is no evidence of interactions betwee and non-ETP seabirds, marine mammals, turtles, sharks, rays or non com species in Bay of Biscay waters Attending to GCB3.8.2 "[]The terms 'likely' and 'highly likely' in SG60 and S' addressed qualitatively or quantitatively, but SG100 would usually require evidence and exceptions would need strong justification of very low risk over t proposed certification. If there are no bycatch species in the fishery, or exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact, then the fishery are almost limited to a other two major retaimed tuna species (see PI 2.1), there are no main bycatc				by this gear are almost exclusively 2008). Discards are believed to have to have interacted with bait boats op.htm). For bait boats fishing in the ferent species and all of them are bycatch list (Arrizabalaga et al 2011) for fishing tuna, live bait is the one s.This is in accordance with the live bait vessel undertaken in 2009 than commercial fish species were d an assessment on the impact of and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 2009, 2010). Assessment with the results of the nor trolling were significant sources the of interactions between tuna troll parks rays or non commercial fish	
				arks, rays or non commercial fish hly likely' in SG60 and SG80 may be would usually require quantitative on of very low risk over the period of ecies in the fishery, or bycatch is e fishery would meet SG100." assessement team considers that y are almost limited to albacore and here are no main bycatch species (as bycatch is exceptionally rare and	
b	Guide post	If main bycatch species are outside biologically	If main bycatch species are outside biologically		

Evaluation Table for PI 2.2.1 Pole and line fishery



PI 2.	2.1	The fishery does not p bycatch species or spe depleted bycatch spec	oose a risk of serious or ecies groups and does r cies or species groups	r irreversible harm to t not hinder recovery of	he
		based limits there are	based limits there is a		
		mitigation measures in	partial strategy of		
		place that are expected	demonstrably effective		
		to ensure that the	mitigation measures in		
		fishery does not hinder	place such that the		
		recovery and rebuilding.	fishery does not hinder		
			recovery and rebuilding.		
	Met?	NA	NA		
	Justifi cation	There are no main bycatch	species in the fishery (see al	bove).	
С	Guide	If the status is poorly			
	post	known there are			
		measures or practices in			
		place that are expected			
		to result in the fishery			
		not causing the bycatch			
		species to be outside			
		biologically based limits			
		or hindering recovery.			
	Met?	Y			
	Justifi	There are no main bycatch	species in the fishery (see al	bove).	
	cation	The selectivity of pole and	d line gear results in very lo	ow bycatch species so its o	effect on
		these species is negligible	e. As recognized in the MSC	assessment for American	Albacore
		Fishing Association North	Pacific Albacore Pole & Line	e and Troll/Jig Fishery the	pole and
		line fishing practices woul	d comprise a 'partial strategy	y' that would not hinder red	covery or
		rebuilding of populations.	Besides, discards are believe	ed to have high post release	e survival
		rates. (Gilman, 2011).			
		ICCAT Manual, IEO, 2008;	ISSF, 2015; Information gath	ered during the audit visit,	Alverson
Refer	ences	et al. 1994. Gilman 2011;	Goñi et al., 2010; Arrizabala	aga, H. et al. 2011. Product	ivity and
		susceptibility analysis fo	r species caught in Atlan	itic tuna fisheries. Aquat	ic Living
		Resources 24: 1-12			100
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		100
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



Evaluation Tal	ble for	PI 2.	2.2	Pole	and	line	fishery	
		-			-	-	-	

PI 2.	2.2	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations				
Scorii Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
a	Guide post	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main bycatch species at levels which are highly likely to be within biologically based limits, or to ensure the fishery does not	There is a strategy in place for managing and minimizing bycatch.		
		not hinder their recovery and rebuilding.	hinder their recovery and rebuilding.			
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi cation	recovery and rebuilding. and rebuilding. Y N The CR v1.3 defines a partial strategy as a "cohesive arrangement which may comprise on or more measures, an understanding of how it/they work to achieve an outcome and a awareness of the need to change the measures should they cease to be effective. It may not have been designed to manage the impact on that component specifically." In the MSC assessments for American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacor Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery, the baitboat gear was considered to constitute a operational strategy for managing bycatch species on the grounds that the gear is clearl designed for and is successful at catching albacore rather than other species and. This rationale can also be applied to the live bait fishing gear used in the Cantabrian se albacore fishery is highly selective. Fish are immediately hauled aboard after they becom hooked. Fishermen are also quickly able to discern if a targeted albacore shoal comprised of fish that are too small to be retained for economic or regulatory reasons. I those cases, lines can be quickly pulled in and the vessel moved to find another shoc containing larger, marketable albacore. Besides, discards are believed to have high por release survival rates. (Gilman, 2011). Therefore, this fishing strategy ensures that th fishery does not pose the risk of causing serious or irreversible harm to bycatc populations. During the site visit, the different stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT and fishermer agreed that bycatch levels are exceptionally rare and have a negligible impact and as suct Therefore, the fishery fulfils SG80. Therefore the assessment tea has determined that there are both measures and a partis strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to maintain the main bycatch species a lowe				
		minimizing bycatch, so the	fishery does not meet the re	equirements of the SG 100 level.		
b	Guide	The measures are	There is some objective	Testing supports high confidence		



PI 2.	2.2	There is a strategy in ensure the fishery doe bycatch populations	place for managing byc es not pose a risk of ser	atch that is designed to ious or irreversible harm to			
	post	considered likely to	basis for confidence that	that the strategy will work, based			
		work, based on	the partial strategy will	on information directly about the			
		plausible argument (e.g.	work, based on some	fishery and/or species involved.			
		general experience,	information directly				
		theory or comparison	about the fishery and/or				
		with similar	species involved.				
		fisheries/species).					
	Met?	Y	Y	N			
	Justifi	Arrizabalaga et al 2011 re	vealed that, among the diff	erent fishing gears used for fishing			
	cation	tuna, live bait is the one with fewest interactions with non target species. Besides, these					
		interactions are limited to 8 commercial fish species (Table 3-3) and therefore no main					
		bycatch species (accordin	g to the MSC certification r	requierements) are caugh. Besides,			
		this is in accordance with	the observations during an	acoustic campaign on board a live			
		bait vessel undertaken in	2009 by AZTI, where no in	nteraction with other species than			
		commercial fish species	were recorded (Arrizaba	laga pers.comm). Therefore, the			
		assessment team concluded that SG 80 is met, but as there are no testing supporting high					
		confidence that the strate	gy will work SG100 is not me	t.			
С	Guide		There is some evidence	There is clear evidence that the			
	post		that the partial strategy	strategy is being implemented			
			is being implemented	successfully.			
			successfully.				
	Met?		Υ	Ν			
	Justifi	There are no major conce	rns with the catch of vulnera	able non-target species by this gear			
	cation	(ISSF, 2015). Arrizabalaga	et al (2011) concluded that	live bait is the fishing gear wit the			
		lowest occurrence of non	target species, and Tusk e	t al (2011) considered that neither			
		pole and line nor troll tu	na fishing are major source	s of discards for seabirds. Besides,			
		discards are believed to ha	ave high post release surviva	al rates. (Gilman, 2011). With all the			
		data showed in the refere	ences above, there is some e	evidence that the partial strategy is			
		being implemented succe	ssfully, then SG 80 is met. H	lowever, as bycatch (as defined by			
		MSC certification requiren	nents) is not recorded and th	ere is no observer coverage there is			
		no clear evidence that the	strategy is being implement	ed successfully (SG 100 is not met).			
d	Guide			There is some evidence that the			
	post			strategy is achieving its overall			
				objective.			
	Met?			N			
	Justifi	As bycatch is not recorded	d and there is no observer co	overage it cannot be said that there			
	cation	is some evidence that the	strategy is achieving its overa	all objective. SG100 is not met.			
		ICCAT Manual, IEO, 2008; I	SSF, 2015, Gilman 2011.				
		Information gathered during	ng the site visit				
Refer	ences	http://ec.europa.eu/fishe	eries/cfp/fishing_rules/disc	ards/index_es.htm			
Keren	LILES	Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. F	Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike	Laurs, American Albacore Fishing			
		Association North Pacific A	Albacore Pole & Line and Trol	l/Jig Fishery			



PI 2.2.2	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations			
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:80				
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):				



Evalu				
DT 2	2.2	Information on the	nature and the amoun	t of bycatch is adequate to
PI 2.	.2.3	strategy to manage h	vesteb	ind the effectiveness of the
Scoriu	າຕ	SC 60	SG 80	SG 100
Teculo	ig	50.00	50.00	50 100
a	Guiden	Qualitative information	Qualitative information	Accurate and verifiable
u	ost	is available on the	and some quantitative	information is available on the
		amount of main bycatch	information are available	catch of all bycatch species and
		species taken by the	on the amount of main	the consequences for the status
		fishery.	bycatch species taken by	of affected populations.
		,	the fishery.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν
	Justific	Arrizabalaga et al 2011 re	evealed that, among the diff	erent fishing gears used for fishing
	ation	tuna, live bait is the one	with fewest interactions with	n non target species. Besides, these
		interactions are limited	to 8 commercial fish specie	es (Table 3-3). Besides, this is in
		accordance with the obse	rvations during an acoustic of	campaign on board a live bait vessel
		undertaken in 2009 by AZ	TI, where no interaction with	other species than commercial fish
		species were recorded (Ar	rizabalaga pers.comm).	
		The ICCAT sub-committee	e on ecosystems performed	I an assessment on the impact of
		ICCAT fisheries on seabird	populations between 2007	and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 2009, 2010).
		Tusk (Tusk et al 2011) pe	erformed an Ecological Risk	Assessment with the results of the
		ICCAT assessement, concl	uding that neither live bait	nor trolling were significant sources
		of discards for seabirds.		
		In accordance with all the	above, at the site visit the	different stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT
		and fishermen) agreed th	at bycatch levels are rare in	n the Cantabrian Sea Albacore troll
		fishery. Therefore, quality	ative information and some	e quantitativ are available on the
		amount of main bycatch sp	becies taken by the fishery. I	nen, SG 80 is met.
		nogligible the public infor	mation available on bycatch	lovels is also limited. Furthermore
		there is not observer proc	rram to check the information	The inspections at sea or at port
		cannot check the bycatch	levels Therefore it cannot	he said that accurate and verifiable
		information on the catch	of all bycatch species and t	the consequences for the status of
		affected populations. (SG1	00 is not met).	the consequences for the status of
b	Guide	Information is adequate	Information is sufficient	Information is sufficient to
-	post	to broadly understand	to estimate outcome	quantitatively estimate outcome
	•	outcome status with	status with respect to	status with respect to biologically
		respect to biologically	biologically based limits.	based limits with a high degree of
		based limits		certainty.
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν
	Justifi	The information available	based on literature, other N	ISC assessments, the ICCAT bycatch
	cation	list, AZTI observations du	ring the Hegalabur campaigr	n in 2009 (Arrizabalaga pers.comm)
		and the feedback collecte	d from the stakeholders duri	ing the site visit shows that bycatch
		levels are are very limited,	and as such, effectively negl	igible in its impacts.
		Therefore, information is s	sufficient to estimate outcom	ne status with respect to biologically
		based limits and SG 80 is n	net.	
		However, the fact that the	nere is not enough quantita	ative information from the fleet to

Evaluation Table for PI 2.2.3 Pole and line



		Information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to			
PI 2.	2.3	determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the			
		strategy to manage bycatch			
		quantitatively estimate ou	tcome status with respect to	biologically based limits wi	ith a high
	0.11	degree of certainty leads to	b SG 100 is not met.		
С	Guide	Information is adequate	Information is adequate	Information is adequ	late to
	post	to support measures to	to support a partial	support a strategy to	manage
		manage bycatch.	strategy to manage main	retained species, and	evaluate
			bycatch species.	with a nigh degree of	certainty
				whether the strategy is a	achieving
	Mata	V	V	its objective.	
	Met?	Y Dala and line fishing and	Y	N	ta hiabh.
	Justin	Pole and line fishing gea	ir employed in the Cantabl	rian sea albacore fishery	is nignly
	cation	selective and bycatch leve	ers are exceptionally rare and	a negligible in its impact. I	Based on
		limited such that they are	offectively pegligible. This is	formation is adaguate to a	evers are
		nartial strategy to mana	an main bysatch spacias /	(SCRO is most) But ther	support a
		partial strategy to mana	ge main bycallin species (to monogo retained and	e is not
		quantitative information	about the fishery bycatch	to manage retained spec	ctive SC
		100 is not most	e of certainty whether the s	trategy is achieving its obje	clive. 30
d	Cuido	100 IS HOL MEEL.	Sufficient data continue	Monitoring of bycatch	data ic
u	nost		to be collected to detect	conducted in sufficient	detail to
	μοσι		any increase in risk to	assess ongoing mortaliti	
			main hycatch species	hycatch species	
			(e.g. due to changes in	bycatch species.	
			the outcome indicator		
			scores or the operation		
			of the fishery or the		
			effectively of the		
			strategy).		
	Met?		Y	Ν	
	Justifi	There are no bycatch speci	es, all incidental captures are	e either retained or are con	sidered
	cation	under the ETP criterion.	Therefore, SG80 is met. Ho	owever as there are not o	on board
		observer program and mo	nitoring of bycatch data by t	hird parts is conducted in a	sufficient
		detail to assess ongoing m	ortalities to all bycatch specie	es (SG100 is not met).	
Defer		Information gathered du	ring the audit visit.		
Reief	ences	ICCAT Manual, IEO, 200	8; ISSF, 2015		
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		80
COND	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A				



Lvai			hieral and international	requirements for the			
		The fishery meets national and international requirements for the					
PI 2	2.3.1	protection of ETP species The fishery does not nose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP					
		species and does not	hinder recovery of ETP	species			
Scor	ing	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100			
Issu	e						
а	Guide	Known effects of the	The effects of the fishery	There is a high degree of certainty			
	post	fishery are likely to be	are known and are highly	that the effects of the fishery are			
		within limits of national	likely to be within limits	within limits of national and			
		and international	of national and	international requirements for			
		requirements for	international	protection of ETP species.			
		protection of ETP	requirements for				
		species.	protection of ETP				
			species.				
	Met?	Y	Y	N			
	lustifi	Fndangered threatened (r protected (ETP) species a	are defined by the MSC as <i>"snecies</i>			
	cation	recognised by national le	aislation and/or hinding int	ernational agreements to which the			
		iurisdictions controlling th	e evaluated fichery are part	y Species listed under annendix L of			
		CITES shall be considered	ETD spacies for the purposes	of the MSC assessment unless it can			
		be chown that the partic	ular stock of the CITES lister	l spacias impacted by the evaluated			
		fishary is not and angarad	,	species impacted by the evaluated			
		jishery is not enduligered	•				
		In this fishery ETD specie	s are these listed under an	pondix 1 of CITES and listed in the			
		Coopies Low on Network	s are those listed under ap	pendix 1 of cites and listed in the			
		The most abundant marin	eniage and biodiversity.	as area common dalahin (Dalahinus			
		ine most abundant mari	Ctara lla accorda a lla study dr	ea are: common doiphin (<i>Deiphinus</i>			
		<i>delphis</i>), striped dolphin (Stenena coeruieoaiba), bott	lenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>),			
		iong-finned pilot whale (G	<i>iobicephala melas</i>), and har	bour porpoise (Phocoena phocoena)			
		(Lassale et al. 2011; 2012	z). Besides, two marine tur	the species (the loggernead <i>Caretta</i>			
		<i>caretta</i> and the leatherba	ick Dermochelys corlacea) o	ccur year-round in the south of the			
		advisory region. Among t	the most abundant seabirds	s in the area listed by Certain and			
		Bretagnolle (2008), only co	ommon murres Uria aalge is	cited in the Law on Natural Heritage			
		and Biodiversity (Annex IV	/). All the species referred ar	e ETP species as a result of National			
		ETP legislation.					
		All the same, troll fishery	is highly selective, with the	gear always attached and worked in			
		very close proximity to th	e vessel, so the potential fo	r interaction with any ETP species is			
		considered very low. Troll fishing is not identified in any recovery or spotlight species					
		action plan for marine mammals, turtles or seabirds.					
		The nature of the fishing gear used in troll fishery ensures that the potential for the fishery					
		to interact with ETP species is very low. Though data is limited, the troll method has					
		minimal bycatch (<u>http://iss-foundation.org/troll/</u>). In other fisheries such as American					
		Albacore Fishing Association South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jug Fishery the impacts on ETP					
		are neligible as well, ever	n this fishery has some quar	titative data which are insignificant			
		and as inessment herein,	the interactions with the g	ear do not kill the species because			
		there are well-established	protocols to release the spe	cies (NMFS 2004).			
		The ICCAT sub-committee	e on ecosystems performed	d an assessment on the impact of			
		ICCAT fisheries on seabird	populations between 2007	and 2009 (ICCAT 2008, 2009, 2010).			
		Tusk (Tusk et al 2011) pe	erformed an Ecological Risk	Assessment with the results of the			

Evaluation Table for PI 2.3.1 Troll fishery



		The fishery meets national and international requirements for the			
PI 2.3.1		protection of ETP species The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP			
		species and does not	hinder recovery of ETP	species	
		ICCAT assessement, concluding that neither live bait nor trolling were significant sources			
		of discards for seabirds. T	herefore, there is no evidenc	e of interactions between tuna troll	
		and non-ETP seabirds, m	narine mammals, turtles, sh	arks, rays or non commercial fish	
		species in Bay of Biscay wa	aters		
		To conclude, the fishery u	under assessment has follow	ed harmonization criterias to score	
		this PL SG80 is met herau	se the effects of the fishery a	re known and are highly likely to be	
		within limits of national	and international requireme	ents for protection of FTP species	
		SG100 is not met because	there is not a high degree of	certaintly	
h	Guide	Known direct effects are	Direct effects are highly	There is a high degree of	
D	nost	unlikely to create	unlikely to create	confidence that there are no	
	pose	uninkely to create	uninkely to create	confidence that there are no	
				significant detrimental direct	
		ETP species.	ETP species.	effects of the fishery on ETP	
				species.	
	Met?	Ŷ	N	N	
	Justifi	Scientific literature and ot	her other MSC certified fishe	eries such as the American Albacore	
	cation	Fishing Association North	Pacific Albacore Pole & Lin	e and Troll/Jig Fishery, (e.g. NMFS	
		1998a, NMFS 1998b, NMI	-S 2008b, Reeves et al. 1998	, USFWS 2009a, USFWS 2009b) and	
		New Zealand albacore t	una troll fishery recognize	this fishing gear to constitute an	
		operational strategy to i	minimize bycatch species a	s it is clearly designed for and is	
		successful at catching alba	acore rather than other speci	es. Besides, discards are believed to	
		have high post release s	urvival rates. (Gilman, 2011). This is fully consistent with the	
		results of the interviews	carried out during the site	visit with scientists, national and	
		regional fisheries manage	ers that confirmed that this	s fishery is not supposed to cause	
		unacceptable impacts on I	ETP species in the area.		
		Even though the assessm	ent team believes that infor	mation is sufficient to ensure that	
		ETPs species are not affe	cted by the fishery, the una	cceptable impacts as SG80 shall be	
		interpreted at highly likely	y <u>when there is direct demo</u>	nstration and quantitative evidence	
		of the degree of impact o	f the fishery. Therefore we o	conclude, the fishery does not meet	
		the SG80 and SG100 for th	nis scoring issue. A condition	is needed.	
С	Guide		Indirect effects have	There is a high degree of	
	post		been considered and are	confidence that there are no	
			thought to be unlikely to	significant detrimental indirect	
			create unacceptable	effects of the fishery on ETP	
			impacts.	species.	
	Met?		Y	N	
	Justifi	Potential indirect impacts	for ETP species could be a	s a result of getting hooked while	
	cation	there are trying to eat the	e tuna canture or through be	ecoming accidentaly entangled in or	
		ingesting lost gear			
		Troll gear is always attach	ad to the vessel: the notentic	al for gear loss is low. Even if gear is	
		lost though the lines are	whort and the attached here	k or iig should ensure that any lost	
		lines quickly sink to the	abod rather than continuing	to be available to CTD species such	
		nnes quickly sink to the se	to the surface	s to be available to ETP species such	
		as seaurus or turtles near	to the surface.	FTD: a stantist is direct. (f.)	
		Regarding the impacts on	the trophic level of these	EIPS, potential indirect effects are	
		considered to be through	the capture of albacore tha	t would otherwise be consumed by	



PI 2.	.3.1	The fishery meets national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to E species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species	TP		
		ETP species. In addition, the indirect effects by way of competition within the ecosystem			
	destruction of habitat or disturbanece have also been considered and are thought to				
	highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts, so the fishery meets the requirement				
		the SG80 level. However, due to a lack of specific information and evidence available	ailable to		
		the team it was not considered that there is a high degree of confidence that the	re are no		
		detrimental indirect effects. Therefore the scoring at SG100 level was not meet.			
Defe		Information gathered during the audit visit , ISSF 2015, Majkowski, 2003, ICCAT,2014;			
References		http://iss-foundation.org/troll/			
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 75				
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):	2		



Evaluation Table for PI 2.3.2 Troll fishery

		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed				
PI 2.	.3.2	 Meet national and international requirements; Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to ETP species; Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; and 				
Scorii Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
a	Guide post	There are measures in place that minimise mortality of ETP species, and are expected to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.	There is a strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP	There is a comprehensive strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to achieve above national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.		
	Mot?	v	species.	Ν		
b	Met? Justifi cation	Y The nature of the fishery, gear, provides sufficient in risk to ETP species. In the Albacore Troll/Jig Fisher Albacore Pole & Line and operational strategy for m designed for and is succes with the Magnuson-Steve The Spanish <i>Ley 42/2007</i> , protects among other all for ETP sharks is provided migratory species are reg marketing of swordfish an unified surface longline. The constitute a strategy for m to achieve national and Therefore SG80 is met. The MSC defines a compre- linked monitoring, analyses strategy that the Cantal comprehensive because of fishery from meeting the not met. The measures are	Y including the gear type in the mformation to infer that the MSC assessments for Albacore y, and American Albacore Troll/Jig Fishery, the troll ge managing bycatch species on soful at catching albacore rath ns Act requirements to minin <i>de 13 de diciembre, del Patri</i> species included in Appendia by the Orden ARM/1647/2 ulated, prohibiting the capture of pelagic shark by any vesses this regulation and the feature managing the fishery's impact international requirements ehensive strategy as "a comp es, and management measure orian Sea troll fishery perfor- of the lack of an ongoing of monitoring requirement of There is an objective	N use and the method of working the fishery under assessment almost no ore Fishing Association South Pacific Fishing Association North Pacific ear was considered to constitute an the grounds that the gear is clearly ner than other species and, together nize bycatch. <i>imonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad</i> ix I of CITES. Addicionnal regulation <i>009, de 15 de junio,</i> in which highly ure, possession on board, landing or el that is not included in the census res of the fishery are considered to t on ETP species that is highly likely for the protection of ETP species. lete and tested strategy made up of res and responses". The operational prms cannot be considered to be oserver program. This prevents the a comprehensive strategy. SG100 is		
U	Guide	considered likely to	basis for confidence that	information directly about the		



	The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed to:				
PI 2.	.3.2	 Meet national Ensure the fish 	and international requi	rements; k of serious harm to FTP	
		species;			
		 Ensure the fish Minimise mort 	ery does not hinder rec	covery of ETP species; and	
	post	work, based on	the strategy will work,	fishery and/or species involved,	
	-	plausible argument	based on information	and a quantitative analysis	
		(e.g., general	directly about the fishery	supports high confidence that the	
		experience, theory or	and/or the species	strategy will work.	
		comparison with similar	involved.		
		fisheries/species).			
	Met?	Y	Ŷ	N	
	Justifi	The troll fishery for albae	core is not listed in any of	the relevant recovery or spotlight	
	cation	species action plans for m	harine mammais, turties or se	eabirds, and no additional measures	
		operations (FAO Rome 2	2009) and bycatch mitigatio	n fact sheets (FAO) Agreement on	
		the Conservation of	Albatrosses and Pe	trels (http://acap.ag/en/bycatch-	
		mitigation/bycatch-mitiga	tion-fact-sheets); Løkkeborg	, S. (2008) Review and assessment	
		of mitigation measures to	reduce incidental catch of s	eabirds in longline, trawl and gillnet	
		fisheries. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture. Circular. No. 1040. Rome, FAO. pp. 24; etc.).			
		The characteristics of tro	Il fishery particularly that	the lines are always attached and	
		actively worked in close	proximity to the vessel as	well as being retrieved as soon as	
		anything is hooked, prov	ide an objective basis for c	confidence in that the strategy will	
		work. For this reason SG80 is met.			
				<i>.</i>	
		There is no observer cover	age of this troll fishery. There	efore, we can not state there is high	
<u> </u>	Guide		by is working and 30 100 is in There is evidence that	There is clear evidence that the	
C	post		the strategy is heing	strategy is being implemented	
	•		implemented	successfully.	
			successfully.		
	Met?		Y	Ν	
	Justifi	The scientific literature consulted and the information gathered during the site visit with			
	cation	different stakeholders as	AZTI and fishers about the in	nteraction of the pole and line with	
		ETP species ends to the conclusion that interactions are very rare. The team considered			
		those evidences enough to assure the strategy is being implemented successfully to meet			
		SG80.			
		In the absence of indeper	ident data, there is no clear	evidence to confirm the strategy is	
		being implemented succes	ssfully to meet SG 100.		
d	Guide			There is evidence that the	
	hose			strategy is achieving its objective.	
	Met?			Ν	
	Justifi cation	In the absence of independ	dent data, the fishery cannot	meet this scoring issue.	



