Western Atlantic Skipjack Pole and Line FADs, ICCAT

Principle 2: Minimising environmental impact

Fishing operations should allow for the maintenance of the structure, productivity, function and diversity of the ecosystem (including habitat and associated dependent and ecologically related species) on which the fishery depends.

Catch Profile

Table 2.0 Catch profile for UoA Western Atlantic Skipjack, Pole and Line FADs (Note: Catch profile is not an exact match to UoA).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Species | UoA Species Catch | Proportion of Total UoA Catch | Total Species Catch | Proportion of Total Species Catch | Resili-ence Score | Minor/ Main |
| Katsuwonus pelamis | 899756 | 0.593 | 1043390 | 0.862 | 1.57 | Main |
| Thunnus albacares | 397873 | 0.262 | 511883 | 0.777 | 1.57 | Main |
| Thunnus obesus | 141479 | 0.093 | 315714 | 0.448 | 1.71 | Main |
| Auxis thazard | 43323 | 0.029 | 46451 | 0.933 | 1.29 | Minor |
| Euthynnus alletteratus | 14284 | 0.009 | 28327 | 0.504 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Prionace glauca | 2309 | 0.002 | 224625 | 0.010 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Thunnini | 2147 | 0.001 | 6962 | 0.617 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Sarda sarda | 2071 | 0.001 | 13707 | 0.151 | 1.29 | Minor |
| Istiophorus platypterus | 1811 | 0.001 | 9453 | 0.192 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Scombroidei | 1615 | 0.001 | 4409 | 0.733 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Acanthocybium solandri | 1047 | 0.001 | 7527 | 0.139 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Thunnus alalunga | 686 | 0.000 | 34983 | 0.020 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Thunnus atlanticus | 654 | 0.000 | 2398 | 0.273 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Istiophoridae | 613 | 0.000 | 1782 | 0.633 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Orcynopsis unicolor | 425 | 0.000 | 531 | 0.800 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Xiphias gladius | 408 | 0.000 | 80844 | 0.005 | 2.14 | Minor |
| Scomberomorus tritor | 391