	The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies des to:	igned	
PI 2.3.2	 Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to ETP species; 		
	 Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; Minimise mortality of ETP species. 	and	
	Orden ARM/1647/2009, de 15 de junio; Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre; Løkkeborg 2008;		
	FAO 2009; ACAP 2014; Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike Laurs,		
References	American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig		
	Fishery; Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike Laurs, American	Albacore	
	Fishing Association South Pacific Albacore Troll/Jig Fishery		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:80			
CONDITION N	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A		



Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including:
PI 2.3.3 impacts on ETP species, including: Information for the development of the management strategy; Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the oulcome status of ETP species with a high
PI 2.3.3 • Information for the development of the management strategy; • Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and • Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related the fishery related Sufficient information is sufficient to available to allow fishery related mortality and the status of ETP species with a high
• Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and • Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the outcome status of ETP species with a high
strategy; and • Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status of ETP species with a high
Scoring Issue SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status of ETP species.
Issue Solution Solution Solution Solution a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the Information is sufficient to status of ETP species with a high
a Guide post Information is sufficient to qualitatively estimate the fishery related Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the Information is sufficient to quantitatively estimate outcome status of ETP species with a high
aGuide postInformation is sufficientSufficient information isInformation issufficient tobpostto qualitatively estimate theavailable to allow fishery relatedquantitatively estimate outcome trelated mortality and thestatus of ETP species with a high
postto qualitatively estimateavailable to allow fisheryquantitatively estimate outcomethefisheryrelated mortality and thestatus of ETP species with a high
the fishery related related mortality and the status of ETP species with a high
mortality of ETP species. impact of fishing to be degree of certainty.
quantitatively estimated
for ETP species.
Met? Y N N
Justifi The scientific literature consulted (including reports from other MSC certified tuna troll
cation fisheries) and the information gathered during the site visit with stakeholders (AZTI, ICCAT
and fishermen) settled that ETP species levels are exceptionally rare and negligible in its
impact. Even though there is consensus that ETP species levels are very limited such that
they are effectively negligible; the troll fishery does not have an observer program or any
specific campaing in place to corroborate the information. Therefore, qualitative
information is available but not sufficient to quantitatively estimate the impact of the
fishery on ETP species. As a result SG 80 is not met and a condition was raised.
b Guide Information is adequate Information is sufficient Accurate and verifiable
post to broadly understand to determine whether information is available on the
the impact of the fishery the fishery may be a magnitude of all impacts
on FTP species threat to protection and mortalities and injuries and the
recovery of the ETP consequences for the status of
snecies FTP snecies
Moto V NI NI
Justin Iroli fishing gear used by the fishery under assessment is highly selective and bycatch
levels are exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact. Based on literature refered in Pl
2.3.1 and 2.3.2 together with stakeholders consensus the team concludes that the
information is adequate to broadly understand the impact of the fishery on ETPs.
However, is not sufficient as the information is not quantitative to determine whether the
fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species. Therefore, SG80 is
not met.
c Guide Information is adequate Information is sufficient Information is adequate to
postto support measures toto measure trends andsupport a comprehensive strategy
manage the impacts on support a full strategy to to manage impacts, minimize
ETP species. manage impacts on ETP mortality and injury of ETP
species. species, and evaluate with a high
degree of certainty whether a
strategy is achieving its
objectives.
Met? Y Y N

abla fo . . .



PI 2.3.3Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including: Information for the development of the management strategy;Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; andInformation to determine the outcome status of ETP species.					
	Justifi	Troll fishing gear used by the fishery under assessment is highly selective and ET	P species		
	cation	levels are exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact. Based on bibliography	and the		
		interviews with fishers and other stakeholders, there is consensus that ETP levels	are very		
		limited such that they are effectively negligible. Therefore, information is sufficient to			
		measure trends and support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species and	SG 80 is		
		met.			
		MSC defines a comprehensive strategy as "a complete and tested strategy ma	de up of		
		linked monitoring, analyses, and management measures and responses". To ha	armonize		
		with others MSC certified fisheries with similar characteristics, there is not qua	intitative		
		information about troll fishery bycatch therefore SG 100 is not meet.			
Refer	ences	Majkowski, 2003			
ISSF, 2015					
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 65				
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):	3		



Evaluation Table for PI 2.3.1 Pole and line fishery

The fishery meets national and international requirements for th protection of ETP species			requirements for the			
PI 2.	.3.1	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species				
Scorin	g Issue	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guidep ost	Known effects of the fishery are likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.	The effects of the fishery are known and are highly likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.	There is a high degree of certainty that the effects of the fishery are within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.		
	Met?	Y	Y	N		
	Justifi cation	Endangered, threatened "species recognised by a to which the jurisdiction under appendix I of CIT MSC assessment, unless listed species impacted a In this fishery ETP species the Spanish Law on Natu The most abundant ma (<i>Delphinus delphis</i>), stu (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>), lo porpoise (<i>Phocoena pha</i> turtle species (the logg <i>coriacea</i>) occur year-rou abundant seabirds in t common murres Uria a Biodiversity (Annex IV National ETP legislation.	d or protected (ETP) spect national legislation and/or is controlling the evaluated TES shall be considered ET is it can be shown that the by the evaluated fishery is des are those listed under ural Heritage and Biodivers arine mammals in the star riped dolphin (<i>Stenella c</i> ong-finned pilot whale (<i>G</i> occoena) (Lassale et al. 200 perhead <i>Caretta caretta</i> a und in the south of the a the area listed by Certain aalge is cited in the La /). All the species referred	cies are defined by the MSC as binding international agreements d fishery are party. Species listed P species for the purposes of the he particular stock of the CITES not endangered". appendix I of CITES and listed in sity. udy area are: common dolphin <i>oeruleoalba</i>), bottlenose dolphin <i>obicephala melas</i>), and harbour 011; 2012). Besides, two marine nd the leatherback <i>Dermochelys</i> dvisory region. Among the most n and Bretagnolle (2008), only w on Natural Heritage and d are ETP species as a result of		
		tive as the gear is always being the vessel, so the potential for be very low. Pole and line fishery species action plan for marine le 3-3 was shown a list of fish it boats according to ICCAT t boats fishing in the area under any of those fish species is listed anational legislation or binding and <i>Thunns obesus</i> are included in ion of ETPs the Red List is not				



DT D		The fishery meets nat protection of ETP spe	tional and international cies	requirements for the	
		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species			
		considered for fish species since there is no stock differenciation). This information was analysed by Arrizabalaga et al (2011) concluding that occurrence of Vulnerable and Low Concern Species (as defined in IUCN red list) in bait boat was limited to 1% (due to the occurrence of <i>Thunnus thynnus</i> and <i>Thunnus obesus</i>). This is in accordance with the observations during an acoustic campaign on board a live bait vessel undertaken in 2009 by AZTI (Arrizabalaga pers.comm), where no interactions were recorded with any ETP species in 124 days at sea.			
		Discards are believed to	have high post release sur	vival rates (Gilman, 2011).	
		The nature of the fishing gear used by Pole and line fishery ensures to potential for the fishery to interact with ETP species is very low. There is degree of certainty that the effects of the fishery are within limits of nation international requirements for protection of ETP species.			
		The nature of the fishing gear used in pole and line fishery ensures that potential for the fishery to interact with ETP species is very low. The effects of fishery are known and are highly likely to be within limits of national international requirements for protection of ETP species (SG 80).			
		SG 100 is not meet beca fisheries certified, there ETP species.	use as it is showed and ex is not a high degree of	plained above to troll fishery and certainty about interactions with	
b	Guidep ost	Known direct effects are unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.	Direct effects are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.	There is a high degree of confidence that there are no significant detrimental direct effects of the fishery on ETP species.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν	
	Justifi cation	Other MSC assessement & Line and Troll fishery) to constitute an operati designed for and is su Besides, discards are b 2011). This is fully cons the site visit with scientis that this fishery is not s the area Concerning our fishery observation resulted	c (American Albacore Fishi of pole and line tuna fish ional strategy to minimize accessful at catching alba elieved to have high post sistent with the results of sts, national and regional f supposed to cause unaccep the data provided by A in no ETP species ca	ng Association North Pacific Pole eries recognized this fishing gear e bycatch species as it is clearly core rather than other species. t release survival rates (Gilman, the interviews carried out during isheries managers that confirmed btable impacts on ETP species in ZTI after 124 days of onboard atches recorded (Arrizabalaga,	
		pers.comm). To conclude, direct effe	ects are highly unlikely to	create unacceptable impacts to	



PI 2.3.1		The fishery meets nation protection of ETP speci	onal and international ies	requirements for the	
		The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species			
		ETP species and SG 80 is met. However, as there is not an observer program on board the quantitative evidences of the degree of impact of the fishery needed to corroborate that there is a high degree of confidence is not met to reach SG 100.			
C	Guidep ost		Indirect effects have been considered and are thought to be unlikely to create unacceptable impacts.	There is a high dep confidence that there significant detrimental effects of the fishery species.	gree of are no indirect on ETP
	Met?	ľ	Y	Y	
	Justific	Potential indirect impacts	for ETP species could b	be as a result of getting	hooked
	ation	while there are trying to eat the tuna capture or through becoming accidentaly entangled in or ingesting lost gear. The live bait gear is always attached to the vessel and the potential for gear loss is			
		low. Even if gear is lost,	though, the lines are she	ort and the attached how	ok or jig
		should ensure any lost lines quickly sink to the seabed, rather than remaining available to ETP species such as seabirds, turtles, or other ETP species near to the surface. There is a high degree of confidence that there are no significant detrimental indirect effects of the fishery on ETP species. SG 100 is met			
Refere	References Information gathered during the audit visit, ICCAT Manual, IEO, 2008; ISSF 20 Gilman 2011; Arrizabalaga et al 2011.			SF 2015,	
OVER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 85				85
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



Evaluation Table for PI 2.3.2 Pole and line fishery

		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed to:				
PT 2	3.2	 Meet national and international requirements; Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to ETP 				
	1012	 Ensure the fishery does not pose a fisk of serious name to ETP species; 				
 Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; a Minimise mortality of ETP species. 						
Scoring SG 60		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
Issue	Cuida	There are measured in	Thora is a strategy in	Thora is a comprehensive		
а	post	place that minimise mortality of ETP species, and are expected to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.	place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to be highly likely to achieve national and international requirements for the protection of ETP	strategy in place for managing the fishery's impact on ETP species, including measures to minimise mortality, which is designed to achieve above national and international requirements for the protection of ETP species.		
	Met?	Y	species.	N		
	Justifi cation	Y Y N The nature of the fishery, including the gear type used and the operational method of the gear, provides enough information to infer that the evaluated fishery poses almost no risk to ETP species. In the MSC assessments on the American Albacore Fishing Association North Pacific Albacore Pole & Line and Troll/Jig Fishery, alongside the Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements to minimise bycatch, live bait gear was considered to constitute an operational strategy for managing bycatch species on the grounds that the gear is clearly designed for and is successful at catching albacore rather than other species.				
		In the Spanish Spanish <i>de la Biodiversidad</i> also Additional regulation for 15 Junio, regulating the retaining on board, land by any vessel that is not regulation and the fisher for managing the fishery national and international SG80 is met. The MSC defines a con- made up of linked r responses". The operation	Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre, del Patrimonio National so protects all species included in Appendix I of C r ETP sharks is provided through Order ARM/1647/20 e fishing of highly migratory species, prohibiting the ding or marketing of pelagic sharks (including ETP st t included in the surface longline fishing unified census ery's characteristics are considered to constitute a str y's impact on ETP species that are most likely to mee al requirements for the protection of ETP species. The mprehensive strategy as "a complete and tested str monitoring, analyses, and management measures ional strategy that the Cantabrian Sea troll fishery per			



		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed				
		to:				
		 Meet national and international requirements; 				
PI 2.	.3.2	• Ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious harm to E				
		species;				
		Ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species: and				
		Minimise mort	ality of ETP species.			
		observer program. Th	is prevents the fishery	from meeting the monitoring		
		requirement of a compre	hensive strategy, SG100 is	s not met.		
b	Guide	The measures are	There is an objective	The strategy is mainly based on		
-	nost	considered likely to	hasis for confidence	information directly about the		
	post	work based on	that the strategy will	fishery and/or species involved		
		plausible argument	work based on	and a quantitative analysis		
			work, Daseu on	and a quantitative analysis		
		(e.g., general	information directly	supports nign confidence that		
		experience, theory or	about the fishery	the strategy will work.		
		comparison with	and/or the species			
		similar	involved.			
		fisheries/species).				
	Mata	V	V	N		
	Met?		T Charle Charles Herdata	N		
	JUSTITI		a Stock Status Update, p	pole-and-line fishing gear is not		
	cation	considered to cause maj	or concerns with the catch	of vulnerable non-target species		
		(ISSF, 2015). "Pole and	line fishing is highly select	tive gear, so catches by this gear		
		are almost exclusively	limited to the target tu	una species. ICCAT (bony fish,		
		chondrichthyes, birds, m	ammals, and marine turtle	es) indicate the white trevally and		
		the yellowtail amberjac	k are currently the only s	species associated with live bait		
		fisheries (non-scombrife	ormes)" (ICCAT Manual, 🛾	IEO, 2008). Bycatch levels with		
		pole-and-line fisheries	are extremely low, and	when bycatch does occur, it is		
		generally juvenile kawa	akawa tuna (<i>Euthynnus</i>)	<i>affinis</i>), frigate mackerel (<i>Auxis</i>		
		<i>rochei</i>), mahimahi (<i>C</i>	Corvphaena hippurus), a	and rainbow runner (<i>Elagatis</i>		
		<i>bupinnulata</i>). Discards	are believed to have h	igh post release survival rates		
		(Gilman 2011)				
		The albacore live bait	fishery is not listed in a	any of the relevant recovery or		
		spotlight species action	plans for marine mamm	als, turtles, or seabirds, and no		
		additional measures are	specified in any of them	n (e.g. Guidelines to reduce sea		
		turtle mortality in fishing	operations (FAO, Rome, 2	2009) and bycatch mitigation fact		
		sheets (FAO) Agreem	ent on the Conservation	on of Albatrosses and Petrels		
		(http://acan.ag/en/byca	tch-mitigation/bycatch-miti	igation-fact-sheets); Løkkeborg		
		(100,7) accepted (10,0) control (accessment of mitigation	manufact sheets), Lokkeborg,		
		S. (2000), Review and	assessment of mitigation	t ficharica FAO Ficharica and		
		catch of seabirds in longline, trawl and gillnet fisheries. FAO Fisheries and				
		Aquaculture. Circular. No	5. 1040. Rome, FAO. pp. 2	4; etc.).		
		The characteristics of	the pole fishery, particu	larly that the lines are always		
		attached and actively v	vorked in close proximity	to the vessel, as well as being		
		, retrieved as soon as any	thing is hooked, provides	an objective basis for confidence		
		in that the strategy will	work. For this reason SG80) is met.		
		There is no observer o	overage of this troll and	live bait fishery. Therefore, we		



		The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed			
		to:			
		Meet national	and international requi	rements;	
PI 2	.3.2	Ensure the fis	shery does not pose a	risk of serious harm	to ETP
		species;	how, door not hindor wa	owner of ETD energies.	and
Ensure the fishery does not finder recovery of ETP species; an Minimise mortality of ETP species					and
		• Minimise moleancy of ETP species.			
		met.			
С	Guide		There is evidence that	There is clear evidence	that the
	post		the strategy is being	strategy is being imple	emented
			implemented	successfully.	
			successfully.		
	Met?		Y	N	
	Justifi	The scientific literature of	consulted and the informat	tion gathered during the	site visit
	cation	with different stakehold	ers as AZTI and fishers a	about the interaction of	the pole
		and line with ETP speci	ies ends to the conclusior	n that interactions are ve	ery rare.
		The team considered t	hose evidences enough	to assure the strategy	is being
		implemented successfully to meet SG 80.			
		strategy is being implemented successfully to meet SG 100.			
d	Guide		,	There is evidence t	hat the
	post			strategy is achievi	ng its
				objective.	
	Mot2			N	
	Justifi	In the abconce of indep	ndont data, the fichery ca	not most this scoring in	dicator
	cation		chuchi uala, une nonel y la		
	cucion				
Refer	ences	Orden ARM/1647/2009,	, de 15 de junio; Ley	42/2007, de 13 de die	ciembre;
Refer	Chees	Løkkeborg 2008; FAO 20	009; ACAP 2014; Gilman 20	011	
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATO	R SCORE:		80
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



Evaluation Table for PI 2.3.3 Pole and line fishery

		Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery				
		impacts on ETP specie	es, including:			
PI 2.	.3.3	 Information for the development of the management strategy; 				
		Information t	o assess the effective	reness of the management		
		strategy; and				
Scorig	20	Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species.				
Issue		50 00	50.00	50 100		
а	Guide	Information is	Sufficient information is	Information is sufficient to		
	post	sufficient to	available to allow	quantitatively estimate outcome		
		qualitatively estimate	fishery related mortality	status of ETP species with a		
		the fishery related	and the impact of	high degree of certainty.		
		mortality of ETP	fishing to be			
		species.	quantitatively			
			estimated for ETP			
	Met?	Y	y species.	Ν		
	Justifi	The scientific literature r	refered in PI 2.3.1 and PI	2.3.2 (including MSC assessment		
	cation	of other live bait fishe	eries and AZTI communi	ication on the 2009 Hegalabur		
		campaign) together wi	th the information gathe	ered during the site visit with		
		stakeholders (AZTI, ICO	CAT and fishermen) settl	ed that ETP species levels are		
		exceptionally rare and	negligible in its impact. T	herefore, qualitative information		
		and <u>some quantitative</u> ir	formation are available on	the amount of main ETP species		
		taken by the fishery. Thi	s meets SG80.			
		Even there is consensus	that ETP species levels ar	re very limited such that they are		
		effectively negligible; th	e fishery does not have a	an observer program in place to		
		corroborate the information	tion. Therefore, there are	uncertainties to corroborate that		
		accurate and verifiable	e information on the c	atch of ETP species and the		
		consequences for the st	atus of affected populatio	ns can be assured. SG100 is not		
		meet.				
b	Guide	Information is	Information is sufficient	Accurate and verifiable		
	post	adequate to broadly	to determine whether	information is available on the		
		of the fichery on ETR	the fishery may be a	magnitude of all impacts,		
		species	recovery of the FTP	consequences for the status of		
		species.	species	FTP species		
			species.			
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi	The fishery under as	sessment is highly sele	ective and bycatch levels are		
	cation	exceptionally rare and	negligible in its impact. E	Based on literature refered in PI		
		2.3.1 and 2.3.2 together	r with stakenoiders conser	how the team concludes that the		
			to determine the fishery do	bes not suppose a threat to ETPS.		
		not SG100 because ac	a noneneo reacheu the Sal	ne conclusion meeting 5680 Dut		
		needed.		ie magnitude of all impacts is		
		2.3.1 and 2.3.2 together information is sufficient to Moreover, other certified not SG100 because ac	r with stakeholders conser to determine the fishery do d fisheries reached the sar courate information on th	nsus the team concludes that the pes not suppose a threat to ETPs. me conclusion meeting SG80 but the magnitude of all impacts is		
		needed.				



PI 2.3.3		Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including:									
								 Information to assess the effectiveness of the management 			
								strategy; and			
		 Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species. 									
с	Guide	Information is	Information is sufficient	Information is adequ	uate to						
	post	adequate to support	to measure trends and	support a compre	ehensive						
		measures to manage	support a full strategy	strategy to manage	impacts,						
		the impacts on ETP	to manage impacts on	minimize mortality and	injury of						
		species.	ETP species.	ETP species, and evalu	ate with						
				a high degree of	certainty						
				whether a strategy is a	chieving						
				its objectives.							
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν							
	Justifi	Pole and line fishing gear used by the fishery under assessment is highly selective									
	cation	and ETP species levels are exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact. Based on									
		bibliography and the interviews with fishers and other stakeholders such as AZTI,									
		there is consensus that ETP levels are very limited such that they are effectively									
		negligible. Therefore, information is sufficient to measure trends and support a full									
		strategy to manage impacts on ETP species and SG 80 is met.									
		MSC defines a comprehensive strategy as "a complete and tested strategy made up									
		of linked monitoring, analyses, and management measures and responses". To									
		harmonize with others MSC certified fisheries with similar characteristics, there is									
		not quantitative information about troll fishery bycatch therefore SG 100 is not									
		meet.									
References ISSF, 2015; ICCAT Manual, IEO, 2008; Gilman, 2011.											
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:					80						
COND	ITION N	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):									


PI 2.	.4.1	The fishery does not of structure, considered	cause serious or irrevers on a regional or bioreg	sible harm to habitat ional basis, and function
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
а	Guide post	The fishery is unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.	The fishery is highly unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.	There is evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to reduce habitat structure and function to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm.
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justifi cation	YYTroll fishing gear used in the Cantabrian Sea albacore fishery operates at the surface in deep oceanic water. The fishing gear consists of a towing a line with artificial bait behind the boat at the speed of 7 knots (3-4 knots when fish are being caught). Troll vessels are usually fitted with large poles or rods and can tow between 12-14 lines (up to a maximum of 15) at the same time. The lines are dragged along the surface. As such, impacts will be limited to the pelagic habitat, and are expected to be imperceptible, highly transient, and have a negligible effect. In addition, there is no risk of the fishery touching the seabed given the nature of the gear. Only pelagic species living in their habitats are landed. This is further evidence it is highly unlikely the fishery will ever come into contact with the seabed. Lost gear is another possible impact of the fishing. The fishermen informed that gear loss is very limited during the site visit.The Cantabrian sea albacore fishery live bait fishing gear is also used at the surface in deep oceanic water. The fishing gear comprises 4-6 meter long rods for catching tuna that are attached and kept close to the vessel, with live fish periodically thrown overboard. As such, impacts will be limited to the pelagic habitat, and are expected to be imperceptible, highly transient, and have a negligible effect. In addition, there is no risk of the fishery coming into contact with the seabed given the nature of the gear. Only pelagic species living in their habitats are landed. This is further evidence it is highly unlikely the fishery will ever		
		Furthermore, the seasonal nature of this fishery (June to October) reduces the intensity of any habitat damage caused by the fishery. A small purse seine is used to catch the live bait species and they are kept alive on board the vessel in large tanks. Smaller gear than the Spanish Bay of Biscay purse seiners targeting anchovy, sardine, or mackerel (80 meters depth by 550 meters length) is used. It is designed to operate in midwater and catch pelagic species, and is likely to have negligible impact on benthic habitats. The fishermen informed that gear loss is very limited during the site visit. Depending on the fishing area, shipwrecks can lead to gear breakage, but losing all or part of the gear is very unlikely.		
		authorities and there is no fishery is not considered t	o evidence that fishing occur o have any impact on habitat	red in protected areas. As such, the structure and function.
Refer	ences	Información site visit.		

Evaluation Table for PI 2.4.1 Troll and Pole and line



PI 2.4.1	PI 2.4.1 The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to habitat structure, considered on a regional or bioregional basis, and function				
OVERALL PER	OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE: 100				
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A					



PI 2.	I 2.4.2 There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types				
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guide post	There are measures in place, if necessary, that are expected to achieve the Habitat Outcome 80 level of performance.	There is a partial strategy in place, if necessary, that is expected to achieve the Habitat Outcome 80 level of performance or above.	There is a strategy in place for managing the impact of the fishery on habitat types.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Υ	
	Justifi cation	The actual methods for ea to ensure the fishery does Lost gear is another possib very limited during the site There are national and int cover all Spanish vessels through http://www.magrama.gob Protected areas in Spain a Natural Heritage and Bio respective legal framewo areas, and areas protected MARPOL also covers all ves Lastly, VMS data on the fis evidence that fishing occu When consulted during th the habitat and therefore hand, the negligible impac assessment and the fishe impact of the fishery on h Troll/Jig Fishery, and Ame Line and Troll/Jig Fishery).	ach fishing practice explained not pose a risk to the habita le impact of the fishing. The e visit. ternational strategies, which given that Spain is a contra o.es/es/costas/legislacion/con are defined and regulated by diversity, which groups the rks of origin: Protected Nat d by international instrument ssels. shing fleet is available for the rred in protected areas. e site visit, the stakeholders e, a partial strategy did not ct of the fishery on the habita ry can be considered an ope abitat types (Albacore Fishin rican Albacore Fishing Assoc	d in PI 2.4.1 are measures designed t. fishermen informed that gear loss is are not specific to the fishery, but acting party. They can be consulted nvenios_internacionales.aspx. y Law 42/2007, of 13 December, on m into three types based on their cural Areas, Natura 2000 protected ts. e Spanish authorities and there is no said the fishery does not impact on need to be created. On the other at was considered in a previous MSC erational strategy for managing the g Association South Pacific Albacore iation North Pacific Albacore Pole &	
b	Guide	The measures are	There is some objective	Testing supports high confidence	
	post	considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar fisheries/habitats).	basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or habitats involved.	that the strategy will work, based on information directly about the fishery and/or habitats involved.	

Evaluation Table for PI 2.4.2 Troll and Pole and line



PI 2.	4.2	There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types			
	Met?	Y	Υ	Y	
	Justifi	Based on the negligible	impact on the habitat, the	e current operational stra	tegy for
	cation	managing the impact of th	e fishery on habitats has bee	en considered good in previ	ous MSC
		assessments. VMS data o	n the fishing fleet is availal	ole for the Spanish author	ities and
		there is no evidence that f	ishing occurred in protected	areas. As such, it meets SG	100.
С	Guide		There is some evidence	There is clear evidence	that the
	post		that the partial strategy	strategy is being impl	emented
			is being implemented	successfully.	
			successfully.		
	Met?		Y	Y	
	Justifi	Based on the negligible	impact on the habitat, the	e current operational stra	itegy for
	cation	managing the impact of th	e fishery on habitats has bee	en considered good in previ	ous MSC
		assessments. Experienced	AZTI scientists confirm the fi	shery has a negligible impa	ct on the
		habitat. When consulted,	members of the General	Secretariat for Fishing cor	firm the
		fishery is fully compliant w	vith national and internationa	al regulations. SG 100 is me	t.
d	Guide			There is some evidence	that the
	post			strategy is achieving its of	ojective.
	Met?			Y	
	Justifi	This fishery's impacts on h	abitat are not monitored. Al	the same, the fishery canr	not come
	cation	into contact with the sea	bed, and any pelagic impac	ts will be imperceptible an	nd highly
		transient. When consulter	d, members of the General	Secretariat for Fishing cor	ifirm the
		tisnery is fully compliant	with national and internation	nai regulations. On consul	
		the VIVIS data and after	the stakeholder interviews	(Inspection authorities, /	AZII and
		Tisners), there is evidence that the Tisnery very rarely comes into contact with the sea			the sea
		Site visit interviews			
		MARPOL convention			
		(http://www.imo.org/Conventions/contents.asp?doc_id=678&topic_id=258)			
		Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente www.magrama.gob.es			
Pofor	oncos	Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike Laurs, American Albacore Fishing			
Refer	ences	Association North Pacific A	Albacore Pole & Line and Trol	l/Jig Fishery	
		Dr. Norman Bartoo, Dr. F	Rob Blyth-Skyrme, Dr. Mike	Laurs, American Albacore	e Fishing
		Association South Pacific A	Albacore Troll/Jig Fishery [List	any references here]	
		P. Medley, G. Tingley, J.	Akroyd, A. Hough, S. Davies	5. NEW ZEALAND ALBACO	RE TUNA
		TROLL FISHERY			
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	SCORE:		100
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



Evaluation	Table for	PI 2.4.3	Troll and	Pole and line
------------	------------------	----------	-----------	---------------

PI 2.	4.3	Information is adequate to determine the risk posed to habitat types by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage impacts on habitat types			
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guide post	There is basic understanding of the types and distribution of main habitats in the area of the fishery.	The nature, distribution and vulnerability of all main habitat types in the fishery are known at a level of detail relevant to the scale and intensity of the fishery.	The distribution of habitat types is known over their range, with particular attention to the occurrence of vulnerable habitat types.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Y	
Justifi cation The Cantabrian sea albacore live deep, oceanic water of the area does not come into contact with Sea can be considered a main ha The areas where pole and troll fi the Bay of Biscay. Good data on seas is available through severa EMODnet, MeshAtlantic), which the Bay of Biscay. Although only Peninsula has been mapped, mo (Galparsoro et al., 2014). Since bathymetry, there is a significar are 42 benthic habitats in the Biscay and Cantabrian Sea h obligations. The main areas are France and El Cachucho Prot extensively and provided furthe They do not represent vulnerab		bre live bait and troll fishery the area described in the Figuret twith the seabed, the surfa- hain habitat type. troll fishery operate are closs ata on the habitat characteri several international projects which can provide expected the only 19% of the total EEZ are ed, most of the habitat mapp Since a large area of the Bay nificantly higher percentage n the Bay of Biscay. Furthe Sea have special protectio eas are Iroise Marine Park are o Protected Area in Spain. further knowledge on the s nerable systems in the conter	only operates at the surface in the are 10 and Figure 11. As the fishery ice pelagic habitat of the Cantabrian ely linked to the Cantabrian Sea and stics of many areas of the European and integrated efforts (EUSeaMap, d habitats for many areas, including area of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian bing covers depths up to 200 meters of Biscay is delimited by 200-meter of seabed mapping coverage. There rmore, several areas in the Bay of an under OSPAR or Natura 2000 and Arcachon Basin Marine Park in These areas have been studied eabed habitat of the Bay of Biscay. ext of surface pelagic fishing activity.		
b	Guide	Information is adequate	Sufficient data are	The physical impacts of the gear	
	post	to broadly understand the nature of the main impacts of gear use on the main habitats, including spatial overlap of habitat with fishing gear.	available to allow the nature of the impacts of the fishery on habitat types to be identified and there is reliable information on the spatial extent of interaction, and the timing and location of use of the fishing gear	on the habitat types have been quantified fully.	
	Met?	V	v	Y	
	Justifi cation	VMS and catch data on the are enough to determine	e fishing operations, and spece the impacts of the fishery	cifically effort, time, and area fished, on the habitat. This fishery has a	



PI 2.	Information is adequate to determine the risk posed to habitat types by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage impacts on habitat types				es by s on
		negligible impact on the se	eabed.		
C	Guide post		Sufficient data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk to habitat (e.g. due to changes in the outcome indicator scores or the operation of the fishery or the effectiveness of the measures).	Changes in habitat dist over time are measured.	ributions
	Met?		Y	Y	
	Justifi cation	The fishery continues to be monitored at port through the Data Collection Framework, as well as through routine surveillance and control inspections. In addition, the seabed habitat continues to be monitored and mapped on a finer scale. Seabed habitat is not systematically monitored, however, and as such, changes in habitat distribution over time will not be detected. Therefore, changes in habitat distributions over time are measured. SG 100 is met.			ework, as e seabed cat is not over time leasured.
Refer	ences	EUSeaMap, EMODnet, Me	shAtlantic		
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		100
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



PI 2.	5.1	The fishery does not of elements of ecosystem	cause serious or irrevers m structure and functio	sible harm to the key n	
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
a Guide T post d		The fishery is unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.	The fishery is highly unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm.	There is evidence that the is highly unlikely to dis key elements un ecosystem structure and to a point where there we serious or irreversible had	e fishery rupt the nderlying function ould be a rm.
	Met?	Y	γ	γ	
	Justifi cation	serious or irreversible harm. Y Y Y Y Y The key elements of the fishery ecosystem are considered to be albacore as a high trophic-level predator, LTL species as a forage fish, and other species as both competitors and predators of albacore. This mode of fishing typically results in very small bycatch rates of non-target species (ISSF, 2015), which also minimises the impacts on the ecosystem. Albacore is widely spread throughout the north Atlantic (Arrizabalaga et al., 2014). It is a seasonal predator in the North-Eastern Atlantic, meaning it doesn't exert top-down pressure on this ecosystem throughout the year. Additionally, only a proportion of the population visits the trophic area of the NE Atlantic in summer. The feeding habits of the albacore in this area are known (Goñi et al., 2011) and like other tunas, it is considered an opportunistic predator, capable of feeding on a wide range of prey, and adapting to the available type of prey. Several works containing "mass-balance" models (EwE) included tuna in the Bay of Biscay and adjacent waters (Ainsworth and Feriss, 2001; Lopez, 2010; Sánchez and Olaso, 2004). Functional groups that include albacore uses the edge of the continental shelf (slope), as well as more oceanic waters (Lassalle et al., 2011). Lassalle (2012) did not even include tunas in their model, rather linking small pelagics directly with dolphin. The kigh biomass of small pelagics is significant for sustaining the upper trophic levels (Trenkel et al., 2014). Considering the above, i.e. that the system is bottom-up controlled and detritus based, that the albacore stock is healthy, that the fishery is both loc			
Refer	ences	Arrizabalaga et al., 2014; Sánchez and Olaso, 2004;	Goñi et al., 2011 ; Ainswo Lassalle et al., 2011; Lassall	rth and Feriss, 2001; Lope e et al., 2012; Trenkel et a	ez, 2010; I., 2014 ;
OVER		ISSF, 2015	SCORE:		100
OVER		UNHANCE INDICATOR	SCORE.		100

Evaluation Table for PI 2.5.1 Troll and Pole and line



PI 2.5.1	The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to the key elements of ecosystem structure and function	
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):		



There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of PI 2.5.2 serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function SG 60 SG 80 SG 100 Scoring Issue Guide There are measures in а There is a partial strategy There is a strategy that consists of post place, if necessary. in place, if necessary. a plan, in place. Met? Y Y Ν Albacore as a high trophic-level predator, and other species as both competitors and Justifi cation predators of albacore are considered to be the key elements of the troll fishery ecosystem. Evidence that the fishery is highly unlikely to disrupt the key elements underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a serious or irreversible harm is considered to exist. As such, no additional measures are considered necessary. All the same, there is a partial strategy to manage ETP, habitat, and by-catch species, through reducing discards, limits on fishery size, TACs, and catches monitoring. The ICCAT regulates the fishery. Recommendation [98-8] limiting vessel numbers, recommendation [99-5] for northern albacore management measures, and a request for the best available Task I and Task II data to allow the SCRS to analyse the fishery are significant in reducing the fishing effort and determining the stock status. Total allowable catch (TAC) was introduced in 2000 and has been gradually reduced after scientific assessment, and is now set at 28,000 t (ICCAT recommendation [13-5]). Lastly, ICCAT Recommendation [11-13] is a framework decision to bring all stocks to safe levels. Other important regulations are Law 42/2007, of 13 December, on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity as a framework to protect the ETP species and habitats; and Order ARM/1647/2009, of 15 June, regulating the fishing of highly migratory species, prohibiting the catch, retaining on board, landing or marketing of swordfish and pelagic shark by the assessed fleet. Spain is a contracting party in some international agreements, which are not specific to the fishery but cover all Spanish vessels. These agreements contain provisions for the conservation of the marine environment, habitats, and species. They can be consulted through: http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/costas/legislacion/convenios internacionales.aspx According to REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013, all catches of species which are subject to catch limits[...] caught during fishing activities [...] shall be brought and retained on board the fishing vessels, recorded, landed and counted against the quotas where applicable, except when used as live bait. Lastly, AAA/1307/2013, of 1 July, regulates the fishery for catching live bait. Therefore, there isn't a specific plan in place since the fishery has a very small impact on the ecosystem. SG 80 is met. Guide b The measures take into The partial strategy takes The strategy, which consists of a post account potential into account available plan, contains measures to impacts of the fishery information and address all main impacts of the is on key elements of the expected to restrain fishery on the ecosystem, and at

impacts of the fishery on

Evaluation Table for PI 2.5.2 Troll and Pole and line

Public Certification Report

ecosystem.

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

least some of these measures are



DT 2 5 2		There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of		
P1 2	2.3.2	serious or irreversible	e harm to ecosystem str	ructure and function
			the ecosystem so as to	in place. The plan and measures
			achieve the Ecosystem	are based on well-understood
			Outcome 80 level of	functional relationships between
			performance.	the fishery and the Components
				and elements of the ecosystem.
				This plan provides for
				development of a full strategy
				that restrains impacts on the
				doos not course carious or
				does not cause serious or
	Mata	V	Y	
	Met?	Y The trall fichery records	Y available information on f	ishing location offert and fishing
	Cation	one troll lishery records	available information on t	isning location, effort, and lisning
	cation	they are not theroughly n	bycalcii of ETP species are	fiching typically results in yory small
		by catch rates of non-targe		isining typically results in very small
		It is considered highly u	nlikely that the fishery no	ses a risk to key elements of the
		ecosystem Evidence that	t the fishery is highly unl	ikely to disrupt the key elements
		underlying ecosystem stru	icture and function to a noin	t where there would be a serious or
		irreversible harm is cons	idered to exist Then no a	dditional measures are considered
		necessary SG 100 is met	dered to exist. men, no a	
с	Guide	The measures are	The partial strategy is	The measures are considered
-	post	considered likely to	considered likely to	likely to work based on prior
	-	work, based on	work, based on plausible	experience, plausible argument or
		plausible argument	argument (e.g., general	information directly from the
		(e.g., general	experience, theory or	fishery/ecosystems involved.
		experience, theory or	comparison with similar	
		comparison with similar	fisheries/ecosystems).	
		fisheries/ecosystems).		
	Met?	Y	Y	Y
	Justifi	Evidence that the fisher	y is highly unlikely to dis	rupt the key elements underlying
	cation	ecosystem structure and f	function to a point where the	re would be a serious or irreversible
		harm is considered to ex	ist. As such, no additional r	neasures are considered necessary.
		The measures to manage	e ETP, habitat, and by-catch	species involve reducing discards,
		placing limits on fishery size	ze, TACs, and data monitorin	g. Therefore, SG 100 is met.
d	Guide		There is some evidence	There is evidence that the
	post		that the measures	measures are being implemented
			comprising the partial	successfully.
			strategy are being	
			implemented	
			successfully.	
	Met?		Y	Y
	Justifi	It is considered highly u	nlikely that the fishery pos	ses a risk to key elements of the
	cation	ecosystem. Evidence tha	t the fishery is highly unl	ikely to disrupt the key elements



DT 252		There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of		
FI 2.	.5.2	serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function		
		underlying ecosystem structure and function to a point where there would be a s	erious or	
irreversible har		irreversible harm is considered to exist. No additional measures are considered ne	ecessary.	
Durin		Puring the site visit, the General Secretariat for Fishing informed us that both fleets are		
fully complian		fully compliant with the current regulation. There is clear evidence from all stak	eholders	
that the fishing effort limit strategy is successfully implemented. SG 100 is reached.		d.		
		AAA/1307/2013, de 1 de julio		
		REGLAMENTO (UE) No 1380/2013 DEL PARLAMENTO EUROPEO Y DEL CONSEJO de 11 de		
		diciembre de 2013		
		Ley 42/2007, de 13 de diciembre, del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad		
Refer	ences	ARM/1647/2009, de 15 de junio		
		http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/costas/legislacion/convenios_internacionales.aspx		
		ICCAT recommendation [98-8]		
		ICCAT recommendation [99-5]		
		ICCAT recommendation [13-5]		
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	95	
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):	N/A	



PI 2.	5.3	There is adequate kno ecosystem	owledge of the impacts	of the fishery on the		
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guide post	Information is adequate to identify the key elements of the ecosystem (e.g., trophic structure and function, community composition, productivity pattern and biodiversity).	Information is adequate to broadly understand the key elements of the ecosystem.			
	Met?	Y	Y			
	Justifi	ifi There is enough information to broadly understand the key elements of the ecos				
	cation	The key elements include key prey, predators, and biodiversity characteristic scientific surveys carried of the food web on the Bay of	the trophic structure of the competitors; community con s. This information is collect out in recent years and was u of Biscay continental shelf. So	Bay of Biscay ecosystem such as the nposition, productivity patterns and ed and available through a range of sed by Lassalle et al., 2011 to model 6 80 is met.		
b	Guide	Main impacts of the	Main impacts of the	Main interactions between the		
	post	fishery on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and have not been investigated in detail.	fishery on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information and some have been investigated in detail.	fishery and these ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and have been investigated in detail.		
	Met?	Y	Y	Y		
	Justifi cation	Main interactions betweer existing information, and h food web in the Bay of Bi 2010). SG 100 is met.	h the fishery and these ecosy nave been investigated. A nur scay (Lassalle et al., 2011, 20	stem elements can be inferred from mber of studies have modelled the 012, Sanchez-Olaso 2004 and López		
С	Guide post		The main functions of the Components (i.e., target, Bycatch, Retained and ETP species and Habitats) in the ecosystem are known.	The impacts of the fishery on target, Bycatch, Retained and ETP species are identified and the main functions of these Components in the ecosystem are understood.		
	Met?		Y	Y		
	Justifi cation	The Bay of Biscay has b function of each ecosys modelling (Lassalle et al., identified in Pl 2.1, 2.2, 2.3	een studied extensively, ar tem element is known ar , 2011). The main impact o 3, 2.4.	nd as previously shown, the main nd understood through food web f the fishery on each element was		
d	Guide post		Sufficient information is available on the impacts of the fishery on these	Sufficient information is available on the impacts of the fishery on the Components and elements to		

Evaluation Table for PI 2.5.3 Troll and Pole and line

Public Certification Report



PI 2.	.5.3	There is adequate kno ecosystem	owledge of the impacts	of the fishery on the	
			Components to allow	allow the main conseque	ences for
			some of the main	the ecosystem to be infer	red.
			consequences for the		
			ecosystem to be		
			inferred.		
	Met?		Ŷ	Ν	
	Justifi	Up-to-date and quantitat	tive information on discard	ds and incidental catches	s of top
	cation	predators is limited. Althou	ugh these effects are conside	ered mostly negligible, the i	mpact of
		the fishery on all elements	cannot be inferred. SG100 i	s not met.	
е	Guide		Sufficient data continue	Information is suffici	ent to
	post		to be collected to detect	support the develop	nent of
			any increase in risk level	strategies to manage e	cosystem
			(e.g., due to changes in	impacts.	
			the outcome indicator		
			scores or the operation		
			of the fishery or the		
			effectiveness of the		
			measures).		
	Met?		Υ	Ν	
	Justifi	Programmes to monitor	both the fishery and the	top predators are ongoin	ng, as is
	cation	environmental research o	n the Bay of Biscay. However	er, the lack of data on the	fishery's
		likely impact on bycatch	precludes the development	of strategies to manage e	cosystem
		impacts. Therefore, SG 10	0 is not met.		
References Lassalle et al.2011; Lassalle et al. 2012; Sánchez, F. & Olaso,		laso, I. (2004); Lopez, J. (201	10)		
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		90
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):			N/A



		The management sys customary frameworl	tem exists within an ap which ensures that it:	propriate legal and/or	
PI 3	.1.1	Principles 1 and 2; and			
		 Observes the legal of people dependence 	I rights created explicit ant on fishing for food o	ly or established by custom	
		 Incorporates an a 	ppropriate dispute reso	lution framework.	
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guide post	There is an effective national legal system and <u>a framework for</u> <u>cooperation</u> with other parties, where necessary, to deliver management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2	There is an effective national legal system and organised and effective cooperation with other parties, where necessary, to deliver management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2.	There is an effective national legal system and <u>binding procedures</u> <u>governing cooperation with other</u> <u>parties</u> which delivers management outcomes consistent with MSC Principles 1 and 2.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Y	
	cation	98/414/EC, the United Na United Nations Convention conservation and manage 4 December 1995 (UN Fi 96/428/EC, and the United November 1993 to promo- measures by fishing vesses In the national domain, Sp (UNCLOS) in 1996, and a 1995. Spain also forms Environment of the North In addition, there is a Re Commission for the Conse conservation of tunas and organisation was founded adopted the International de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1966 ratification process. The organisation capable of h and tuna-like species in th All the same, 27 of the 4 must be taken into accour The management framew Fisheries Policy (CFP), with	tions Agreement on the imp on on the Law of the Sea of ment of straddling fish stock sh Stocks Agreement), as w ed Nations Food and Agricul ote compliance with internati ls on the high seas. ain ratified the United Nation dopted the FAO Code of Co part of the Convention f -East Atlantic (OSPAR). egional Fisheries Manageme ervation of Atlantic Tunas - d tuna-like species in the Atl d during the Plenipotentian Convention for the Conserva 5. The Convention formally e Convention establishes the andling the work required for e Atlantic. The European Unit 8 contracting parties of ICC nt. ork for fisheries in European the the latest amendment co	lementation of the provisions of the 10 December 1982, relating to the is and highly migratory fish stocks of rell as pursuant to Council Decision ture Organisation Agreement of 24 onal conservation and management ins Convention on the Law of the Sea onduct for Responsible Fisheries in for the Protection of the Marine ent Organisation (the International ICCAT), which is responsible for the antic Ocean and adjacent seas. The y Conference, which prepared and ation of Atlantic Tunas, signed in Rio entered into force in 1969 after the nat the ICCAT is the only fishing or the study and regulation of tuna ion is a member of the ICCAT. AT are yet to ratify UNCLOS, which waters is provided by the Common ming into force on 1 January 2014.	
		All the same, 27 of the 4 must be taken into accour The management framew Fisheries Policy (CFP), wit However, the management which the FLL is a membe	8 contracting parties of ICC nt. ork for fisheries in European th the latest amendment co ent of tuna and tuna-like sp r and jointly responsible alo	AT are yet to ratify UNCLOS, which waters is provided by the Common ming into force on 1 January 2014. becies is undertaken by RFMOs, of	



PI 3.1.1	 The management system exists within an appropriate legal and/or customary framework which ensures that it: Is capable of delivering sustainable fisheries in accordance with MSC Principles 1 and 2; and Observes the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom
	of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood; and
	Incorporates an appropriate dispute resolution framework.
	The resolutions approved by the regional organisations are applied.
	soutrol measures for each fichery operating in their waters, or implies the participation of
	control measures for each listery operating in their waters, or implies the participation of
	boats with the European hag, or even EO citizens in Iisneries in non-European waters. It
	and 2
	In the national domain. Spain ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
	(LINCLOS) in 1996, and adopted the EAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Eisberies in
	1995 Spain also forms part of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine
	Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)
	The Spanish Government, through the General Secretariat for Fishing (Secretaria General
	de Pesca, SGP), belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment
	(Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente, MAGRAMA) is responsible for
	applying the management measures to the national fisheries sector. The 2001 Fishing Law
	covers the directives of the European Common Fisheries Policy, adapts them to the
	specific circumstances of Spanish fishing sector, and applies them through a range of
	Royal Decrees and Ministerial Orders in order to regulate the different fleets and fisheries.
	The Fishing Law is currently being reviewed to bring it into line with the new content of
	the reformed European CFP.
	constitution of the European Commission receives advice from various scientific
	organisations. In addition, in the event of data gans, the EU has the means to fund studies
	and projects in the short medium and long term with the aim of rectifying the lack of
	data and as such fulfil the CEP objectives. The Commission's scientific advisory bodies
	are
	The Scientific Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECE) which
	was created in 1993 to advise the Commission on fishing management issues. It is
	not a permanent body but rather a group of experts that collaborate as
	temporary members or experts in working groups
	The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) an
	intergovernmental body founded in 1902 to investigate and coordinate research
	on marine ecosystems in the North Atlantic. Other than the EU, they also advise
	several governments and regional fishing organisations.
	The Scientific Advisory Committee of the General Fisheries Commission for the
	Mediterranean (GFCM), a regional organisation for managing fishing in the
	Mediterranean Sea.
	Member states are also obliged to collect data on their fleets, and via national research
	organisations or in conjunction with organisations from other countries, they carry out the
	research that will provide the basis for decision-making.
	Therefore, in Spain, the Instituto Español de Oceanografía. Instituto AZTI, the Conseio
	Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (Advanced Council for Scientific Research), as well



		The management sys	tem exists within an ap	propriate legal and/or		
		• Is canable of deliv	ering sustainable fishe	ries in accordance with MSC		
PI 3.	1.1	Principles 1 and 2	; and	nes in accordance with rise		
		• Observes the lega	l rights created explicit	ly or established by custom		
		of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood; and				
		Incorporates an appropriate dispute resolution framework.				
		as a range of universities	s and other regional resear	ch centres undertake the research		
		projects that form essentia	al aspects of fisheries manag	ement.		
		Based on the above, it is	considered both an effective	tion are in place which deliver		
		procedures governing co	poperation with other par	ties are in place, which deliver		
		SC100 is mot	onsistent with MSC Principles	5 1 810 2.		
h	Cuida	The management	The management system	The management system		
D	nost	system incorporatos or	incorporatos or is subject	incorporates or subject by law to		
	pose	is subject by law to a	by law to a transparent	a transparent mechanism for the		
		mechanism for the	mechanism for the	a transparent mechanism for the		
		resolution of legal	resolution of legal	appropriate to the context of the		
		disputes arising within	disputes which is	fishery and has been tested and		
		the system	considered to be	nroven to be effective		
		the system.	effective in dealing with			
			most issues and that is			
			appropriate to the			
			context of the fishery.			
	Met?	Y	Ŷ	N		
	Justifi	At a European level, wher	the Commission considers	national authorities do not manage		
	cation	fishing correctly and in acc	cordance with current legisla	tion:		
		The first thing they try	is to resolve issues thro	ough consultations, or in certain		
		circumstances they can te	emporarily cancel access to t	he European Fishing Fund until the		
		issue has been resolved, o	or reduce quotas, which can	be deducted from future quotas, or		
		in extreme cases, the Co	mmission can place the Me	mber State in question before the		
		Court of Justice of the Eur	opean Union.			
		The ICCAT Agreement do	es not contain provisions th	nat establish procedures to resolve		
		disputes, or tackle disput	es between the Parties in a	ny fashion. Similarly, ICCAT has not		
		specified any procedures	or guidance that can be used	d in the event of a dispute, either in		
		their internal regulations	or within their recommenda	tions and resolutions. All the same,		
		meetings offer the opport	unity to informally resolve di	sputes.		
		At a national level, the Spa	nish legal system is used as t	the main mechanism to resolve legal		
		disputes. When it comes	to fishing infractions, discip	linary procedures will invariably be		
		opened as a result of the f	esolution adopted to that ef	tect by the Delegate of the Regional		
		Government in the Spanis	n Autonomous Region in que	istion.		
		a) on initiative of the Cave	rancu.			
		b) through an order from a	higher authority:			
		c) by netition of the Direc	tor General de Rocursos Do	squeros y Acuicultura, or other coo		
		fishing authorities or hadi		squeros y Aculcultura, or other sed		
		d) as a result of a request a	against any action or conduct	that could constitute a violation.		
		e) as a result of a proces	ture initiated by sea fishing	inspectors or other governmental		
			are initiated by sea fishing	mapectors of other governmental		



PI 3	.1.1	 The management syst customary framework Is capable of delive Principles 1 and 2 Observes the lega of people depender Incorporates an a 	tem exists within an ap which ensures that it: vering sustainable fishe and rights created explicit ant on fishing for food o ppropriate dispute reso	propriate legal and/or ries in accordance with MSC ly or established by custom or livelihood; and lution framework.
		The management system disputes by law:	is subject to using a trans	parent mechanism to resolve legal
		The sea fishing disciplinary	<pre>/ procedures will be undertal codures</pre>	ken in accordance with the principle
		To those effects, the inter	ested parties will have the r	ight to receive updated data on the
		current status of their p	rocedures, and to access a	nd obtain copies of the associated
		documents. Similarly, an	d prior to the hearing, the	e interested parties could present
		allegations and provide do	ocuments they consider relev	ant.
		Access to documents relat	ted to the concluded discipli	nary procedures is governed by the
		With the aim of ensuring	a completely transparent	procedure and the efficacy of the
		government itself, and to	also ensure the due defence	of the accused and the interests of
		all the other parties that r	may be affected, each initiate	ed disciplinary procedure will follow
		a systematic course, suc	ccessively incorporating all	the documents, statements, acts,
		administrative application	s, notifications, and other ap	opropriate procedures in the correct
		order. A procedure initiate	ed as such will be completed	and remain the responsibility of the
		competent body through	out. The fishermen, or the sec	ctor or their representatives can use
		The complete legal proces	s. Sm for resolving legal disput	es is considered effective in dealing
		with most issues in the	context of fisheries altho	ugh some weaknesses have been
		detected, including the co	mplexity of the procedure, the	ne geographical spread and diversity
		of the inspectors, and	insufficient regulation of	the provisional measures during
		disciplinary procedures. F	or the reasons described be	fore, we cannot concluded that the
		mamagement system has	s been fully tested and pro	wen to be effective, therefore not
		possible to score at SG100).	
d	Guide	The management	The management system	The management system has a
	pose	system has a	nas a mechanism to	the legal rights created explicitly
		respect the legal rights	created explicitly or	or established by custom of
		created explicitly or	established by custom of	people dependent on fishing for
		established by custom	people dependent on	food and livelihood in a manner
		of people dependent on	fishing for food or	consistent with the objectives of
		fishing for food or	livelihood in a manner	MSC Principles 1 and 2.
		livelihood in a manner	consistent with the	
		consistent with the	objectives of MSC	
		Principles 1 and 2	Frincipies I allu Z.	
	Met?	Y	Y	N
	Justifi	Via the CFP, the European	Union management system	creates, respects, and ensures legal
	cation	rights, which are express	y created or established for	the practices of people dependant



		The management system exists within an appropriate legal and/or				
		customary framework which ensures that it:				
PI 3.	.1.1	• Is capable of derivering sustainable fisheries in accordance with MSC Principles 1 and 2' and				
		Observes the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom				
		of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood; and				
	1	Incorporates an appropriate dispute resolution framework.				
		on fishing for their food or livelihood in a manner consistent with MSC Principles	s 1 and 2			
		objectives.				
		With respect to the ICCAT, it should be taken into account that this organisa	ation has			
		developed mechanisms to provide access to resources under their jurisdiction	and they			
		concur with MSC Principles 1 and 2, and as such, this indicator could attain SG8	0. All the			
		same, it should be considered that despite ICCAT having developed suitable me	chanisms			
		to attain those objectives, they aren't formal commitments but rather stater	nents on			
		which arguments could be used when determining fishing rights allocations.				
		As such, this indicator is considered to attain SG80.				
		International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrumer	nt for the			
		International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT))				
		http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional_agreements/atlantic/iccat.pdf				
		FAO Council 1993. The Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna				
		Commission. Hundred and Fifth Session in Rome on 25 November 1993.				
		http://www.iotc.org/English/info/mission.php				
		United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (I	JNCLOS).			
		http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention agreements/texts/unclos/unclos e.pdf				
		FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries adopted in the FAO Conference 1995.				
		http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/v9878e/v9878e00.HTM				
Refer	ences	The United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United				
		Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating	g to the			
		Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fi	sh Stocks			
		(in force as from 11 December	2001):			
		http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention agreements/convention overview fisl	n stocks.			
		htm	-			
REGULATION (EU) No of 11 December 2013 No 1954/2003 and 2371/2002 and (EC) N		REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE	COUNCIL			
		of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulat	tions (EC)			
		No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations	(EC) No			
		2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC	,			
		LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing				
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	85			
COND						
COND	N NOT 1	UMBER (IT relevant):	N/A			



	The management system has effective consultation processes that open to interested and affected parties.		Iltation processes that are	
PI 3.	.1.2	The roles and respons involved in the manage relevant parties	sibilities of organisation gement process are clea	is and individuals who are ar and understood by all
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
а	Guide post	Organisations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are generally understood.	Organisations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are explicitly defined and well understood for key areas of responsibility and interaction.	Organisations and individuals involved in the management process have been identified. Functions, roles and responsibilities are explicitly defined and well understood for all areas of responsibility and interaction.
	Met?	γ	Y	γ
Justifi cationThe European Union fisheries management system has the tools availab involved parties to be represented and consulted during the decision-make As such, the Advisory Councils are organisations managed by interested provide fishery management recommendations to both the European Comm EU countries, which can include advice on socio-economic and conservatio well as the simplification of the guidelines. They discuss issues affecting th the issues and possible solutions are conveyed to the European Ur Commission.The South Western Waters Regional Advisory Council (CCR.S) covers the Atl from southern Europe and has the following missions: - To propose recommendations resulting from a consensus between the fi and civil organisations to the European Commission and the Member States.		has the tools available for all the ring the decision-making processes. nanaged by interested parties that h the European Commission and the nomic and conservation aspects, as suss issues affecting the sector, and to the European Union Fisheries (CCR.S) covers the Atlantic fisheries sensus between the fisheries sector ad the Member States. unications, Regulation proposals)		
		launched by the European The CCR.S brings together owners, producer and pro Member States (Portugal 1/3 of its members a environmental NGOs, fish Additionally, on a national associations and are repr associations. Fisheries fe forums and sector meet solutions to issues alongsi The key roles and responsi Management / ac Scientific Advice	Commission. 2/3 of the representatives of occessor organisations, and f , Spain, France, Belgium, an re from civil society (aquermen's wives, and recreation level, Spanish fishermen are resented nationally by fishin derations and associations ings when it comes to put de the regional, national, or the bilities in the Spanish fishery liministration	of the fishing sector (fishermen, ship rish market organisations) from five and the Netherlands). The remaining uaculture, consumer associations, anal fishing). The grouped locally and regionally into a federations or the large fisheries are usually proactively involved in tting forward and working on the European governments. The management process include:



		The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.			
PI 3.	I 3.1.2The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals involved in the management process are clear and understood relevant parties			is and individuals who are ar and understood by all	
		 Industry Represer Industry / NGO / S Based on the above, it can involved in fisheries are cluin the regional domain, the countries to be contracting organisation's conservation membership in recent decord The ICCAT has made it expression of the second support for contracting and support for contracting science, which second se	ntation Scientific liaison in be concluded that the ro ear, well defined, and unders e ICCAT has taken and contir ing parties, and for non-contra- tion measures. The succes rades and the high level of pa easy for interested parties for countries without capabilities helps them to be fully and e	les and functions of all the players stood by all parties. nues to take measures to encourage acting parties to cooperate with the s is shown by the increase in inticipation. to participate, and they also offer s in the areas of data management ffectively involved in their activities.	
Ь	Guide post	The management system includes consultation processes that obtain relevant information from the main affected parties, including local knowledge, to inform the management system.	The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained.	The management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information and explains how it is used or not used.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν	
	Justifi cation	The Management system the status of the fisherie parties, including local kno part. The Reform of the Co for fisheries managemen consultation process with their concerns and provid on the management tool k The consultation mechanic of interested parties for ea The European Union Advis issues of the fisheries sed management proposals fo The management system via consultation mechanis In the case of ICCAT, it con monitoring data and cate meeting every two year scientists from the contra	includes consultation proce s via technical and scientifi powledge from fishermen and pommon Fisheries Policy, appr nt in the European Union, n all interested parties and le their knowledge with the petween all parties. sms are usually used for dec ach fishery. sory Councils are the main to ctor to the European Common or consideration. means all interested parties ms or specific forums. mes from the organisation's ches from fishing activity in rs, and the ICCAT specialist acting parties) hold annual	esses that provide relevant data on c knowledge from all the involved all parts of society that wish to take roved in 2013, which forms the basis , was undertaken using an open civil society so they could forward aim of reaching the best consensus cision-making that affects the range ool for conveying the concerns and ission, as well as industry fisheries can express opinions and proposals aim of regularly obtaining data, and n particular. ICCAT holds a plenary ed working groups (comprised of technical meetings. Data from the	



		The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.			
PI 3.	.1.2	The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties			
		contracting parties and in ICCAT's advice. However, it is not clear generated in the workin making. Therefore, the ma seek and accept relevant i demonstrates consideration Nevertheless, there is not explanations provided on 100 is not met.	nput from the specialist wo that the competent gover g groups explained above anagement system includes o nformation, including local k on of the information obtaine o evidence regarding how how information generated	arking groups provide the basis for comment accepts all these opinions as commitments during decision- consultation processes that regularly nowledge. The management system ed thus SG 80 is reached. the information is considered or l is used or not used. Therefore SG	
С	Guide post		The consultation process provides opportunity for all interested and affected parties to be involved.	The consultation process provides opportunity and encouragement for all interested and affected parties to be involved, and facilitates their effective engagement.	
	Met?		Y	Y	
 Cation There are consultation processes that allow all interested parties effective in through different mechanisms of representation. The EU Advisory Councils are main mechanisms, but at a national level, the fishermen are also representations in the different forums and comechanisms, whether they are general in nature or specific to each fishery. On a national level, the Spanish government regularly meets with the sector shared interest issues and learn of their opinions on the issues that affect their There are different levels of consultation that embrace all the interested a parties in fisheries management and include the National Advisory Committee Spanish Technology Platform on Fisheries and Aquaculture UFO (Spanish Institute of Opennography) Advisory Baard 				ested parties effective involvement EU Advisory Councils are one of the shermen are also represented by lifferent forums and consultation ecific to each fishery. Iy meets with the sector to tackle e issues that affect their activity. ace all the interested and affected ector Aquaculture bry Board	
		The Consejo Asesor de M Ministerio de Agricultura, where environmental NG discuss environmental iss existing issues, and where negative aspects. Fishing a The CFP Reform process a their comments to the Gre CFP. Regarding the EU, reg their opinions about th assessment, all the stakeh	Aedio Ambiente (CAMA, Env Alimentación y Medio Amb iOs and players in the fishi ues, including those related e action measures are propo activity related aspects are di llowed all the interested part een Paper on Fishing in Europ gional committes give the op e situation of the fisherie olders are involved in the res	vironment Advisory Council) of the biente has been formed as a forum ing sector have the opportunity to to the health of the seas and the sed to try to improve the identified scussed in CAMA. ties, including the public, to provide be that formed the basis for the new portunity to stakeholders to express es. Considering the fishery under gulation of the fishery in South CCR.	



	The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties.				
PI 3.1.2	The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties				
	With regard to ICCAT, each country is responsible to define their interests of its When it comes to ICCAT, the opportunity of being a contracting Party or a non-co collaborator is open to everyone. The ICCAT has taken and continues to take mea encourage countries to be contracting parties, and for non-contracting pa cooperate with the organisation's conservation measures. The success is show increase in membership in recent decades and the high level of participation. For reasons, the team believes that the consultation process provides opportu encouragement for all interested and affected parties to be involved, and facilita effective engagement and therefore SG 100 is met.	s fishery. ntracting asures to arties to n by the all these nity and ates their			
References	International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrumen International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional_agreements/atlantic/iccat.pd REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE of of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulat No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing Council Decision 2004/585/EC of 19 July 2004 establishing Regional Advisory under the Common Fisheries Policy 2007/222/EC: Commission Decision of 4 April 2007 declaring operational the Advisory Council for the south-western waters under the common fisheries policy Council Regulation (EC) No 768/2005 of 26 April 2005 establishing a Community Control Agency and amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 establishing a contro applicable to the common fisheries policy	t for the (ICCAT)) df COUNCIL ions (EC) (EC) No Councils Regional Fisheries ol system			
OVERALL PER	ORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	95			
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):					



PI 3.	1.3	The management poli making that are consi incorporates the prec	icy has clear long-term istent with MSC Princip autionary approach	objectives to guide decision- les and Criteria, and
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
a	Guide post	Long-term objectives to guide decision-making, consistent with the MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach, are implicit within management policy	Clear long-term objectives that guide decision-making, consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach are explicit within management policy.	Clear long-term objectives that guide decision-making, consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria and the precautionary approach, are explicit within and required by management policy.
	Met?	Y	Y Y	N
	Justifi cation	YNThe main objective of the new European Union Fisheries Policy is to ensure high long term yields of all stocks in 2015 if possible, and by 2020 at the latest. A range of control and management actions are being used to that end, including fishing effort regulation, access to waters, technical measures such as minimum sizes or gear selectivity, and the imposition of TACs and quotas for the majority of the fisheries.Currently, almost all the stocks and important fishing grounds in EU waters are managed using multiannual plans, which establish the objective of stock management in terms of fish mortality and size. Some plans also establish detailed and specific route maps to achieve the objective, or include fishing effort limits to complement the total allowable catches (TAC) and specific control regulations.With the new CFP, the multiannual plans will include the objective of maximum sustainable yield and a deadline in which to achieve it, measures to apply for compulsory landings and, among other things, guarantees to apply corrective measures if necessary and a review of the clauses. Technical measures can also be included.		
		fishery objectives, which a Parties relating to the Biodiversity 2011-2020 ar Council in 2010, and cons should be based on the precautionary principle r Treaty, but also the best s When it comes to the ICCA decision making for Princi necessary evaluate and r status of the stocks and it plot the commissions ado	ed that the common fisheries policy ensures coherence with ire established in the Decision adopted by the Conference of the Convention on Biological Diversity of the Strategic Plan for ind through the biodiversity objectives adopted by the European iders the sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources e precautionary approach, which derives not only from the eferred to in the first subparagraph of Article 191(2) of the cientific evidence available. AT, their basic texts provide clear long term objectives that guide iple 1. In this way, the Recommendations 11-13 suggests how is management a stock and set the objectives depending on the ts position in the kobe plot. Regarding the quadrant within kobe	



PI 3.1.3		The management policy has clear long-term objectives to guide de making that are consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria, and incorporates the precautionary approach	cision-
		When it comes to Principle 2, the ICCAT agreement does not contain an explicit for a preventive or ecosystem based approach to management on which it form the MSC principles and criteria. However, the ICCAT REC 11-13 can also applies to from Principle 2 species such as other tunas. With other types of species such as E turtles) ICCAT is applying the ecological risk assessment (ERA). Upon receipt of ad- the SCRS, the Commission shall consider additional measures to mitigate sea t catch in ICCAT fisheries, if necessary. There is evidence that those principles are a domestic and European fishing management. Therefore, clear long-term object guide decision-making, consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria and the preca approach are explicit within management policy and SG 80 is met but SG 100 is because there is not evidence they are required within management policy within	provision as part of o species ETPs (e.g. vice from curtle by- pplied to cives that autionary not met
Refer	ences International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrument for the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional_agreements/atlantic/iccat.pdf REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNC of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC		t for the (ICCAT)) df COUNCIL cions (EC) (EC) No
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	80
COND	ITION N	UMBER (if relevant):	N/A



PI 3.1.4	1	The management system provides economic and social incentives for sustainable fishing and does not operate with subsidies that contribute to unsustainable fishing				
Scoring Issue		SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
a Gu	uide ost	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2.	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2, and seeks to ensure that perverse incentives do not arise.	The management system provides for incentives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2, and explicitly considers incentives in a regular review of management policy or procedures to ensure they do not contribute to unsustainable fishing practices.		
M	et?	Υ	Y	Ν		
Ju ca	Istifi	The objective of the CFP i and aquaculture in the co- the environmental, econo Since the 2002 review of the been stopped. Direct grad for low yields are no longer Using the new European M fishing sector provides as promote sustainable fish competitive, and knowled in MSC Principles 1 and 2. The specific objectives of the a) a reduction in the impa- avoiding and reducing by b) the protection and reco- c) the balance between fiss d) the improvement and collecting and managing of No harmful subsidies cur European Union fisheries The CFP established that incentives to operators the and which provide the allocating fishing opportu- and to provide incentives, fishing techniques with a causing less damage to the With respect to the ICCAT which through a consister All the same, quota allocating and con-	s to undertake sustainable entext of sustainable developminic, and social aspects. the CFP, the subsidies contributes or funding to increase care available. Maritime and Fisheries Funder appecial financial support for ing from an environmental, lige based standpoint, and as the EMFF include: act of fisheries on the marine statches as much as possible; very of biodiversity and aquat hing capacity and the available provision of scientific know- lata; rently contribute to unsustat framework. the Member States must pri- highest benefits to society. Inities for the Member States even financial in nature, if the lower environmental impact, the quotas are to be distribu- at allocation, develop a sense- tion is often the main source	exploitation of live aquatic resources ment, taking a balanced approach to outing to unsustainable fishing have apacity, exportation, or compensate (EMFF), EU structural funding to the the measures that contribute to efficient resource use, innovative, such, achieve the results expressed e environment, which would include tic ecosystems; le fishing possibilities; wedge as well as improvement in ainable fishing practices within the comote responsible fishing, offering ging techniques to the environment The CFP expects the criteria for es to be transparent and objective, he boats use selective fishing gear or such as low energy consumption or uted among the Contracting Parties, of ownership. of disputes. Encouraging a sense of		



PI 3.1.4		The management system provides economic and social incentives for sustainable fishing and does not operate with subsidies that contribute to unsustainable fishing				
		ownership of the quota can differentiate countries that wish to develop resources within their EEZ.				
		When managing TACs, the CNPCs can have more than their allocation using a sur	rplus and			
		this will be deducted from their quota the following year with an additional penalty of				
		25% of the surplus. However, when the catches are under quota, the shortfall can also be				
		used in subsequent years. All the same, this practice is not applicable to all regulated				
		fisheries. Therefore, SG 100 is not met.				
		International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrument for the				
		International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT))				
		http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional_agreements/atlantic/iccat.pdf				
		REGULATION (EU) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL				
Refer	ences	of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC)				
		No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No				
		2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC				
		LAW 3/2001, of 26 March, of National Maritime Fishing				
		REGULATION (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May				
		2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).				
OVER	ALL PERF	ORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	80			
COND	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A					



PI 3.	2.1	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2			
Scorir Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guide post	Objectives, which are broadly consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are implicit within the fishery's management system	Short and long-term objectives, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery's management system.	Well defined and measurable short and long-term objectives, which are demonstrably consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery's management system.	
	Met?	Y	Partial	Ν	
	Justifi cationThe management of the albacore fishery in Spain is limited to live bait and troll we regulated in article 3 of the Order of 17 February 1998, regulating the fishing of tu Atlantic Ocean to the north of 36° («BOE» of 26 February 1998). In the national there does not appear to be any short-term objectives explicit designed to ach outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2.The ICCAT basic legislation offers guidance and principles as a basis for manageme One of the Convention's objectives is to maintain stocks in their state of production. ICCAT suggests to all countries members a precautionary approach to fishery into green area in the Kobe diagram, to get a sustainable stocks. This is th behind the ICCAT establishing management measures such as TACs and fleet control. As such, there is a TAC for albacore, which is split into ICCAT set quot member agreement. Spain, as a country member of ICCAT, takes into acco objective following the Reglamento (UE) 2015/104. The TAC is implemented bi established by ICCAT. EU, as member of ICCAT, adopts the management r proposes by ICCAT but don't have a management plan with short-terms of included.				
		 When it comes to Principle 1, F_{MSY} and SSB_{MSY} are appropriate target reference points for this stock according to PI 1.1.2 and there are appropriate HCR according to PI 1.2.2. Therefore, this PI reached SG80 regarding MSC Principle 1. As such, specific short and long-term objectives to comply with the MSC Principle 2 			
		Therefore a partially score	xplicitly indicated within t e of SG 70 was raised and a co	ne lisnery's management system. ondition was established.	
Refere	Therefore a partially score of SG 70 was raised and a condition was established. Orden AAA/1307/2013, de 1 de julio, por la que se establece un Plan de gestión pa buques de los censos del Caladero Nacional del Cantábrico y Noroeste. Orden de 17 de febrero de 1998 por la que se regula la pesca de túnidos en el or Atlántico al norte de 36º norte. International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrument for International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (IC http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional agreements/atlantic/iccat.			tablece un Plan de gestión para los prico y Noroeste. a la pesca de túnidos en el océano ntic Tunas (Basic Instrument for the n of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)) al agreements/atlantic/iccat.pdf	



PI 3.2.1	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2		
	Iccat (2011) [11-13] RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT ON THE PRINCIPLES OF D	DECISION	
	MAKING FOR ICCAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES.		
OVERALL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:70			
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): 4			



PI 3.	2.2	making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.				
Scorir Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100		
а	Guide post	There are some decision-making processes in place that result in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery-specific objectives.	There are established decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the fishery- specific objectives.			
	Met?	Ŷ	Y			
Met?YYJustifi cationThere is a decision making mechanism in ICCAT that is responsible and transp are, however, weaknesses with this mechanism e.g. contracting parties ca cooperating parties have no voting rights. This means that Chinese Taipei cooperating fishing entity, can only observe. Most decisions are taken by cons than voting. ICCAT has an objection procedure that allows its contractin exclude itself from implementing a given recommendation.In relation with the UE, under Article 300 of the Treaty, the Community is re the Regional Fisheries Organizations (RFOs) by the European Commission (EC Community participates in setting up new regional fisheries organizations o member of a new one, the EC negotiates on its behalf under EU Council directives and in consultation with a committee specially appointed by the Once these organizations are in place or where the EU becomes a mem represents the EU interests within them and is answerable to them and it contracting parties for any undertakings the EU may have given. The EC consistency of its various policies within the RFOs. In relation with the obliga from participation in RFOs, the EC participates in the work of the RFOs; tra RFO's recommendations into EU regulations to implement the conse management measures adopted by the RFO.EU member countries, including Spain, must incorporate into their national le regulations adopted by the EU or it must incorporate directly the measures or their national legislation.		responsible and transparent. There contracting parties can vote, but ns that Chinese Taipei, which is a isions are taken by consensus rather it allows its contracting parties to tion. y, the Community is represented in ropean Commission (EC). Where the sheries organizations or becomes a chalf under EU Council negotiating cially appointed by the EU Council. e EU becomes a member, the EC werable to them and to the other y have given. The EC defends the relation with the obligations arising e work of the RFOs; transposes the implement the conservation and the into their national legislation the directly the measures of the RFOs in e, and generally result in measures				
b	Guide	Decision-making	Decision-making	Decision-making processes		
-	post	processes respond to serious issues_identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a	processes respond to serious and other important issues identified in relevant research, monitoring,	respond to all issues identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and take account of the		



PI 3.2.2		making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.			
		transparent, timely and	evaluation and	wider implications of decisions.	
		adaptive manner and	consultation, in a		
		take some account of	transparent, timely and		
		the wider implications	adaptive manner and		
		of decisions.	take account of the		
			decisions.		
	Met?	Y	Y	N	
	Justifi	With respect to ICCAT, Art	ticle VIII of the ICCAT basic t	exts establishes the procedure that	
	cation	regulates the mechanism	for the recommendations.	They should be based on scientific	
		evidence.			
		A recommendation can be	e proposed by the Commissi	on or a specific panel, for example,	
		and should be approved	by at least two thirds of the	he Contracting Parties. The system	
		allows any contracting pa	rty to present an objection,	, which will be analysed, but if any	
		CPNC continues to oppose	e a conservation recommend	ation, the recommendation will not	
		be binding for the contrac	ting parties.		
		The fact the party does no	t currently need to justify the	eir objection means there aren't any	
		limits on when an objection may or may not be acceptable.			
		ICCAT resolves most of the conflicts by consensus in the annual meetings. The results of			
		the decision are available. The system ensures all contracting parties are fully informed of			
		the issues raised in the meeting and are able to participate in the decision making			
	All the same, there are many meetings throughout the year that can derive in some				
developed countries not having the means to attend and take part in t		end and take part in the limited			
committee meetings. For that reason, the ICCAT ensu		res final decisions and adoptions of			
recommendations only happen during the annual plenary meeting.		ary meeting.			
The decision-making process can be considered to respond to requirements		respond to requirements for this			
indicator, integrating the scientific knowledge, the monitoring, the evaluation		nonitoring, the evaluation, and the			
		consultation processes of	the interested parties thro	ough the use of the ICES scientific	
		council and its integrated	advisory structure compris	ed of the STECF / RAC / European	
		Commission and the ACF	A. The outcomes of these ac	tivities are considered when taking	
		decisions on fisheries ma	nagement. The formula to o	calculate the TAC was changed last	
		year after scientists provid	led new data and has been a	ccepted by all parties.	
		ICCAT is making substant	tial progress under this ite	m in the joint meetings between	
		commission and scientists	. But ICCAT response is not t	imelly and not responds to all issue.	
		Decision-making processe	s do not respond to all iss	ues identified in relevant research,	
		monitoring, evaluation ar	nd consultation, in a transp	arent, timely and adaptive manner	
	0	and take account of the w	ider implications of decisions	s, therefore SG 100 is not reached.	
С	Guide		Decision-making		
	μοσι		processes use the		
			and are based on best		
			available information		



PI	3.2.2	The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision- making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.			
	Met?	Υ			
	Justifi cation	The current decision making processes in ICCAT use the best available information from different meetings and from the discussion of reports providing analysis and advice based on that information. There is an implicit precautionary approach in decision making processes, which is used in most circumstances in practice. All the same, given this approach and its use are not explicitly defined, it is difficult to assess whether it is used appropriately on all decisions.			
		ICCAT decision making processes are generally based on the best available information, and in most cases can be shown they will be based on the precautionary principle. For the specific case of albacore and considering kobe diagram of recommendation 11/13 the precautionary approach is taken into account. In addition, via the IEO Basic Fishing Data National Programme with the monitoring of landings and catch control with onboard logbooks, the scientific data for this fishery should be considered optimal for decision-making based on scientific advice. SG80 is reached.			
d	Guide post	Some information onInformation on fisheryFormal reporting to all interestedfishery performance andperformance andstakeholdersprovidesmanagement action ismanagement action iscomprehensive information ongenerally available onavailable on request, andfisheryperformance andrequest to stakeholders.explanationsaremanagement actions andprovided for any actionsdescribes how the managementorlack of actionsystem responded to findings andassociated with findingsrelevantrecommendationsandrelevantemerging from research,recommendationsmonitoring, evaluationreview activity.and review activity.and review activity.			
	Met?	Y Y Y			
	Justifi cation	The recommendations for research, monitoring, evaluation and review of activity are formally published. Similarly, the reports on the plenary sessions in the meetings are formally published and made available to the public. This official publication can be considered as ideal and is difficult to improve. In addition, all the available information for the decision making is published, meaning any interest groups can take their own conclusions, with frequent feedback from NGOs, scientists, and other interested parties. Other decisions, such as bycatch reduction, improved size composition, or establishing overall catch and effort limits, can be clearly linked to scientific reports. All the interested parties can generally access the relevant information on the status of the fishery with respect to both its technical and administrative management, as well as the available scientific data. ICES can be consulted for the annual stock assessment results and it is also possible to access the STECF and ACFA reports and recommendations. The outcome of the deliberations of the EU Fisheries Commission i also available via their communications and regulations.			



The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision- making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.				
All the reports, regulations, and recommendations on this fishery are analysed and discussed in the CCR.S, meaning all interested parties have access to most of the available data. The Spanish Government regularly convenes the sector to inform them of the resolutions and changes that affect or may affect the fishery, and they work hand in hand to find the best solution. This also means that the Government has first hand knowledge of the sector's worries and concerns. Formal reporting to all interested stakeholders provides comprehensive information on fishery performance and management actions and describes how the management system responded to findings and relevant recommendations emerging from research, monitoring, evaluation and review activity. Therefore SG100 is met				
Althoughthe management authorityThe management system or fishery is attempting to comply in a timely fashion with judicial decisions arising from any legal challenges.The management system or fishery acts proactively to avoid legal disputes or rapidly implements judicial decisions arising from legal challenges.Althoughthe or fishery is attempting to comply in a timely fashion with judicial decisions arising from any legal challenges.The management system or 				
Met? Y Y N Justifi cation There have been no recorded incidents in ICCAT of repeated violations of recommendations or regulations. There is no evidence of a lack of regulation complia among other entities, other than certain fishery companies and fishing vessels, which included on the IUU fishing list. Given that lack of current pending legal disputes and the CNPCs have not used international law to resolve disputes up to now, management system complies with both SG80 and SG100. All the same, specific fish subjected to certification will operate under national management systems, which we have to be considered in the fishing certification. As such, at a European Union level, the issues must initially be resolved thro consultations, or access to the European Fisheries Fund can be temporarily suspen until the problem is resolved in some circumstances. At a national level, the Spanish legal system is used as the main mechanism to resolve I disputes. When it comes to fishing infractions, the disciplinary procedures will invari- be opened as a result of the resolution adopted to that effect by the Delegate of Regional Government in the Spanish Autonomous Region in question. The procedures will be initiated: a) on initiative of the Government Delegate; b) through an order from a bigher authority:				



PI 3.2.2	The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve objectives, and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in t fishery under assessment.	n- e the he
	 fishing authorities or bodies; d) as a result of a request against any action or conduct that could constitute a viole; as a result of a procedure initiated by sea fishing inspectors or other goveremployees or agents The management system is subject to using a transparent mechanism to resord isputes by law: The sea fishing disciplinary procedures will be undertaken in accordance with the of transparency in the procedures. To those effects, the interested parties will have the right to receive updated dat current status of their procedures, and to access and obtain copies of the as documents. Similarly, and prior to the hearing, the interested parties could allegations and provide documents they consider relevant. Access to documents related to the concluded disciplinary procedures is governe contents of article 37 of Law 30 of 26 November. With the aim of ensuring a completely transparent procedure and the efficat government itself, and to also ensure the due defence of the accused and the int all the other parties that may be affected, each initiated disciplinary procedures in the order. A procedure initiated as such will be completed and remain the responsibili competent body throughout. The fishermen, or industry representatives can complete legal process. This transparent mechanism for resolving legal disputes is considered effective ir with most issues in the context of fisheries, although some weaknesses had detected, including the complexity of the procedure, the geographical spread and of the inspectors, and insufficient regulation of the provisional measures 	ation; rnmental lve legal principle ca on the ssociated present d by the erests of ill follow its, acts, e correct ity of the use the use the n dealing ve been diversity s during
Reference	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Basic Instrumen	t for the
	http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/regional_agreements/atlantic/iccat.pc	lf
OVERALL	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	85
CONDITIC	ON NUMBER (if relevant):	N/A



PI 3.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with			
Scoring Issue	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
a Guid post	e Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms exist, are implemented in the fishery under assessment and there is a reasonable expectation that they are effective	A monitoring, control and surveillance system has been implemented in the fishery under assessment and has demonstrated an ability to enforce relevant management measures, strategies and/or rules	A comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance system has been implemented in the fishery under assessment and has demonstrated a consistent ability to enforce relevant management measures, strategies and/or rules.	
Met	γ γ	Y	Υ	
Justi	fi The ICCAT strategies to around the registry of verapplied to countries. This is a fishing vessel recooperating parties. It is considered authorised to species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of funa and tuna-like species. ICCAT has a set of the CFP framework at an up in 2007. Its goal is activities of Member St application of the Common the publication of the common the function of the CFP (Regular in Spain, the Subdirección Pesca, which is the composed of the CFP (Regular in Spain, the Subdirección Pesca, which is the composed of the Navy, and Customs. A very large number of confidential), belonging to the Navy, and Customs. aeroplanes and boats to the Also, since Regulation (EC electronic recording and has become compulsory fishing boats, through we centres. In Spain, this da Monitoring Centre), location of the common set of the composed of the co	improve compliance of their improve compliance of their essels, catch monitoring, diplo cord based on the data press is important to note that t o fish, retain on board, tran of measures, including the pro- ecies from large-scale fishing EU level. The European Fishe to coordinate the fisheries cates, and provide assistance on Fisheries Policy. Their com- ew EU control regulation, who omote compliance of the cur- ulation nº 1224/2009). In de Control e Inspección is petent authority for MCS act int activities in this area, s forces carry out the diffe- to different law enforcement Each one has their own are undertake control measures o) № 1077/2008 took effect in reporting of fishing activities to use an Onboard Electroni which the data on each boat ta is sent to the Centro de Se atted in the facilities of the se	requisites and procedures revolve omatic pressure, and other pressure ented by the cooperating and non- he non-registered vessels are not ship, or unload tuna and tuna-like obibition of transhipping and landing vessels that aren't included in their with the agreed regulations within eries Control Agency (EFCA) was set inspection and control operational e to the Member States in their mitment has been strengthened by nich took effect on 1 January 2010, rrent regulation in accordance with s part of the Secretaría General de ivities both in sea and on land, for cometimes with support from the rent control tasks (the number is bodies: SEPRONA, the Civil Guard, a of competence. They mainly use on both land and sea. 2008, laying down detailed rules on and on means of remote sensing, it c Logbook (OEL) on the majority of 's catch is reported to the control eguimiento de Pesca (CSP, Fisheries Subdirección General de Control e	



PI 3	.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with				
		The OEL data sent via one	message a day allows for al	most immediate catch control. This		
		data can be used to control the use of fishing quotas, among other issues. In addition, boats over 15 metres long are obliged to use so-called blue or VMS				
		which allow the boat to be monitored every two hours, indicating its precise position a				
		the nature of the activity being undertaken at the time (fishing, sailing, etc.)				
		There is a list of authorised ports for landing catches, which are subject to the control				
		measures specified in the management plans.				
		A system of onboard obse	rvers has not been impleme	ented for this fishery, mainly due to		
		the low number of the dis	cards from this purse seine fi	shery.		
		The Autonomous Regions	s' roles in the managemen	t essentially involves coordination		
		between Madrid and the	AR with respect to the closu	re of the fishery and the sending of		
		sales notes to the Secretar	ria General de Pesca for colla	tion with the OEL data.		
		To conclude there is a	comprehensive monitoring	, control and surveillance system		
		implemented in the fishe	ry and is demonstrating a co	onsistent ability to enforce relevant		
		management measures, st	rategies and/or rules. There	fore the SG100 is met.		
b	Guide	Sanctions to deal with	Sanctions to deal with	Sanctions to deal with non-		
	post	non-compliance exist	non-compliance exist,	compliance exist, are consistently		
		and there is some	are consistently applied	applied and demonstrably		
		evidence that they are	and thought to provide	provide effective deterrence.		
		applied.	effective deterrence.			
	Met?	Y	Y	Y		
	Justifi	The European Commission	has the power to take Mem	ber States to the courts in the event		
	cation	of non-compliance, potent	tially resulting in substantial	economic sanctions.		
		The sanction system in S	pain is clearly developed i	n the Fisheries Law. The Regional		
		Government Delegate of t	the Spanish Autonomous Reg	gion in which the allegedly offensive		
		behaviour occurred is responsible for deciding on the convenience of initiating a				
		disciplinary procedure in light of the facts presented in the corresponding infraction report				
		prepared by the fishing inspectors. In addition, the agriculture and fishing division				
		personnel from the Government's delegate office should prepare the disciplinary				
		Royal Decree 1308/1903)	they will present the proport	sal for resolution, which will be sent		
		Royal Decree 1398/1993), they will present the proposal for resolution, which will be sent				
		infractions. In the event o	f minor infractions the Gove	ernment delegate will decide on the		
		annronriate fine / sanction				
		Article 102 of the Spanish Government Maritime Fishing Law dictates the applicable				
		quantities for each type o	f sanction. establishing a dis	tinction between those classified as		
		minor, serious, and very se	erious.			
		In the event of an infraction	on, the competent authoritie	s of the Member State will, without		
		delay and in compliance w	vith the procedure in the nat	ional legislation, notify the Member		
		State of which the accuse	ed is a citizen, of criminal r	proceedings or any other measures		
		taken as well as any defini	tive legal decision relating to	the infraction.		
		, Regulation 404/2011, im	plementing Regulation 122	4/2009, establishing a Community		
		control system for ensurin	g compliance with the rules	of the common fisheries policy.		
		Within the ICCAT framew	ork, the fines are delegate	d in the member states. The only		



PI 3.	.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with				
		collective actions with the	e penalty framework are the	inclusion of vessels onto black lists		
		or quota reductions. There is a tolerance in the discharge of +/-10% by weight, between estimated t				
		employers must point in the paper and the actual weight of the catch weight. If the percentage is exceeded, the boats are punished according to the regulations. However the				
		percentage of exceeded is very small relative to the number of discharges. But this proves				
		that the control system is effective and the sanctions are effective. Therefore, Sanctions				
		to deal with non-compliance exist, are consistently applied and demonstrably provide				
		effective deterrence and SG 100 is met.				
с	Guide	Fishers are generally Some evidence exists to There is a high degree of				
•	post	thought to comply with	demonstrate fishers	confidence that fishers comply		
	•	the management	comply with the	with the management system		
		system for the fishery	management system	under assessment including		
		under assessment	under assessment	providing information of		
		including when	including when	importance to the effective		
		required providing	required providing	management of the fishery		
		information of	information of	management of the nonery.		
		importance to the	importance to the			
		effective management	effective management of			
		of the fishery	the fishery			
	Met?	Y	Y	Y		
	Justifi	The control system is very effective hardly any cases of non-compliance have been				
	cation	reported, and as such, the	fishermen can be said to be	fulfilling their obligations.		
		 The data provided by the fishery activity can be considered essential for monitoring the albacore stock. Fishermen have to complete the onboard logbooks and the catches are compared to the sales notes in the port, as well as the landing declaration and the notifications of entry to the port. ICCAT prepares and distributes the "Compliance Annex" each year, which includes: 				
		Catch limits and m	ninimum sizes / tolerances			
		Catch statistics fr	om each Party presented t	o the SCRS for each year and any		
		review of data fro	m previous years			
		Surpluses and rem	naining quotas			
		• The guota limit	reductions each Party mu	st adopt and the dates of those		
		reductions				
		ICCAT also provides a co	mpliance table including a	summary of the issues, the CNPC		
		responses, and the measu	res adopted by the Committe	ee.		
		In general, the ICCAT cons	iders the fishermen are suit	ably compliant in the tuna fisheries		
		and as such, SG100 is reac	hed.			
d	Guide		There is no evidence of			
	post		systematic non-			
			compliance.			
	Met?		Υ			
	Justifi	There is no evidence of s	ystematic non-compliance.	During the site visit to MAGRAMA		


PI 3.	.2.3	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fisher management measures are enforced and complied with	y's	
	cation	stakeholders and the Cantabrian and Basque administration no information ex	isted on	
		common breaches were reported. Only isolated cases and mostly are due to co	mpliance	
		with the range of +/-10% in the volume of reported discharges against the logbo	ok. SG80	
		is met.		
		Reglamento CE) n° 1224/2009 del Consejo, de 20 de noviembre de 2009, por e	el que se	
		establece un régimen comunitario de control para garantizar el cumplimient	o de las	
		normas de la política pesquera común		
		Reglamento CE) Nº 1077/2008 de la Comisión de 3 de noviembre de 2008 por el que se		
		establecen las disposiciones de aplicación del Reglamento CE) no 1966/2006 del Consejo,		
		sobre el registro y la transmisión electrónicos de las actividades pesqueras y sobre los		
		medios de teledetección, y se deroga el Reglamento CE) nº 1566/2007		
		Orden ARM/3145/2009, de 19 de noviembre, por la que se regula la implantación		
		del registro y transmisión electrónicos de los datos de la actividad de los buques		
Refer	ences	pesqueros españoles		
		Reglamento CE) nº 768/2005 del Consejo de 26 de abril de 2003 por el que se crea la		
		Agencia Comunitaria de Control de la Pesca y se modifica el Reglamento CEE) nº 2847/93		
		por el que se establece un régimen de control aplicable a la política pesquera común		
		DECISIÓN DE EJECUCIÓN DE LA COMISIÓN de 19 de diciembre de 2012 por la que se		
		establece un programa específico de control e inspección de las pesquerías pelágicas en		
		las aguas occidentales del Atlántico Nororiental 2012/807/UE)		
		REGLAMENTO DE EJECUCIÓN UE) No 404/2011 DE LA COMISIÓN de 8 de abril de 2011 que		
		establece las normas de desarrollo del Reglamento CE) no 1224/2009 del Conse	jo por el	
		que se establece un régimen comunitario de control para garantizar el cumplim	liento de	
0.175		las normas de la política pesquera común		
OVER	ALL PERI	-ORMANCE INDICATOR SCORE:	100	
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):		N/A		



Evaluation Table for PI 3.2.4

PI 3.	.2.4	The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management		
Scorii Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100
а	Guide post	Research is undertaken, as required, to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.	A research plan provides the management system with a strategic approach to research and reliable and timely information sufficient to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.	A comprehensive research plan provides the management system with a coherent and strategic approach to research across P1, P2 and P3, and reliable and timely information sufficient to achieve the objectives consistent with MSC's Principles 1 and 2.
	Met?	Y	γ	Ν
	Justifi cation	The ICCAT Standing Comm of the Commission can be policies and procedures to Commission. It is an SCRS task to ensur statistics on fishery activi data on the fished stocks. The SCRS also coordinates international cooperative Commission on the need for There are species groups w and research on the sp evaluations, present their group for albacore. The SCRS adopted the 20 include a mission, a visio threats), and the plan's objectives, and strategies There isn't a specific resear were undertaken in the p ICCAT between 1990-1995 stocks in the Atlantic by of the population's dynamics the current collection met ICCAT evaluates the stock albacore stock evaluation Information from these evaluation	hittee on Research and Statistice represented, is responsible to collect, compile, analyse, are the Commission has the mittes undertaken in the Converses several national research are research programmes, for specific conservation and within the SCRS that review the pecies of interest to the Corresults, and recommend pro- 015-2020 strategic science in, a SWOT analysis (strengt guiding principles or value to achieve each goal, as well arch plan for this fishery. Ho past by different research in each environmental influence shodology and scientific analy every 2-3 years using the da was in 2013 using 2011 data valuations is enough to achie chere is an ICCAT Fisheries Su and the oceanographic fac- ings, not all P2 elements ar	stics (SCRS), on which each member for developing and recommending and distribute fishing statistics for the most comprehensive and up to date ventional area, as well as biological activities, develops plans for special assesses stock, and advises the regulatory measures. The available information on fisheries commission. They carry out stock jects to the SCRS. There is a specific plan in 2014. The plan's elements hs, weaknesses, opportunities, and es. The plan also includes goals, as quantifiable objectives. Twever a range of research projects stitutions, including the one led by powledge on the status of albacore a sets and carrying out research on es", which later served as a basis for rsis. ta from two years earlier. The latest the MSC targets for P1 and P3, ubcommittee, due to the ecosystem tors affecting the biology and tuna e considered to have been studied
b	Guide	Research results are	Research results are	Research plan and results are



PI 3.2.4		The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management				
	post	available to interested	disseminated to all	disseminated to all ir	nterested	
		parties.	interested parties in a	parties in a timely fashion	n and are	
			timely_fashion.	widely and publicly availa	ıble.	
	Met?	Y	Y	Ν		
	Justifi cation	The ICCAT working group parties through the organ The ICCAT reports are an interested parties prior to strategies with respect to It can be considered that, access nor are the resu experience. The scientific groups work on the data collected du understand the behaviou account for albacore fis	os' annual reports are publi isation's website. essential part of decision-m discussion meetings in order requesting annual fishing allo although the reports are publics although the reports are publics although the reports are publics although the reports are public although the repor	icly available to all the in aking and are distributed of for member states to deve ocations. blicly available, they are no but significant prior know s periodically publish studi catch data, which help to the studies are ta making such as quantif	to all the elop their ot easy to ledge or es based to better iken into	
		assigning quotas. For all these reason SG 80 is met but not SG 100.				
Reglamento CE) nº 199/2008 del Consejo de 25 de febrero de 2008 relativo establecimiento de un marco comunitario para la recopilación, gestión y uso de los dat del sector pesquero y el apoyo al asesoramiento científico en relación con la políti pesquera común. PLAN ESTRATÉGICO PARA LA CIENCIA 2015-2020 ICCA https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/STRATEGIC-PLAN_ES.pdf REGLAMENTO (UE) No 43/2014 DEL CONSEJO de 20 de enero de 2014 por el que establecen, para 2014, las posibilidades de pesca para determinadas poblaciones y grup de poblaciones de peces, aplicables en aguas de la Unión y, en el caso de los buques de			elativo al los datos a política ICCAT. el que se y grupos ues de la			
		Unión, en determinadas aguas no pertenecientes a la Unión				
OVER	ALL PERI	ORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		80	
COND	CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant): N/A			N/A		



Evaluation Table for PI 3.2.5

PI 3.2.5		There is a system of monitoring and evaluating the performance of the fishery-specific management system against its objectives			
		There is effective and system	timely review of the fig	shery-specific manage	ment
Scorin Issue	ng	SG 60	SG 80	SG 100	
а	Guide post	The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate some parts of the	The fishery has in place mechanisms to evaluate key parts of the	The fishery has in mechanisms to evaluate of the management system	place all parts
		management system.	management system		
	Met?	Y	Y	Y	
	Justifi cation	The ICCAT has the mecha subject them to an intern groups that regularly mee	inisms to evaluate all aspect al review system. There are t and inform the Commissior	ts of the management sys e different committees and o of their results. SG 100 is r	tem and working net.
b	Guide	The fishery-specific	The fishery-specific	The fishery-specific man	agement
	post	management system is	management system is	system is subject to	regular
		subject to occasional	subject to regular	internal and external revi	ew.
		internal review.	internal and occasional external review.		
	Met?	Y	Y	N	
	Justifi cation	The ICCAT carried out an and performs in 2009. Th management system and not occur regularly, SG100	independent review of how e ICCAT also has the mecha subject them to an internal) is not reached.	the management system nisms to evaluate all aspec review system. External re	operates ets of the views do
References		REPORT of the INDEPENDENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW of ICCAT 2009. http://www.iccat.int/Documents/Other/PERFORM_%20REV_TRI_LINGUAL.pdf REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW. PLE-106/2008 http://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Docs/Comm/PLE-106-ENG.pdf Paul de Bruyn, Josu Santiago and Lawrence Kell. SUGGESTED REVISIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS IN ICCAT. SCRS/2013/023 Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 70(5): 2058-2063 (2014)			
OVER	ALL PERI	FORMANCE INDICATOR	R SCORE:		90
CONDITION NUMBER (if relevant):			N/A		



Appendix 1.3 Conditions

	The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of	
1.1.1	recruitment overfishing	
	SG80b The stock is at or fluctuating around its target reference point.	
Score	70	
Rationale	Fishing mortality is less than F_{MSY} , the stock has been increasing in recent years with the stock being very close to SSB_{MSY} (94% of SSB_{MSY}). While the stock has been increasing and it is very close to SSB_{MSY} , it cannot be described as fluctuating around the target reference point now or as having been fluctuating around the target reference point for the last few years. For that reason the fishery doesn't meet SG80.	
Condition and	By the fourth surveillance audit, evidence must be presented that the stock is at or	
milestones	fluctuating around its target reference point.	
Client action plan	 Tructuating around its target reference point. The client will promote the adoption of management decisions by ICCAT (about the International TAC) based on a harvest control rule which will pursue achieving SSB to be above SSB_{MSY} by 2020 (with a probability of at least 60%). While the details of the HCR or TAC decision making rule promoted by the UoC may change after the next assessment of the North Atlantic Albacore, its objectives will always be to achieve B>B_{MSY} and F<f<sub>MSY by 2020.</f<sub> All years (2016-2019) letters will be sent to ICCAT, to the EU South - Western Waters Advisory Council and to the Spanish Ministry promoting the need to adopt such HCR for the management of the international fishery. The UoC, through its representative on the South-Western Waters Advisory Council will actively promote the adoption of an HCR for Albacore, seeking the support of the Advisory Council. The minutes of the Advisory Council will confirm the activities of the UoC or its representative. The client will continue contributing to ICCAT's ongoing process to adopt HCR for North Atlantic albacore fisheries management. The UoC will ask the Spanish administration to actively support the elaboration of a MSE evaluation to duly assess the efficiency of different HCRs in restoring the stock status and the fishery exploitation to within sustainable levels by 2020. This work will help ensure that sound fishery management decisions are made and implemented. Already in the first year of certification the UoC will ask the competent scientific authorities to fund a MSE for the North Atlantic Albacore. The UoC will collaborate with scientists to ensure continued availability and updating of the Spanish troll and baitboat CPUE series presented in SCRS/2013/053 and SCRS/2013/052, which covered the period 1981-2011. The UoC will also request the Spanish fund and the piper disting activities in support of the management the adalyses and ensure that the input data is o	
Consultation on	The client has consulted with AZTI concerning this condition and received a letter of	
condition	support for the objectives. Moreover, the Spanish Ministry was also informed by the	



	Client of the Condition and Action Plan There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place			
1.2.2	SG80a Well defined harvest control rules are in place that are consistent with the harvest strategy and ensure that the exploitation rate is reduced as limit reference points are approached.			
Score	75			
Rationale	Considering MSC (FAM v2) defines harvest control rule as "A set of well-defined p agreed rules or actions used for determining a management action in response changes in indicators of stock status with respect to reference points". Even though we believe the Recommendation 11 - 13 it is operational and has b used by ICCAT to make decisions on several species including albacore The te concludes that " harvest control rules are in place that are consistent with			
	points are approached" but, while ICCAT has made the right decision repeatedly on			
	northern Albacore, the rules and actions cannot vet be described as "well-defined" as			
	specified in the MSC FAM v2. Therefore SG80 is not met.			
Condition and	By year 4: Well-defined Harvest Control Rules should be in place by ICCAT.			
milestones				
Client action plan	 Though the condition is outside the client's competence, as the client shares the opinion that that the adoption of harvest control rules (HCRs) is a key aspect of modern fisheries management, several actions aiming at achieving such kind of management will be undertaken by the UoC: The client will defend the adoption of management decisions by ICCAT (about the International TAC) based on a HCR which will pursue achieving SSB to be above SSB_{MSY} (ICCAT Rec 15-04 ALB). All years (2016-2019) a letter will be sent to ICCAT and to AC.South and the Spanish ministry defending the need of adopting such HCR for the management of the international fishery. Such policy will be defended at, seeking for the support of, the AC.South (being proved by the minutes of the AC.South meetings). The client will continue participating to ICCAT' ongoing process to adopt HCR for North Atlantic Albacore. The UOC will ask the competent administrations to actively support the elaboration of a MSE evaluation to duly assess the efficiency of different HCRs in restoring the stock status and the fishery exploitation to within sustainable levels by 2020. So that the better decisions could be properly devised and selected for implementation. Since the first year the UoC will ask the competent scientific authorities to economically support such study of MSE for the North Atlantic Albacore. The UoC will seek for AZTI's development of the project "Evaluation of management strategies for template tunas and tropical tunas" funded by the Government of the Basque Country, in particular with the evaluation of alternative HCRs for this fishery using MSE methods. 			
	The above actions will be proven through letters and meeting minutes.			
Consultation on	The client has consulted with AZTI concerning this condition and received a letter of			
Public Certification Re	support for the objectives. Moreover, the Spanish Ministry was also informed by the North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery			



client of the Condition and Action Plan.



	The fishery meets national and international requirements for the protection of ETP
	species
	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and
2.3.1	does not hinder recovery of ETP species
	SG80b- Direct effects are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP
	species.
Score	
	This PI assesses that if the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to
	ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species. In order to score the direct
	effects of the fishery at SG80, is necessary to have direct demonstration that
	requirements for protection and rebuilding are being achieved.
Rationale	Based on the information gathered during the site visit and scientific literature, the
	assessment team believes that direct effects are unlikely to create unacceptable
	impacts to ETP species. However, the unacceptable impacts as SG80 shall be
	interpreted at highly likely when there is direct demonstration and quantitative
	evidence of the degree of impact of the fishery. Therefore it cannot be shown that
	direct effects are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species and the
	scoring issue is not met.
Condition	By the second surveillance, evidence must be presented to ensure that sufficient and
	adequate information on direct effects from the fishery is available to ensure the
	impacts are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts to ETP species.
Milestones	Year 1 and Year 2. The fishery shall present quantitative evidences by direct
Milestones	information of the degree of impact of the fisheries on ETP species sufficient to
	demonstrate that requirements for protection and rebuilding are being achieved. Score
	80.
	1- The client will formulate a code of conduct in which it commits the vessels
	associated to the certification to avoid any bycatch of ETP species and to record the
	incidental catches of ETP.
	2- The client will organize a monitoring system of the trolling fleet, by which any
	incidental catches of ETP species will be recorded and quantified (with the numbers
	caught daily per species – if any).
	The monitoring on the filled forms will be made by the different local fishermen
	organisations (Cofradias) in the fish markets. Collection and Verification of the form
Client action plan	The design of the recording form will be organized in cooperation with a scientific
	organization
	3. Appual reports on the incidence of general bycatch and on ETP species by the
	trolling fleet will be prepared and made available to the certifier in order to be
	analysed in the annual audits to determine if the information on hypotch is sufficient to
	determine the risk posed by the fishery. The second year a complete report of the two
	first years will be made available.
	4- In addition as an independent source of information, the UoC will require to the
	organisations in charge of the implementation of National Plans (SGPesca and scientific
	institutes) for the monitoring of their fishing activities in the trolling fleet, through an
	on board observer sampling program to assess any bycatch or accidental catches of



		ETP species, for the first two years of the surveillance, beginning in 2016, so that the
		results should be available at the end of the second year of the sampling program.
		Actions 1st year. The following information will be presented in the first audit:
		•Code of Conduct as adopted
		•Letter or minutes of the meeting where the client transmits to the vessels listed in the
		unit of certification the need to collect accurate information on bycatch interactions
		with ETP species, in accordance with the code of conduct drawn up and along with
		instructions on how to collect this information in the ad-hoc created forms.
		And documentation describing how the first year of sampling through the logbook
		forms for ETP species is being implemented.
		•Letter sent to the Competent authorities requesting a bycatch monitoring through a
		monitoring program with observers, along with the reply obtained to the letters.
		Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second audit:
		•Report on the bycatch coming from the analysis of the data collected in the ad-hoc
		created forms during the first year.
		•Conditioned to a positive reply of an authoritative body, the client will ask the
		institute for a Report on the results of the observers' survey program on by catch and
		ETP species of his fishery. Other wise and a new request will be submitted to the
		authoritative bodies for such on board monitoring system of theirs bycatch practices.
		•By the end of the second year a Report will be presented on the bycatch or incidental
		catches of ETP SPECIES coming from the analysis of the data collected in the ad-hoc
		created forms during the first and second years for the trolling fleet.
Consultation	on	The client has consulted with AZTI concerning this condition and received a
condition		letter of support for the objectives.



	Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on
	ETP species, including:
	 Information for the development of the management strategy;
	 Information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and
	•Information to determine the outcome status of ETP species.
2.3.3	
	SG80a- Sufficient information is available to allow fishery related mortality and the
	impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species.
	SG80b- Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to
- Coore	protection and recovery of the ETP species.
Score	65
	Inis PI assesses the information collected to support the management of the fishery
	impacts on ETP species. The information shall be enough to allow the fishery related
	whether the fichery may be treat to protection and recovery the ETP species and
Rationale	whether the fishery may be treat to protection and recovery the ETP species.
	Since a monitoring at sea programme to collect information on ETP species does not
	exist in this fishery at the present time neither scientific campaigns carried out for the
	trolling fleet, we conclude there is insufficient data to determine quantitatively the
	mortality and if the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP
	species. Therefore the SG80a and b is not met.
	By the third surveillance, evidence must be presented to ensure that: :
Condition	• Sufficient information is quailable to allow fishery related mortality and the
	 Sufficient information is available to allow instery related mortality and the impact of fishing to be quantitatively estimated for ETP species
	 Information is sufficient to determine whether the fishery may be a threat to
	protection and recovery of the ETP species.
	Year 1 and year 2. The fishery shall demonstrate that a monitoring program is being
Milostopos	planned to record ETP species. No changes to score anticipated at this stage.
Willestones	Vear 2. The fichery shall demonstrate that vessels are engaged in the monitoring
	rear 5. The fishery shall demonstrate that vessels are engaged in the monitoring
	interactions with FTP species. The information shall be sufficient to determine whether
	the fishery may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species. Score: 80
	The same action plan put forward for condition 2.3.1 will suffice to satisfy this
	condition provided a final assessment of the potential threat to protection and
	recovery of the ETP species is presented during the third year. So the former plan of
	actions proposed to satisfy condition 2.3.1 will be completed by the following actions
	during Year 3:
Client action plan	
	• The final report on the bycatch or incidental catches of ETP species coming
	from the analysis of the data collected in the ad-hoc created forms during the
	first and second years for the trolling fleet will be presented at surveillance
	time.
	• A scientific evaluation of the impacts and potential threat to protection and
	recovery of the ETP species of the fishing activities of the UoC will be asked to
	a scientific organization, whereby all former results from the monitoring



		system through the forms in the trolling fishery will be presented.
		• Finally the final report of the direct monitoring on-board system of the incidental catches of this fleet will be demanded to the scientific organization carrying out such direct monitoring.
Consultation condition	on	The client has consulted with AZTI concerning this condition and received a letter of support for the objectives.



	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed
	by MSC's Principles 1 and 2
3.2.1	
	SG80- Short and long-term objectives, which are consistent with achieving the
	outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, are explicit within the fishery's
Score	70
	The management of the albacore fishery in Spain is limited to live bait and trolling
	vessels, as regulated in article 3 of the Order of 17 February 1998, regulating the
	fishing of tuna in the Atlantic Ocean to the north of 36 ^o («BOE» of 26 February 1998).
	The ICCAT basic legislation offers guidance and principles as a basis for management
	plans. One of the Convention's objectives is to maintain stocks in their state of highest
	production. ICCAT suggests to all countries members a precautionary approach to hold
	the fishery into green area in the Kobe diagram, to get a sustainable stocks. This is the
	capacity control. As such there is a TAC for albacore, which is split into ICCAT set
Rationale	quotas, after member agreement, Spain, as a country member of ICCAT, takes into
	account this objective following the Reglamento (UE) 2015/104.
	When it comes to Principle 1. From and SSB, on are appropriate target reference points
	for this stock according to PI 1.1.2 and there are appropriate HCR according to PI 1.2.2.
	Therefore, this PI reached SG80 regarding MSC Principle 1.
	Regarding Principle 2 that analyses the environmental impact of fisheries and
	specifically, the impact on ETP, bycatch, and retained species, as well as the ecosystem
	and habitat among others there are not explicit and clear short and long-term
	objectives. As such, specific objectives to comply with the MSC Principle 2 requisites
	are not explicitly indicated, and therefore, this indicator scores partially. Reaching
	SG70. Therefore a condition is established.
Condition	The client is required to work actively to achieve short and long-term objectives,
	consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, that
	strategies) that requires the use of the resource to be responsible and sustainable
	The following elements can be verified during the annual surveillance audit:
	Year 1. The client shall demonstrate there is documented evidence that policy options
	based on defined objectives have been outlined and discussed with stakeholders.
	Moreover, they should work to encourage this first stage in forums and meetings and
	support it, if requested to do so, by providing information or data from the fishery.
Milestones	Year 2 and 3. All parties involved in the management of the fishery, as well as the
	scientific community, should be working to develop a specific management plan for
	this fishery with clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed
	by MSC's Principles 1 and 2.
	By the last year, there has to be clear evidence that the agreed policy has been implemented. The client must encourage this to take place and provide all possible.
	information to scientists and managers. The client must provide information on the
	existence and implementation of a management plan specific to this fishery, which is
	consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 1 and 2. SG80.



	The client will propose and agree with the vessels listed in the unit of certification a statement of principles and objectives for the certified fishery for an environmentally
	consistent with the Spanish environmental policy.
	In order to achieve those objectives a code of conduct for sustainable fishing practices will be elaborated aiming at minimizing the impacts on the serval ecosystem components such as bycatch species or ETP species.
	In order to assess the relative performance of the objectives, a monitoring system of the interaction of the fishery with the sea ecosystem components will be included. Therefore, this code of conduct will commit the subscribers to record the bycatch incidences and the incidental catches of ETP species in an ad-hoc created form to be filled on a daily basis, as follows: All the species discarded with their approximate weight. Any interaction with ETP species, with the numbers per species.
	The client would request to the scientific fishery advice community (AZTI) their support for the preparation of the ad-hoc form to be used in the collection of data on retained bait species, bycatch, and incidental catches of ETP species.
Client action plan	The monitoring on the filled forms will be made by the different local fishermen organizations (Cofradías) in the fish markets. Collection and Verification of the form being filled will be made on weekly basis by the respective Cofradía. The information recorded will be analysed by AZTI.
	The client might require to the MAGRAMA and AZTI for the monitoring of their fishing activities through an on board observer sampling program to assess the amount of bycatch, with a minimum frequency of one every two years, beginning in 2016, so that the results should be available during the following year after the sampling program.
	 Actions 1st year. The following information will be presented in the first audit: Statement of principles and objectives agreed by the associated fishermen, containing the short and long term fishery specific objectives that are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principles 1 and 2. This will include the Code of Conduct adopted.
	 Letter or minutes of the meeting where the client transmits to the vessels listed in the unit of certification the need to collect accurate information on bycatch and interaction with ETP species, in accordance with the code of conduct drawn up and along with instructions on how to collect this information in the ad-hoc created forms. Evidence of the monitoring carried out by AZTI in relation to the fleet fishing
	 activities and the information recorded as the result of the sampling program. Evidence of the scientific community (AZTI) and the management body involvement in relation to the promotion of the required short and long term objectives in the management of the fishery. The participation in forums and meetings to discuss the appropriateness of the objectives based on the information recorded by the fleet might be presented to the team to demonstrate their commitment.



	Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second audit:				
	Actions 2nd year. The following information will be presented in the second addit.				
	• Report of the degree of fulfilment of the bycatch and ecosystem interaction form by				
	associated vessels.				
	• Evidence of the need to develop (or not) management measures and a management				
	plan in the following years based on the scientific and government opinion.				
	Actions 3rd year. The following information will be presented in the third audit:				
	• Summary report on the bycatch and ETP interactions from analysis of the bycatch and ecosystem interaction forms.				
	• In event that notantial impacts are detected, this information will be promoted along				
	• In event that potential impacts are detected, this information will be promoted along				
	with the AC South, Member States and scientific fishery advice community, in order to				
	define clear objectives on how to mitigate these impacts.				
	• Evidence on the agreed policy by the scientific community of government agencies				
	and international organisations involved in the management of the fisheries.				
Concultation	The client has consulted with AZTI concerning this condition and received a				
Consultation on	letter of support for the objectives. Moreover, the Spanish Ministry was also				
condition	informed by the client of the Condition and Action Plan.				





Appendix 2. Peer Review Report

• Peer Reviewer 1

Overall Opinion

Has the assessment team arrived at an appropriate conclusion based on the evidence presented in the assessment report?	Yes/No	Certification Body Response
Justification: The assessment team has arrived at an a conclusion. The information sources used are of adequate. However, literature could have been of weight when PI2 was scored. Literature clearly bycatch and catches of ETP species are negligible observers are placed on board these vessels. In my is unreasonable to score this fishery SG 80, in indicates the opposite. In most cases either SG100 as in "not relevant" might have been more appropria PI 3.2.3 mentioned that a system of onboard obse not been implemented for this fishery, mainly due number of discards from this fishery. This should into consideration when P2 is scored.	appropriate correct and given more states that e, hence no y opinion, it f literature or no score ate. servers has to the low d be taking	The evaluation team agrees. The literature clearly states that bycatch and catches of ETP species are negligible for these gear types. Furthermore, GCB3.8.2 "[] If there are no bycatch species in the fishery, or bycatch is exceptionally rare and negligible in its impact, then the fishery would meet SG100". However most of the literature is based on data from the Pacific ocean and there is no quantitative data for the North Atlantic, therefore without quantitative information we cannot assert there is a high degree of certainly when P2 is scored.

Do you think the condition(s) raised are appropriately written to achieve the SG80 outcome within the specified timeframe?	Yes/No	Certification Body Response		
<u>Justification</u> : Keeping in mind my comment above, I do not belie condition is necessary.	eve that the	The assessment team considered a condition is necessary because there is no specific management plan and, even though the gears		
However, a management plan is needed for this fis not in place already.	ver, a management plan is needed for this fishery, if it is place already.			
I do believe that a condition should be set for the " be identified and logged so that ICES can use the in their assessments if need be.	'live bait" to information	considers SG80 is not met because there are not short and long term objective consistent with MSC Principles as stated in PI3.2.1.		



Do you think the client action plan is sufficient to close the conditions raised?	Yes/No	Certification Body Response
Justification:		
I do believe that the action plan is clearly se achievable.	et out and	



Performance Indicator Review

Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
1.1.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	References included in the table.
				(References used for the justification should be included under the PI 1.1.1)	
				Report of the 2013 ICCAT North and South Atlantic albacore stock assessment meeting (Sukarrieta, Spain - June 17 to 24, 2013)	
				https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Meetings/Do cs/2013_ALB_ASSESS_REP_ENG.pdf	
1.1.2	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	References included in the table.
				(References used for the justification should be included under the PI 1.1.2)	
1.1.3	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	References included in the table.
				(References used for the justification should be included under the PI 1.1.3)	

Public Comment Draft Report

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 198 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
1.2.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring appropriate. No references are given. Should be included in your justifications.(A framework for promoting dialogue on parameterizing a harvest control rule with limit and target reference points for North Atlantic albacore Gerald P. Scott1, Gorka Merino2, Haritz Arrizabalaga2, Hilario Murua2, Josu Santiago1 and Victor R. Restrepo3). https://www.iccat.int/Documents/CVSP/CV070_ 2014/n_3/CV070031294.pdf	References included in the table.
1.2.2	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate (References used for the justification should be included under the PI 1.2.2)	References included in the table
1.2.3	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate (References used for the justification should be included under the PI 1.2.3)	References included in the table



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
UoA1					
2.1.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
UoA2				SG100 was indicated as Yes, should be No, as	It was a mistake, it was corrected in the table.
2.1.1	Yes	No		SG100 has not been met for all retained species.	
UoA1					
2.1.2	Yes	yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
UoA2					
2.1.2a	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
UoA1					
2.1.3	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
UoA2 2.1.3	Yes	No		Rational and scoring is appropriate I do not agree with your SG80 score. In my opinion is should be SG60 with a condition attached. Live bait catches are only estimated, therefore information is not sufficient to estimate the outcome status with respect to biologically based limits. Maybe the estimates are so small that they do not have an effect, but this will have to be justified, preferably with a reference. Same as above. From the justification it appears as if live bait catch data is not available to ICES. If not, this should be addressed. Is the data of live bait sufficiently detailed to allow an ongoing assessmentof all retained species? The SG score should not be a 100 for live bait species.	The information used by the team are based in the logbooks data of the fleets and information gathered during the site visit. Moreover in section 3.4.5.1 shows a serie of data based on literature references to estimate the quantitative data of the catches and with data collected during the site visit. The conservative estimations show the impact of the fishery on the live bait being insignificant. For this reason the score met SG80. On the other hand, to be precautionary SG100 is not reached because quantitative data are not publically available. The Secretaria General de Pesca has these data and ICES advice of July 2014 on Bay of Biscay and Atlantic Iberian waters Anchovy in Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay). The reference http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/ane-bisc.pdf) states: "Live bait catches for the tuna fisheries are considered low and not included in the assessment and advice". ICES has access to this information and the assessment team believes that the rationale and the score are justified.
UoA1 2.2.1	Yes	No		The author states that there is a high degree of certainty that bycatch species are within biologicallly based limits, but then scores it a SG 80. I agree with the SG 80, but not with the justification.	The assessment team review the rational to be in line with the scoring issue. The score for the PI is SG 80.



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
UoA2 2.2.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
UoA1 2.2.2	Yes	No		I do not agree with the SG80 score. In PI 2.2.2 the author refers to the strategy "Troll fishery is considered very selective fishing method and non-targeted fish is seldom captured (Majkowski, 2003)" and a SG100 is scored. According to literature bycatch is seldom caught, so the strategy is working. Later in the MSC assessment it is stated that observers are not onboard these vessels because bycatch is negligable. If literature is to be believed PI2.22b,c,d should all score SG100 instead of SG80.	The assessment team considers that the information and literature available is broad, moreover the gear is very selective and it might score SG100. But most of the information is from the Pacific ocean and there is slight quantitative information from the North Atlantic. For that reason the assessment team decided to score 80.

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 202 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
UoA2 2.2.2	Yes	No		Based on references in the literature, live bait fishery uses highly selective gear, so catches using this gear are almost exclusively limited to the target tuna species. I do not agree with the SG80 score. It should be a SG100, because the "gear" is the strategy. It was given a SG100 score for UoA1 for the same reason. Studies have revealed that bycatch is negligable and that should count as "clear evidence", therefore PI2.2.2 should be SG100 for a,b,c and d. The point is that there is no evidence suggesting that these fisheries pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations.	The assessment team suggests the same that in the PI above. We agree that the gear is a measure in itself (SG80) but to met SG100 the fishery needs a strategy, have testing that supports high confidence and successful implementation.
UoA1 2.2.3	Yes	No		PI2.2.3 investigates whether the information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to detemine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the stratgy to manage bycatch. This should be kept in mind. Literature states that this gear is highly selective and that bycatch is minimal and therefore the information is available. PI2.2.3a should be a definate SG100. If PI2.2.3b is "Not relevant", then PI2.2.3c and d should also either be not	The assessment team suggests no changes in the scoring issue a) because there is consensus that bycatch levels are very limited such that they are effectively negligible but the public information available on bycatch levels from the fishery under assessment is limited. Regarding to 2.2.3b was mistake and the asssessment team has scored the issue. Therefore, it cannot be said that accurate and verifiable information on the catches of all bycatch species, no quantitative data are avalaible and it is a requirements to reach SG 100, but SG 80 is

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 203 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				relevant or scored a SG100.	met.
UoA2 2.2.3	Yes	No		PI2.2.3 investigates whether the information on the nature and the amount of bycatch is adequate to detemine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the stratgy to manage bycatch. This should be kept in mind. Literature states that this gear is highly selective and that bycatch is minimal and therefore the information is available. PI2.2.3a should be a definate SG100. If PI2.2.3b is "Not relevant", then PI2.2.3c and d should also either be not relevant or scored a SG100.	See the justification above for the UoA1.
UoA1 2.3.1	Yes	No		PI 2.3.1 investigates whether the fishery meets national and intenational requirements for the procection of ETP species. It futher evaluates whether the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species. The PI2.3.1c is scored SG100, but the other two as SG80. They should either all be SG80, with the reason of no observer coverage or all SG100, since enough evidence exists in literature that	The assessment team has re-written the full table because the information and rational was not fully in accordance with the scoring issues and did not make direct reference of whether the SI was fully and unambiguosly met. As a result of the MSC TO the team decided to raise a NC for PI 2.3.1.



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				supports SG100. The fact that later in the report it is mentioned that observers are not needed because it is known that bycatch and catch or interference with ETP is low, could also be considered in your justification.	
UoA2 2.3.1	Yes	No		PI 2.3.1 investigates whether the fishery meets national and intenational requirements for the procection of ETP species. It futher evaluates whether the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species. The PI2.3.1c is scored SG100, but the other two as SG80. They should either all be SG80, with the reason of no observer coverage or all SG100, since enough evidence exists in literature that supports SG100. Further, the author mentioned under PI2.3.1a "There is a high degree of certainty that the effects of the fishery are within limits of national and international requirements for protection of ETP species" and then gives a SG80 score	The assessment team has re-written the full table because the information and rational was not fully in accordance with the scoring issues and did not make direct reference of whether the SI was fully and unambiguosly met. However we keep the final score for PI 2.3.1. We would also want to point out that other similar certified fisheries scored in the same way, so we applied an harmonized criteria.



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				instead of SG100. The fact that later in the report it is mentioned that observers are not needed because it is known that bycatch and catch or interference with ETP is low, could also be considered in your justification.	
UoA1 2.3.2	Yes	No		PI 2.3.2 investigates whether this fishery has precautionary management strategies designed for minimising mortality of ETP species. There is a consensus within literature that this gear is designed not to interfere with ETP species, so either all the of PI2.3.2 is SG100 or labelled as "not relevant". There is no comprehensive strategy, because it is not needed. No monitoring is implemented also because it is not needed.	The assessment team agrees that it could be argued that because of the characteristic of the gear and based on the literature reporting experiments and field studies in other areas a score of 100 might be justified. However, as the MSC explicitly requires quantitative data, which are not available because there is no observer program, the assessment team is reluctant to score 100 and maintains the score of 80.
UoA2 2.3.2	Yes	No		PI 2.3.2 investigates whether this fishery has precautionary management strategies designed for minimising mortality of ETP species. There is a consensus within literature that this gear is designed not to interfere with ETP	The MSC defines a comprehensive strategy as "a complete and tested strategy made up of linked monitoring, analyses, and management measures and responses". The operational strategy that the Cantabrian Sea fishery maintains cannot be considered to be comprehensive. Therefore the SG100 is not

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 206 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				species, so either all the of PI2.3.2 is SG100 or labelled as "not relevant". There is no comprehensive strategy, because it is not needed. No monitoring is implemented also because it is not needed.	met.
UoA1 2.3.3	Yes	No		Based on literature there is a consensus that both bycatch and ETP species catches are negligable. Are observers really needed to confirm this? I would either score SG100 or not relevant.	The assessment team generally agrees with the peer reviewer. However, as indicated above, the available literature is from experiments or field studies in a different ocean. While a full scale observer programme is probably not needed, some observations at sea would be useful to confirm that the conclusions reached in the Pacific Ocean currently apply to these fisheries.
UoA2 2.3.3	Yes	No		Based on literature there is a consensus that both bycatch and ETP species catches are negligable. Are observers really needed to confirm this? I would either score SG100 or not relevant.	The assessment team generally agrees with the peer reviewer. However, as indicated above, the available literature is from experiments or field studies in a different ocean. While a full scale observer programme is probably not needed, some observations at sea would be useful to confirm that the conclusions reached in the Pacific Ocean currently apply to these fisheries.
2.4.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 207 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
2.4.2	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
2.4.3	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
2.5.1	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
2.5.2	Yes	No		Why would there be measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function if it has been established in Pl 2.5.1 and Pl 2.52 that this kind of fishery does not cause serious harm to the key elements of ecosystem structure and function? This should be marked as "Not relevant" There is a bit of inconsistency in the graded of this Pl. Pl2.5.2 a is scored as SG80 and all the others at SG100. This does not make sense.	The team has to score each scoring issue and whether or not is fully met. It is not possible to mark as "Not Relevant". At first, even the fishery is very selective and the ecosystem impact is negligible, for SG100a the strategy have to consists on a plan in place.
2.5.3	Yes	No		There is sufficient information available of the impact of this fishery on the components and elements to allow the main consequences for	We partially agree with the reviewer. However some elements of the ecosystem needed to be improved. The assessment team scores follows the same harmonised approach already

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 208 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				the ecosystem to be inferred. There is adequate knowledge that this fishery has minimal impact on the ecosystem. If this is the case there is no need to develop a strategy to manage ecosystem impacts.	adopted in other PI.
3.1.1	Yes	No		The author states in the last paragraph "The management system incorporates, or is subject by law to provide a transparent mechanism for resloving legal disputes that is appropriate to the context of the fishery, which has been tested and proven to be effective" If this is the case PI3.1.1b should be scored SG100 instead of SG80.	The assessment team agrees and changed the score to 90 because 3.1.1.b meets SG100.
3.1.2	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
3.1.3	Yes	No		Apparently, if SG100 is not met score should be SG80. ("partial", not allowed)	An exception in scoring is permitted only for those PIs that include only a scoring issue at each SG level. In this way the partial scored for PI 3.1.3 is allowed.
3.1.4	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
3.2.1	Yes	Νο	The outlined condition would improve the fisheries performance to the SG80, however in my view this is not needed in the first place as this fishery completely complies with the conditions in MSC Principle 2.	If SG80 is not met score should be SG60. ("partial", not allowed) I do not fully agree with the assessor regarding Principle 2. It is very clear from literature that this type of fishing has minimal bycatch and does not interfere with the survival of ETP species. Moreover, this fishery has a minimal impact on the habitat and the ecosystem, therefore I am not sure whether it would be reasonable to compile specific objectives to comply with the MSC Principles 2 requisites. This fishery in my opinion does not need to explicitly indicate specific objectives. I would score this PI as a 100.	An exception in scoring is permitted only for those PIs that include only a scoring issue at each SG level. In this way the partial scored for PI 3.2.1 is allowed. The assessment team agrees the fishery needs short and long term objetives for Principle 2 because - even there is a framework directive from EU and some Spanish regulations- the management of the fishery do not include those explicit objectives for Principle 2.
3.2.2	Yes	No		Rational and scoring is appropriate but in 3.2.2b the score states in his justification that the	There was a mistake in the table. The information was

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 210 of 251



Please PI	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Certification Body Response
				SG100 is met, but this is not indicated as the score. A score of SG80 was given.	modified.
3.2.3	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
3.2.4	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	
3.2.5	Yes	Yes		Rational and scoring is appropriate	

Any Other Comments

Comments	Certification Body Response
Why would there need to be short and long-term objectives on the regulations	As the assessment team has described throughout the PI tables the
of the environmental impact of fisheries, and specifically, the impact on ETP,	scientific literature reflects that impacts of these types of gears on ETP and
bycatch, and retained species, as well as the ecosystem and habitat if there is	bycatch is negligible, but there are no enough quantitative data from the
a consensus in literature that this fishery has a minimal to negligible impact on	fleet under assessment. Moreover, no short and long objectives are explicit

Public Comment Draft Report



the above mentioned?	within the management system.
The client has already achieved the outcomes expressed in Principle 2.	
However, if a management plan is not in place then I agree that this be done.	



- Peer Reviewer 2

Overall Opinion

Has the assessment team arrived at an Ye appropriate conclusion based on the evidence presented in the assessment report?	es Conformity Assessment Body Response
Justification: The scores awarded by the assessment team were g appropriated and well justified by the commentary in A 1 of the "Assessment of the North Atlantic albacore a fishery" and the conclusion reached by the certifier North Atlantic albacore artisanal fishery merits con- certification according to MSC Principles and Crite Sustainable Fisheries. Where scores verification is advised, as in PI 2.1.1, of the score would not affect the overall status outcome for the fishery as a whole.	The assessment team reviewed the comments from the Peer Reviewer. The assessment team reviewed the scoring table. The scoring issue a) was scored 80 for the following elements: sardine, mackerel, anchovy, skipjack tuna and bigeye. For the horse mackerel the scoring issue c) was used as an alternative because the species is outside the biological based limits. However also reached SG80. The final score for the PI is correct.

Do you think the client action plan is sufficient to close the conditions raised?	Ye s/ No	Conformity Assessment Body Response	
Justification:	In the client action plan the information that will be recorded by the fleet is identify (bycatch, reitained and ETP species). The concept		
1)A condition was raised by the assessment team since "regar Principle 2, clear short and long-term objectives for environm impact of the fishery and specifically, the impact on ETP, byc and retained species, as well as the ecosystem and habitat ar others are not explicitly included within the management syst However client's plan of action does not include the collection data on retained bait species (target and bycatch) judge	We agee with some of the comments from the reviewer. The client has included in their action plan the collaboration and follow up of the proposed objectives from the first year of action plan.		
insufficient in the Fisheries assessment conducted by assessment team.	Regarding the independent observers advised by the Peer Reviewer. The client agreed to include the possibility of carrying out a		
Peer Reviewer would advise for the inclusion of collection of data on retained bait species to Clients action plan.		minimum frequency observer monitoring onboard by scientist from AZTI. The information included in the ad-hoc form agrees with the one	
2 Jeonardon raised by the assessment learn supulates that b	yule		



third surveillance audit, short and long-term objectives for the albacore fishery, which are consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2, need to be explicitly included in the management of the fishery". Yet client's action plan envisages promoting along, information collected, with the AC South, Member States and scientific fishery advice community, only on the 3rd year and in the event that potential impacts are detected.

Peer Reviewer would advise for the involvement of the scientific community and the management body on Clients action plan from Year 1 to allow for the timely drafting and inclusion of required short and long term objectives in the management of the fishery.

3)Condition milestones stipulated by the assessment team state that in "Year 1. The client shall demonstrate there is documented evidence that policy options based on defined objectives have been outlined and discussed with stakeholders. Moreover, they should work to encourage this first stage in forums and meetings and support it, if requested to do so, by providing information or data from the fishery". Taking into account that as per defined by the MSC "stakeholders" include NGOs, Fisheries or fishery managers, Scientists, Citizens, Government agencies, etc.

Peer Reviewer would advise the Client to include government agencies, the scientific community and the management body on the discussions on the statement of principles and objectives for the certified fishery and to request their support with the creation of the ad-hoc form to be used in the collection of data on retained bait species, bycatch, and incidental catches of ETP species.

Peer Reviewer would advise the usage of independent observers to collect required information on a timely manner.

Peer Reviewer would advise for the collection of at least the following information:

a) all the species discarded with their number and approximate weight;

b) all bait species (retained and discarded) with their approximate number and weight;

3) any interaction with ETP species, with the numbers per species, interaction type and fate.

Peer Reviewer would advise the Client to organise with government agency responsible for the follow up of the North Atlantic Albacore fisheries, the IEO (Instituto Español De Oceanografía), for the verification and analysis of data collected.

Public Certification Report

referenced by the reviewer.

The Peer Review highlighted the absence of the involment of the scientics and government in the last year. Even though we considered was implicitely stated, the reference was explicitely included by the third year.

The Client has been working for long time with the Basque Country scientific research center called AZI. The fishers and vessels have cooperate in several projects and they are used to be monitored by AZTI for other fisheries such as the anchovy fishery. Therefore the Client could easily guarantees that all parties involved in the management of the fishery as well as the scientific community are involved in the process and that information collected is promoted along as per stipulated in the milestone for year 2 &3.

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery



Above actions will facilitate the timely accomplishment of condition milestones stipulated by the assessment team.

4)Condition milestones stipulated by the assessment team state that in "Year 2 and Year 3. All parties involved in the management of the fishery, as well as the scientific community, should be working to develop a specific management plan for this fishery with clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2. Engage with the Spanish government to promote the adoption of explicit short and longterm objectives in the Fishery Plan for albacore tuna, compatible with the Principle 1 and Principle 2 criteria of the MSC and support their implementation".

Nonetheless Client 3 year action plan does not foresees at any moment the participation of the scientific community of government agencies and international organisations involved in the management of the fisheries. Furthermore Clients action plan only envisages promoting along, information collected on the 3rd year of the action plan and only if in the event that potential impacts are detected.

Peer Review would advise the Client to work in association with the scientific governmental agency responsible for the follow up of the North Atlantic Albacore fisheries, the IEO. In such a way the Client guarantees that all parties involved in the management of the fishery as well as the scientific community are involved in the process and that information collected is promoted along as per stipulated in the milestone for year 2 &3.

5)Condition milestones stipulated by the assessment team state that "by the last year, there has to be clear evidence that the agreed policy has been implemented. The client must encourage this to take place and provide all possible information to scientists and managers. The client must provide information on the existence and implementation of a management plan specific to this fishery, which is consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 1 and 2. SG80". Even so Client action plan only predicts the passing along of the information with the AC South, Member States and scientific fishery advice community, on the 3rd Year and only in the event that potential impacts are detected. Furthermore Client does not explains who will be in charge of analysing data collected and of detecting potential impacts and how.

Peer Review would advise the Client to include government agencies, the scientific community and the management body to its action plan from Year 1, in order to allow for:

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery



•the independent analysis of data collected during Year 1 & 2;	
•the assessing of the need to develop (or not) management measures and a management plan during Year 2 & 3;	
• the implementation of the agreed policy in Year 3.	
Peer Review would also advise the Client to explain on its action plan how it intends to provide all possible information to scientists and managers and to encourage for the implementation of an agreed policy, if so required.	

Do you think the condition(s) raised are appropriately written to achieve the SG80 outcome within the specified timeframe?	Yes	Conformity Assessment Body Response
Justification:		
The assessment team scored 1 Performance Indi below 80 resulting in setting of a condition for the that the specified condition was appropriate. However the assessment team still needs to v allocated to scoring issues under PI 2.1.1 and to this PI meets SG80. If not a condition will need for PI 2.1.1.	cators (PIs) ese PI. I felt erify scores confirm that to be raised	The assessment team justify in PI 1.1.1 the reason why the assessment team did not issue a condition. The following statement "a condition was not issued because we the scoring on PI 1.1.3 is equivalent to having a condition", was given in the MSC Online training. Regarding PI 2.1.1 see the respond in the Overall opinion above.


Performance Indicator Review

Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	Based on the five different assessment models used for the stock assessment of the North Atlantic albacore (ICCAT-2014-SCRS Meeting Report and ICCAT-2013-SA Meeting Report) the assessment team provides adequate information to support the score of 75.	
1.1.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the statements provided by the assessment team to justify the score of 80.	
1.1.3	Yes	No	NA	Assessment team correctly justified that scoring issue b) only meet SG80, but scored it as meeting SG100. However scoring issue b) only meets SG80. Given that all of the SG80 scoring issues for PI 1.1.3. are met and taking into account that performance against the scoring issues is mid-way between SG80 and SG100, if the assessment team agrees, PI 1.1.3 should be scored 90 instead of 100.	The reviewer is right. The justification is correct but not the conclusion. The scoring issue b was changed, the evaluation result section was also changed accordingly.

Public Certification Report



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
1.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The score of 95 is justified. I agree with the assessment team that there is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place and that evidence exist to show that the harvest strategy is achieving its objectives including the rebuilding of the stock. However and as per stated by the assessment team, limited data and projections uncertainties have prevented ICCAT from conducting a full evaluation on the the performance of the precautionary harvest strategy.	
1.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	Harvest control rules are well defined for this fishery and have proven to be effective and to take into account the main uncertainties. Thus a score of 90 as judged by the assessment team seems appropriate.	
1.2.3	Yes	Yes	NA	Given that there's not yet results on work being conducted to evaluate the robustness of assessment and management to the uncertainties I agree with the statements provided by the assessment team to justify the score of 90.	
1.2.4	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the statements provided by the assessment team to justify the score of 100.	

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 218 of 251



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.1.1 / 2.1.2 / 2.1.3 Troll	fishery			
2.1.1	Yes	Yes	NA	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and none of the retained species are considered as being depleted. However there are uncertainties related to the data for these species. Therefore I agree with the 90 score provided by the assessment team.	
2.1.2	Yes	No	NA	I agree with the assessment team score of 85 for this PI and team rational detailing that the strategy in place for managing retained species includes gear high selectivity; measures implemented at international level (implementation of spatial closures) and national legislation (management plan). However, logic would require for all the measures taken into account in Scoring Issue a) to be also taken into account in the rational when acessing Scoring Issues b), c) and d) under PI 2.1.2. If the assessment team agrees I would suggest for a short discussion to be included in the justification of Scoring Issue c) to justify for the meeting of SG100 within all the elements.	The assessment team agree and a short justification was included.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.1.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the statements provided by the assessment team to justify the score of 100.	
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.1.1 / 2.1.2 / 2.1.3 Pole	and line fishery			
2.1.1	Yes	No	NA	It was noted that scoring elements from scoring issue a) only meet SG80, but the scoring issue was scored as if it met SG100. If this is correct then scoring issue a) should be scored as if met SG80 and scoring for PI 2.1.1 should be scored 75 instead of 80 and a condition should be raised.	The assessment team reviewed the scoring table. The scoring issue a) was scored 80 for the following elements: sardine, mackerel, anchovy, skipjack tuna and bigeye. For the horse mackerel the scoring issue c) was used as an alternative because the species is outside the biological based limits. However also reached SG80. The final score for the PI is correct.
2.1.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the statements provided by the ssessment team that the high selectivity of this gear its part of the main strategy for managing retained species. Further there are strong international and national regulations that constitute an adequate and effective strategy for managing live bait species. Therefore I agree with the assessment team when he scores this PI with a score of 95.	

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 220 of 251



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.1.3	No	No	NA	The assessment team concluded that this PI achieved the SG85 level. However, the justification of previous PIs 2 and the information presented in the assessement document (page 42) concerning the:	The assessment team used data availables from the logbooks of the fleets. Section 3.4.5.1 shows a serie of data based on literature references to estimate the quantitative data of the catches and with data collected during the site visit.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.1.3	No	No	NA	-lack of information on the proportion of each species used for live bait by the Cantabrian Sea albacore bait fishery and -the lack of official statistics on the total quantities of live bait species used by this fishery makes me disagree with the assessment team that the fishery mets SG 100 for scoring issue d).If the accessement team agrees scoring issue d) should be scored as only meeting SG80 since the monotoring of at least two species of the retained bait fish species (sardine and horse makerel), where considered a data deficiente and therefore can not be conducted in sufficient detail to assess ongoing mortalities. Meaning that PI 2.1.3 should be scored 80 instead of 85.	The ICES publication from the Atlantic Iberian waters Anchovy in Subarea VIII (Bay of Biscay) (http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Pu blication%20Reports/Advice/2014 /2014/ane-bisc.pdf) states: "Live bait catches for the tuna fisheries are considered low and not included in the assessment and advice". ICES has access to this information and the assessment team believes that the rationale and the score are justified.
Evaluation Table for P	2.2.1 / 2.2.2 / 2.2.3 Troll	fishery			
2.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the statements provided by the assessment team to justify the score of 80.	



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
2.2.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.2.1 / 2.2.2 / 2.2.3 Pole	and line fishery			
2.2.1	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
2.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
2.2.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.3.1 / 2.3.2 / 2.3.3 Troll	fishery			



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.3.1	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 85.	
2.3.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
2.3.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
Evaluation Table for I	PI 2.3.1 / 2.3.2 / 2.3.3 Pole	and line fishery	·		



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.3.1	Νο	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 85, based on the information presented. Nevertheless I would invite the assessement team to consult documentation from the Azores fisheries observer program (POPA) that could serve as reference on the impact of the pole and line fishing method on ETP species. The POPA is an Observer program that has been conducted, since 1998, onboard the Azores tuna Pole and line Fishery. This program collects accurate and verifiable information on the risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species by the Azores pole and line fishery. Taking into account that the Azores pole and line fishery use the same fishing method/gear, to fish similar stocks (albacore and other tuna species), in partially overlapping fishing areas (North Atlantic) the assessement team could probably use POPA reports to better access the impact of the fishery on ETP species. Please contact program coordinator Dr. Miguel de Machete (miquel@uac.pt) & consult POPA web-page: http://www.horta.uac.pt/projectos/popa	Thank you for the reference. We checked the web and we compared our results with the POPA project that shows "dolphin capture was not a bycatch problem". This reference strengthen the scoring and rational.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.3.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80, based on the information presented. Nevertheless I would invite the assessement team to consult documentation from the Azores fisheries observer program (POPA) that could serve as reference on the impact of the pole and line fishing method on ETP species.	Even the catches of ETP species are negligible and in this assessment there are data to demonstrate it, there is a degree of uncertainty without more quantitative data for the fishery under assessment. Therefore the team cannot score SG 100 and prefers maintain the scored at SG 80.
2.3.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80, based on the information presented. Nevertheless I would invite the assessement team to consult documentation from the Azores fisheries observer program (POPA) that could serve as reference on the impact of the pole and line fishing method on ETP species.	
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.4.1 Troll and Pole and I	line			
2.4.1	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 100.	



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
2.4.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 100.	
2.4.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 100.	
Evaluation Table for F	PI 2.5.1 Troll and Pole and	line			
2.5.1	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 100.	
2.5.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 95.	
2.5.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 90.	



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.1	Yes	No	NA	Note that it is NOT CLEAR from the justification if scoring issue b) has only met SG80 or also met SG100. If the assessment team agrees, the justification of the scoring of issue b) should be corrected to clearly state why scoring issue b) only mets SG80. If on the contrary scoring issue b) mets SG100 then the scoring for scoring issue b) and the respective justification need to be corrected, and PI 3.1.2 score will need to be revised accordingly.	The assessment team agrees and changed the score to 90 because 3.1.1.b meets SG100.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.2	Yes	No	NA	Justification provided by assessement team to score scoring issue b) as not meeting SG100 seems insuficient, since process by which competent government accepts ICCAT resolutions and recommendations is clear and understood by all parties and stated in ICCAT convention signed by the EU. The Assessment team should consider clarifications of the reason why scoring issue b) does not met SG100. (<u>https://www.iccat.int/Documents/Commiss</u> <u>ion/BasicTexts.pdf</u>).	The assessmnet team has corrected the rationale to make easy its understanding. It is not clear that the competent government accepts all these opinions generated in the working groups explained above as commitments during decision- making. Therefore, the management system includes consultation processes that regularly seek and accept relevant information, including local knowledge. The management system demonstrates consideration of the information obtained tus SG 80 is reached. Nevertheless, there is no
Public Certification	n Report		North Atlan	<i>tic Albacore artisanal fishery</i> Page 229 of 251	evidence regarding how the information and explains generated is used or not used. Therefore SG 100 is not met.



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.1.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
3.1.4	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 80.	
3.2.1	Yes	Yes	Yes	MSC Principle 2 analyses the environmental impact of fisheries, and specifically, the impact on ETP, bycatch, and retained species, as well as the ecosystem and habitat among others. Information supplied by the assessment team troughout the assessment made it clear that there are no explicit and clear short and long-term management objectives consistent with achieving the outcomes expressed by MSC Principle 2. Therefore I agree with the assessment team on the allocation of the score of 70 and the raising of a condition to PI 3.2.1	

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 230 of 251



Performance Indicator	Has all the relevant information available been used to score this Indicator? (Yes/No)	Does the information and/or rationale used to score this Indicator support the given score? (Yes/No)	Will the condition(s) raised improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level? (Yes/No/NA)	Justification Please support your answers by referring to specific scoring issues and any relevant documentation where possible. Please attach additional pages if necessary.	Conformity Assessment Body Response
3.2.2	Yes	Yes	NA	I don't agree with the allocation of score 85 to PI 3.2.2 since the average score for scoring issues allocated by assessement team under this PI is of 80. Note that scoring issue d) is scored to meet SG80, however the assessement team stated in the justification that the SG100 is met. Assessment team should correct scoring value for scoring issue d) to SG100 or correct scoring justification to justify not to met SG100 and revised PI scoring accordingly.	There was a mistake in the table. The information was modified.
3.2.3	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 100.	
3.2.4	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the allocation of score 80 to PI 3.2.4. However I would advise the assessement team to clarify the meaning of the expression "WIDELY available" in the justification to clarify why scoring issue b) does not met SG100.	The team has clarified the expression in the table to justify why SG100b) is met.
3.2.5	Yes	Yes	NA	I agree with the assessement team on the allocation of the score of 90.	

North Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery

Page 231 of 251



Any Other Comments

Cor	nments		Conformity Assessment Body Response				
1)	Scoring er	rors and /or errors in justifications need to be revised accordingly to provided above;	Justifications were reviewed and if applies the scoring corrections were done and rationales were improved.				
2)	Summary the correct	of scores and final principal scores need to be revised accordingly to tions done;	Summary of scores were revised.				
3)	Please also consistent	o revise final principle scores in Table 6.1 that seem not to be with the summary of scores presented.	Table 6.1 revised.				
4)	Please rep understan	hrase / re-arrange / correct the following sentences for better ding	In those paragraphs the English was improved.				
	a.	Page 46, last paragraph "As with the bycatch, the limited coverage of the observers programme because of the limited information about negative aspects about these populations derived from fishing activities. Interactions on ETP species may have occurred and either not been declared or gone unnoticed.					
	b.	Page 93, first paragraph: "Furthermore, there is no defined TAC for eastern Atlantic SKIPJACK tuna (and not Bigeye tuna) but the Committee recommends that the catch and effort levels do not exceed the level of catch in recent years.					



Appendix 3. Stakeholder submissions

Initially Bureau Veritas Certification proposed a team to assist with this assessment. During the 10 days of public comments we received from WWF a submission on the assessment team. The CAB decided to include one senior expert, Jean-Jacques Maguire to have a robust team for this fishery. The new assessment team was published in the <u>MSC website</u>.

The letter sent by WWF and the CAB response are attached:



José Luis García Varas Head of Marine Programme WWF Spain

Daniel Suddabu PP Dr Annika Mackensen **Fisheries Certification and** Livelihoods Manager WWF Smart Fishing Initiative

One of the emails sent to WWF with the justification of expert experience.







• Stakeholder Input into MSC Fishery Assessments

Contact Information Make sure you submit your full contact details at the first phase you participate in within a specific assessment process. Subsequent participation will only require your name unless these details change.							
Contact Name		Jose Luis	Last G	iarcía Varas			
Title	Mr.						
On behalf of (organisat	On behalf of (organisation, company, government agency, etc.) – if applicable						
Organisation	WWF-	SPAIN					
Department	t MARINE PROGRAMME						
Position	Head	Marine Programme					
Description WWF-SPAIN is one of the most well-known and respected international conservation of active in over 120 countries				d international conservation organization,			
Mailing Address, Country	Gran \ 28005	Gran Vía de San Francisco, 8 28005 MADRID, SPAIN					
Phone	Tel	+ 34 91 354 05 78	Mob	+			
Email	<u>ilgva</u>	jlgvaras@wwf.es					
Assessment Detai	ls						
Fishery	North Atlanti	orth Atlantic artisanal Albacore fishery					
САВ	BUREAU Granja. Al	UREAU VERITAS IBERIA. Edificio Caoba Valportillo Primera 22-24. Pol. Ind. La ranja. ALCOBENDAS MADRID 28108					
$_{\rm x}$ I wish to comment on the evaluation of the fishery against specific Performance Indicators.							

 I wish to comment on the evaluation of the fishery against specific Performance Indicators.
 A table with these indicators and the scores and rationales provided by CABs can be found in Appendix 1 of the draft assessment report.



Nature of comment (*Please insert one or more of these codes in the second column of the table below for each Pl.*)

- 1. I do not believe all the relevant information⁵ available has been used to score this performance indicator (*please provide details and rationale*).
- 2. I do not believe the information and/or rationale used to score this performance indicator is adequate to support the given score⁶ (please provide details and rationale).
- 3. I do not believe the condition set for this performance indicator is adequate to improve the fishery's performance to the SG80 level⁷ (please provide details and rationale).
- 4. Other (please specify)

Assessment Stage	Fishery	Date	Name of Individual/Organisation Providing Comments
 Public review of the draft assessment report⁸ Opportunity to review and comment on the draft report, including the draft scoring of the fishery. 			WWF-SPAIN

6 MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements, v2.0 section 7.10

⁵ MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements, v2.0 section 7.10

⁷ MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements, v2.0 section 7.11

⁸ MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements, v2.0 section 7.15



1.2.2	2	The scoring of PI 1.2.2 (90) simply does not comply with MSC requirements and guidance. Please find attached WWF CAB Advisory 001, that will posted to all CABs this month. Bureau Veritas Iberia must clearly demonstrate how, using this dichotomous flow chart, reached the score of this PI. In addition, no information is presented as required on harmonisation with other assessments such as: https://www.msc.org/track-a-fishery/fisheries- in-the-program/exiting-the-program/not- certified/st-helena-pole-and-line-rod-and-line- tuna MSC requirements for evaluating wheter or not a fishery has effective Harvest Control Rules in place under PI 1.2.2 (i.e. "audir criteria") WWF find that the audith process is quite clearly defined. MSC's HCR requirements are intrinsically auditable. We would expect to see the assessment team present evidence of Harvest Control Rules as per MSC definition "A set of well-defined pre- agreed rules or actions used for determining a management action in response to changes in indicators of stock status with respect to reference points." OAcording to the assessment, there currently are no well-defined pre-agreed rules or actions used for determining a management action in response to changes in indicators of stock status with respect to reference points. If three are well-defined pre-agreed rules or actions in place the CAB must provide objective evidence of these.	Firstly, to answer WWF we are going to use the latest MSC Interpretation on Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) distributed to CABs, 16 December 2015. 1 WWF CAB Advisory 001 outlines how WWF would like PI 1.2.2 to be scored, which is not consistent with MSC guidance. The addition of the text of Rec 11 - 13 in the report documents that there is "A set of well- defined pre-agreed rules or actions used for determining a management action in response to changes in indicators of stock status with respect to reference points." Moreover, the definition of HCRs currently given in the MSC vocabulary as WWF refers applies at the SG80 level, not at the SG60 level (MSC interpretation HCR, December 2016). 2 Harmonisation with St-Helena pole & line and rod & line tuna fishery. The CAB considers that there is no need to harmonize with this fishery. The Public Comment Report was published in October 2010 and PI 1.2.2 scored 60 for Albacore because of "the lack of a well-defined harvest control rule and lack of evidence that the contracting parties will be able to implement a reduction in TAC when called on to do so" (https://www.msc.org/track-a- fishery/fisheries-in-the- program/exiting-the-program/not- certified/st-helena-pole-and-line-rod- and-line-tuna/assessment-downloads- 1/Public_Certification_Report _StHelTuna15Oct10.pdf). As indicated above, ICCAT Rec 11-13 does provide such a harvest control rule and catches have been reduced for northern albacore. In 2013 a review of these recommendations was done and new RPs were established. Nowadays these recommendations are explicit in the HCRs.
-------	---	--	---



	3. In addition, the most recent ICCAT meeting (November 2015) formally adopted a HCR for northern albacore as described below: If the average spawning stock biomass (SSB) level is less than SSBLIM (i.e., SSB <ssb<sub>UM), the Commission shall adopt severe management actions immediately to reduce the fishing mortality rate, including measures that suspend the fishery and initiate a scientific monitoring quota to be able to evaluate stock status. This scientific monitoring quota shall be set at the lowest possible level to be effective. The Commission shall not consider reopening the fishery until the average SSB level exceeds SSB_{LIM} with a high probability.</ssb<sub>
	Further, before reopening the fishery, the Commission shall develop a rebuilding program in order to ensure that the stock returns to the green zone of the Kobe plot. b. If the average SSB level is equal to or above SSBLIM (i.e., SSB_IMM \leq SSB \leq SSB _{THRESHOLD} and equal to or above SSBLIM (i.e., SSB _{LIM} \leq SSB \leq SSB _{THRESHOLD}) and F is above the level specified in the HCR, the Commission shall take steps to reduce F as specified in the HCR to ensure F is at a evel that will rebuild SSB to SSB _{MSY} or above that level. c. If the average SSB is above SSB _{THRESHOLD} but F exceeds F _{TARGET} (i.e., SSB>SSB _{THRESHOLD} and F>F _{TARGET} , the Commission shall immediately take steps to reduce F to F _{TARGET} . d. Once the average SSB level reaches or exceeds SSB _{THRESHOLD} and F \leq F _{TARGET} , the Commission shall assure that applied management measures will maintain F at or below F _{TARGET} .



MSC Technical Oversight sent during the consultation period of 30 days.

SubID	PageReferenc e	Grade	Requirement Version	OversightDescription	Pi	CAB Comment
17407	65	Guidance	CR-27.10.4 v1.3	Table 6.1: Change P2 score for Pole and Line in Table 6.1 to one decimal place.Also, the scores in Table 6.1 for Principle 1 should be the same.		The decimal position was corrected and the table as well. P1 scoring is the same in the two UoC. The modification does not alter the final score because it was a typing mistake.
17408	79	Guidance	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	Guidance: The report states that v2.0 used, but 'available' language is not part of PI 1.2.2 at the PISG 60 level. Suggest removing paragraph from the body of the report.	1.2.2	CAB has corrected the part of the text in the rationale 1.2.2.
17410	73	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.1.2: scoring issue b: The team presents evidence to meet the SG80 level based off an interim reference point. In the report it is stated that the limit "is expected to be further tested, together with other candidate reference points" Therefore, if the reference point is 'interim' what evidence is there that it is set above the level which there is appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity? In fact, the team states in the rationake that "The risk of impaired recruitment has not been quantified." As such, the rationale presented does not appear to meet the SG80 level and a condition should be considered for this PI. Additionally, in PI 1.1.2 scoring issue a, the team references the target reference point from the stock assessment as SSB_{MSY} . However, in scoring issue b, the interim limit reference point is given as B_{MSY} . It is not currently clear what the relationship between SSB and B is, as per the interim reference point given as $0.4 B_{MSY}$.	1.1.2	The ICAAT commision establishes several reference points to maintain $B > B_{MSY}$ and $F < F_{MSY}$. If the trend of fishery is achieving this role the stock should be in the green quadrant of kobe matrix. This is the management that ICCAT establish for this type of fishery. Therefore CAB used the reference points indicated in the rationale. The interim biomass limit reference point is set at 0.4B _{MSY} consistent with robust limits recommended for a number of Pacific tuna stocks (e.g. Preece, et al. 2011). If the fishery is kept in the green quadrant, the objectives are being met and there is no possibility to meet PRI, the limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock under assessment. F _{MSY} is an appropriate target reference points and SSB _{MSY} is an appropriate are appropriate for the stock. Therefore, reference points established are appropriate for the stock and can be estimated. SG80 is met. The text has been modified to take the MSC questions into account (robust limits, risk considered very low).

Public Certification Report



17411	77	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.2.1: Scoring Issue a: The rationale presented is generic and additional detailed is required to justify the score. For example, what framework did ICCAT adopt to make decisions, and what management actions were taken in response to scientific advice? The harvest strategy appears to not be finalised so it is difficult to argue that the harvest strategy is 'designed', as required at the SG100 level. More likely, elements of the harvest strategy are in place, thus more appropriate for the SG80 level.	1.2.1	The CAB improved the rational in Table PI 1.2.1 in order to answer the questions raised in the TO report. The team believes that the HCRs are designed to score SG 100 at SGa level. The framework used to evaluate the status of the stock is the kobe matrix as we mentioned in other PIs. Therefore it is defined; even more after the Recommendation by iccat to establish harvest control rules for the north atlantic albacore stock (15-04)(see references).
17413	79	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.2.2. Scoring issue a: All the recommendations provided as evidence in the rationale appear to be relevant to rebuilding the stock to B _{MSY} . However, there do not appear to pre-agreed and well-defined rules that outline the management actions if the stock was to fall below B _{MSY} and the limit reference point approached. Management actions at specific trigger levels are required as part of a 'well-defined' harvest control rule (as per GSA2.5 critical guidance). Additionally, within the body of the report, Rec 11-13 is cited as a decision framework for HCRs for the North Atlantic Albacore stock. However, the framework within Rec 11-13 is aspirational and not currently 'in place'. Given the above, the evidence provided by the team does not meet the SG80 level for a well-defined harvest control rule (see GSA2.5). The evidence provided in the rationale appears to meet the requirement for a 'generally understood' harvest control rule (as per GSA2.5) Thus a score of 60 should be given for this PI.	1.2.2	Firstly the CAB has reviewed the table following the update MSC HCRs interpretations (December 2015). The last Annual ICCAT Meeting carried out by ICCAT defines HCR in place for this species and HCRs are well-defined. The Commision has demonstrated its commitment to embrace the management strategy evaluation (MSE) framework. http://iccat.int/Documents/Commission/Press_release_2015_EN G.pdf Regarding HCRs in the last meeting carried out in July 2015, the HCRs for this species were defined by ICCAT and the recommendation to establish HCR for the North Atlantic Albacore stock was adopted. The MSC launched a second TO in this regard. The justification and the consequence score is described in finding 16884. The team reconsidered their decision changing the score to 75 and raising a condition.



17414	79	Minor	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.2.2: Scoring issue b: Based off the ratioale provided, it cannot be said that the selection of the harvest control rules takes into account the main uncertainties. The team should elaborate on the statement "several different assessment methods." At present, rationale is insufficient to justify the score.	1.2.2	The final score in this PI is 80. CAB has explained in the rationale that the decision making framework developed and used by ICCAT (Rec 11-13 and Kobe matrix) takes into account the assessment uncertainties using 10 different assessment approaches to describe the uncertainty in stock size estimates (see Figure 7). Four very different assessment models were used: a production model (ASPIC), and age-length structured model (Stock Synthesis 3), the base case MultiFAn CL, and a Virtual Population Analysis (VPA). Several configurations of the 4 assessment models were investigated for a total of 9 alternative formulations in addition to the base case. The Team considers that the information know is enough to confirm the SG80 score.
17415	125, 126, 130, 134, 139	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	 PI 2.3.1 (Troll) SI a - Rationale here refers to AZTI observations undertaken but the other sections of the report (e.g. PI 2.2.1 for P&L) that refer to such an onboard study seem to be only in relation to the pole & line fishery only. If this is the case, it is not clear how this information can be used as evidence of no ETP interactions in the troll fishery. If it is a different study, more information on this should be provided. PI 2.3.1, SI c (Troll, Pole & Line). Indirect effects can also include tropic impacts or impacts of removal of food supply from ETP species. Although some of this is also considered in the Ecoystem Pis, it also need to be considered here. PI 2.3.3, SI a (Troll, Pole & Line). The language used in the ETP Pis at SG80 is different than that used in Retained and Bycatch. Here information needs to be sufficient to quantitatively estimate the impact of the fishery on ETP species. However, it is not clear whether there is quantitative information to estimate impact in these fisheries. One mention of a 	2.3.1	The assessment team has made corrections and edits to the Tables of the Final Report in response to the MSC comments provided above. The MSC appreciation was right. AZTI information was only for the pole and line gear. The CAB has reconsidered the rationales of all Scoring Issues and PI with the result of 2 conditions raised for 2.3.1 and 2.3.3.



				study conducted in 2009 does not seem 'sufficient'. Note Table CB24 on difference between 'information is adequate' and 'information is sufficient'. PI 2.3.3., SI c (Troll, Pole & Line). The language used in the ETP Pis at SG 80 is different to that used in Retained and Bycatch in that it is also required that the information is sufficient to 'measure trends'. It is not clear that information that would allow measurement of trends are collected for ETP species for either of these gear types.		
17416	117	Guidance	*N/A v1.3	PI 2.2.1 (Troll, Pole & Line), SI b. The 'Met?' box is listed as NA in both Pis, however they have been evaluatated but there are no main species. Therefore these boxes should be marked 'Y' for met.	2.2.1	The main bycatch species were evaluated in the Scoring Issue a. Therefore the CAB did not score Sib. However, we marked as "Y" instead of NA.
17417	82	Minor	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.2.3: scoring issue c: The information presented in the rationale deals with all commercial removals from the stock. However, given the breadth of the North Atlantic albacore stock, presumably their would be areas where recreational albacore catches are significant. Can the assessment team provide any information in regard to recreational removals, thereby allowing information for all other fishery removals from the stock?	1.2.3	The assessment team provided information in regard to recreational removals from the areas where the fishery operates. In 2014, Azti published the results of the Project " <i>Establecimiento de un sistema de recogida sistemática de datos sobre Pesca recreativa</i> " in which, during 2012 and 2013 the recreational albacore catches were around 120 ton each year. The results are however, non-significant in regards to commercial removals from the stock. The reference was added in section 7. Moreover it is important to note that the <i>Real Decreto 347/2011</i> , regulates the recreational fishing activity. The regulation set that all albacore catches need an specific authorization by the <i>Dirección General de Recursos Pesqueros y Acuicultura de la Secretaría General del Mar del Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, y Medio Rural y Marino.</i> Therefore the recreational fishery is controlled and monitored.



17418	16	Guidance	*N/A vn/a	The sentence on Basque Country landings compared to Spanish and international landings is unclear, i.e.: Basque Country represents 31% of international captures. If it's in reference to albacore landings in the North Atlantic specifically this should be added.		CAB has clarified the sentence in the text.
17419	54	Major	CR-Cl3.2.3.3 v1.3	Further elaboration is required on the harmonisation that was undertaken and the differences in scoring due to the Spanish, EU and RFMO Context. Suggest a table comparing scores between the fisheries where harmonisation with other MSC fisheries is required that highlights differences and notes the reasons for these difference.		The CAB has taken into account the information and scores of other tuna fisheries to score Principle 3. Indeed, one of the albacore team member is also part of the harmonization fishery teams. Additionally, we have prepared and included in section 4.1 a table based on comparison of actual scores.
17420	155-167	Major	CR-CB4.0.1 v1.3	Principle 3: More clarity is required on which combination of jurisdictional categories apply to this fishery. Please see Guidance GCB4.0 for further guidance on the Governance and Policy, and Fishery Specific Management System components		We completed the UoA with information of the jurisdictional category. Moreover, we reviewed the information in section 3.5 and the assessment tree tables to make sure the information is clearly described.
17421	157	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.1.1: scoring issue b: Rationale does not justify the score, more information required on how the mechanism for the resolution of legal disputes has been tested and proven to be effective.	3.1.1	The team reconsider the score given and finally SG80b do not reach SG100. Even though there is a mechanism for resolving disputes and is considered effective in dealing with most issues in the context of fisheries, some weaknesses have been detected including the complexity of the procedure, the geographical spread and diversity of the inspectors, and insufficient regulation of the provisional measures during disciplinary procedures.
17422	162	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.1.2: scoring issue c: Further rationale required to justify the score given, specifically on how the consultation process facilitates effective engagement, as ICCAT parties and members are countries and not "all interested and affected parties".	3.1.2	The Final Report has been amended to clarify how the fishery meets SG 100 in this PI. The fishery has a consultation process which provides opportunity and encouragement for all interested and affected parties to be involved, and facilitates their effective engagement. ICCAT and EU are involved in such consultation processes.



17423	168	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.2.1: The rationale does not justify the score as only ICCAT management is considered. Please see GCB4.7 stating that this PI deals only with the fishery-specific policy context.	3.2.1	The CAB took into account the Spanish and EU regulation and ICCAT framework. The rationale given in the GB4.7 the managemment of this fishery is carried out in most of case by ICCAT. The European Union decides the quotas after the ICCAT reports describibg the situation of the stocks anh how the stock is. Even though the members of European Union regulate the TAC and its implementation, the decisions is not unilateral. Long-term objectives are defined by ICCAT, for this reason the rationale was focus on ICCAT. For the reasons explained before and in the table, CAB believes the justification is correct and deals with the fishery specific context. To end, the CAB used the same line of argument than other certified and under assessment fisheries.
17424	170	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.2.3: scoring issue a: Further rationale is required for scoring issues a-c, as there is no consideration of the fishery-specific management system's decision-making processes, only rationale for decision-making at the ICCAT level.	3.2.2	The decissions which are taken into account to define the management of this fishery are defined by ICCAT. On the other hand the EU participates as a contracting party and it is a part of the decision process and its implementation. The EU monitors the management of the stocks by the allocation of the TAC, controlling the catches of target species. The EU collaborates with ICCAT developing research plans and evaluation of the stocks, etc. The EU does not participate in the decision process and even the most relevant decission are decided by ICCAT the EU has responsabilities in these decissions. The information in the Tables has been improved.
17425	175	Major	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.2.3: scoring issue a: Further rationale is required to justify the score on how the monitoring, control and surveillance system has demonstrated a consistent ability to enforce management measures/strategies/rules.	3.2.3	According to the rational explained in the table on how Spain, EU and ICCAT perfoms the monitoring and control of the fishery are enough to justify the scores. The Country is responsible for establishing the monitoring according to ICCAT demands. In this fishery, there are several measures such as vessel registration, catch monitoring, diplomatic pressure, and other pressure applied to countries to management the fishery and holds the levels of biomass in a good condition.
17426	164	Guidance	CR-27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 3.1.3: Discrepancy in scoring table (noting SG100 is partially met) and 80 score given for this PI.	3.1.3	It was a mistake, the fishery scored 80. The information was modified.



17427	11, 15, 59	Minor	CR-27.12.1.2	The UoC consists of two gear types - troll, and pole	The information referred to on page 15 is from FAO literature
			v1.3	and line/ bait boat. Are there any other gears used	limited to generalities of the North Atlantic Stock. There are only 2
				that are not part of the UoC (such as long line,	UoC defined as pole and line (UoC1) and trolling (UoC2). The
				mentioned on page 15)? Are there vessels in the	fishing activity for albacore in Spain shall be carried out only with
				fishery not included in the UoC (such as French	pole and line and trolling (Orden 17 de febrero de 1998). In
				vessels, mentioned on page 15)? Do the vessels in	addition the Orden AAA/658/2014, which regulates the longline
				the UoC also fish outside the geographic fishing	fishery for HMS lays down an explicit prohibition to direct their
				area defined in the UoC (page 11)? What other	effort to catch Thunnus alalunga in the Nort Atlantic ocean. The
				species are caught by vessels in the UoC (page 59	client operates in the geographic area detailed in the UoCsection
				states albacore makes up 89% of the catch for the	and Figure 10 and Figure 11. The information about the non
				pole and line UoC - what is the other 11%? Are the	target species are detailed in section 3.3 Principle 2 and their
				species retained onboard)? The report should	respective scoring tables. All the species are retained onboard,
				include more detail about the possibility of vessels	recorded in the logbooks and offloaded in the auction point. The
				fishing outside the UoC (this relates to geographic	Final Report has been amended to clarify these points.
				locations as well as other gear types, vessels and	
				species not included in the UoC).	
				Page 12 states the UoC is compsed of 118 vessels,	
				being 78 troll and 42 pole and line. However,	
				76+42 = 120. Also the number of troil vessels listed in Table 2.1 (page 12) is 87 rather than 78	
17400			00.07.40.4.0	In Table 3-1 (page 12) is 67 father than 76.	
17428	62	Guidance	CR-27.12.1.3	Depending on the clarification required on the	The Final Report has been amended to clarify these points at the
			v1.3	questions posed in the TO on 27.12.1.2, any risks	traceability section.
				of fishing outside the UoC should be addressed to	
				explain now substitution of certified and non-	
				certified product will be prevented. For example, if	
				species outside the OoC are retained on-board,	
				If fish from vessels, goar types or fishing locations	
				outside the LloC are landed at the defined points of	
				landing in the fishery how are these risks	
				addressed and how is substitution prevented?	
17429	15.62	Guidance	CR-27,12,1.4	Page 62 states no processing is undertaken at sea	The information referred to in page 62 is from FAO literature
	, 02	Saldanoo	v1.3	However, page 15 mentions the troll fishery does	limited to generalities of the North Atlantic Stock. We specified
				on-board processing of fish. Please clarify this	the client situation concerning the no processing activity in page
				inconsistency.	62.
				,	



17430	60, 62	Guidance	CR-27.12.1.5	Page 60 states no at sea transhipment of catches		There is a mistake in the information reffered on page 60 due to
			v1.3	takes place, but the same page also states all		error translation. The reference to Seychell was also a mistake
				transhipments take place in Spanish harbours.		because the fleet does not operates in the Indian Ocean.
				Page 62 states no transhipping is undertaken.		
				Please clarify whether transhipping occurs and how		
				any associated risks are addressed.		
				Seychellois catch and/ or logbooks are mentioned		
				also on page 60. Does this relate to the North		
				Atlantic Albacore artisanal fishery?		

Page 246 of 251



The MSC sent a second Technical Oversight before the publication of the Final Report the 29/10/2015. Bureau Veritas opened a complaint in our internal system and sent to the MSC the respond to their complaint.

MainID	SubID	Page Reference	Grade	Requirem ent Version	Oversight Description	PI	CABComment
16884	18450	75	Complaint	CR- 27.10.6.1 v1.3	PI 1.1.2: Scoring Issue b: The TO in relation to PI 1.1.2 scoring issue b that was raised by MSC on the PCDR requested that the team provide evidence that the LRP it is set above the level which there is appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity. Within the rationale of the Final Report, the team now states that, 'The risk of impaired recruitment has not been quantified, but is considered to be very low." There is no further explanation in regard to why it is considered very low, with such information required to justify the score. Within ICCAT Recommendation 13-05 it states that "As a matter or priority, the SCRS shall continue the development of a Limit Reference Point (LRP)". Given this statement and the lack of information in relation to the LRP relating to the potential recruitment impairment, it is not clear that the interim limit reference point meets the SG80 level of PI 1.1.2.		On the first point, saying that the risk of impaired recruitment has not been quantified is a factual statement, but if this is seen as problematic, the team has substitute the sentence and say: "The risk of impaired recruitment is considered very low. The interim LRP of 0.4B _{MSY} is consistent with robust limits recommended for a number of Pacific tuna stocks. In this context, "robust" means that it is a conservative limit, i.e. it is likely that further work will identify that the LRP is in fact lower than 0.4B _{MSY} . SG80 of scoring issue b says: "The limit reference point is set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity." The CAB considers that it is highly likely that the interim LRP is set above the level at which there is an appreciable risk of impairing reproductive capacity. On the second paragraph, Recommendation 13-05 stating that work should continue on the development of a Limit Reference Point, this is simply an indication that ICCAT is on the right track. In fact, once a harvest control rule specific to northern albacore has been formally adopted, it would be expected that work on the LRP would continue and that the agreed value could change in the future. This is a positive statement that ICCAT is working adequately.



16884	18450	75	Complaint	CR-	Lastly, the provided interim limit reference point of	1.1.2	On the third point, ICCAT has formally adopted the interim
				27.10.6.1	0.4B _{MSY} seems to be taken from the 2013 stock		LRP because it has used it in making management decisions
				v1.3	assessment whereby the SCRS recommended "An		in the context of a management decision making framework
					interim biomass limit reference point of 0.4B _{MSY} was		(Rec 11 - 13) consistent with the Precautionary Approach.
					recommended which is consistent with robust limits		
					recommended for a number of Pacific tuna stocks (e.g.		
					Preece, et al. 2011)." As such, it is not currently clear if		
					ICCAT have formally adopted this limit reference point.		
					Further information as to the adoption of this interim		
					reference point is therefore required. If justification		
					cannot be provided to meet the SG80 level, as outlined		
					in the MSC TO report for the PCDR, a condition should		
					be considered for this PI.		
16884	18451	82	Complaint	CR-	PI 1.2.2: Scoring Issue a: The TO in relation to PI 1.2.2	1.2.2	Following discussion within the team and with the further
				27.10.6.1	scoring issue a that was raised by MSC on the PCDR		clarifications regarding MSC HCRS we believe that the MSC
				v1.3	requested that, to justify a score at the SG80 level, the		is misinterpreting ICCAT Rec 11 - 13. This recommendation
					team provide evidence of a pre-agreed and well-defined		is not aspirational, it is operational and has been used by
					harvest control rule that outlines the management		ICCAT to make decisions on several species including
					actions at specific trigger levels. As stated in the		albacore. This comment by the TO seems to imply that the
					response to this TO by the assessment team, ICCAT is		adjudication in the Echebastar case should serve as a
					committed to the ongoing development of HCRs through		precedent for what is required. This is not the case.
					the MSE process. However, it is not clear that a well-		However, we finally decide to open a condition considering
					defined and pre-agreed HCR is yet in place for this		that the HCR cannot yet be descrived as "well-define".
					fishery.		Reference to Rec 13-05 and 11-13 is standard language in
							RFMOs. It is not reasonable to expect a Regional Fishery
					Within numerous ICCAT recommendations, it is stated		Management Organisation with nearly 50 members to
					that HCRs are in development and not yet agreed or in		formally adopt stringent HCR. Participants at RMFOs
					place. For example, within ICCAT Recommendation 13-		Commission meetings are negociators and they want to have
					05, it is stated that "the SCRS shall continue the		something to negociate about. We can expect that they will
					development of a Limit Reference Point (LRP) and		eventually formally adopt HCRs, but it will take time. When
					Harvest Control Rules (HCRs)." Additionally, within		fishing mortality is being reduced and stock biomass is
					Recommendation 11-13, it is stated that the stock status		increasing, there is the proof that the fishery is sustainable
					as represented by the Kobe plot, "shall guide the		and that management is effective.
					development of management measures". Lastly, within		
					the CAB response to the MSC TO, it is stated that at the		The team concludes that " harvest control rules are in place
					July 2015 ICCAT meeting, a "recommendation to		that are consistent with the harvest strategy and ensure that
					establish HCR for the North Atlantic Albacore stock was		the exploitation rate is reduced as limit reference points are
					adopted." Although the recommendation is not provided,		approached" but, while ICCAT has made the right decision
					the language implies that the HCR is yet to be		repeatedly on northern Albacore, the rules and actions cannot



established and that the HCR requires development.	yet be described as "well-defined" as specified in the MSC
This therefore indicates that it is not yet in place.	FAM v2. Therefore the SG80 is not met and a condition is
	raised.
The rationale presented within scoring issue a outlines a	
number of ICCAT recommendations and how they relate	
to the ongoing development of HCRs. The rationale	
concludes that the evidence provided shows there is a	
'generally understood' HCR in place. The rationale then	
states that due to the framework of Rec 11-13, HCRs	
"are pre-agreed and formally agreed at its 2015 ICCAT	
meeting." However, as outlined in the MSC TO for the	
PCDR, resolution 11-13 is an aspirational framework for	
HCR development. It is not a well-defined or pre-agreed	
HCR that is in place for the fishery. Therefore, the	
justification to meet the SG80 level for this scoring issue	
is not adequate and a condition should be drafted for this	
Pl.	



Appendix 4. Surveillance Frequency

The surveillance level has been determined following the MSC CR Requirements V 1.3. The following criteria have been taken into consideration in order to calculate the surveillance score:

Criteria	Surveillance Score	Both UoAs
1. Default Assessment tree used?		
Yes	0	Х
No	2	
2. Number of conditions		
Zero conditions	0	
Between 1-5 conditions	1	Х
More than 5	2	
3. Principle Level Scores		
>= 85	0	Х
<85	2	
4. Conditions on outcome PIs?		
Yes	2	Х
No	0	
TOTAL		3

The surveillance level (score of 3) has been evaluated as remote, following option 2. The first surveillance audit will be conducted on site in one year.

Score from CR Table C3	Surveillance Category	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
3	Normal surveillance	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit	On-site surveillance audit & recertification site visit



Appendix 5. Client Agreement



OPEGUI GIPTZKOAKO RANEDA ABRANTZA PRODUKTOBEZN ERAKUNDEA

ORGANIZACIÓN DE PRODUCTORES DE PESCA DE BAJURA DE GIPCZKOA



EDUARD BALFANO ARRAN DEGANIZACIÓN DE PRECEDE DO BALTAN DE NZOLIA DE PERCEDE BALTAN DE NZOLIA

Nein Tax, Sen - Technol (44:54:11 - 40:402" - Facilie 41:4114 - 017 - 017 (540:108) 4003 (51:00) - 40:400

Donostia, 3 de junio de 2016

Estimado Sr.:

En referencia a la propuesta de la Evaluación a presentar ante MSC para la certificación de la Pesquería artesanal de Bonito del Norte del Atlántico Norte, le comunico en nombre de OPEGUI y OPESCAYA la aceptación del informe público – Public Certification Report.

Atentamente.



Fdo.: Miren Garmendia Directora OPEGUI

Minkonsu Pasealekua, 9. 20007 DONOSTIA. Telf. 943 451782. Fax: 943 455833 @-opegai@opegai.com

Public Certification Report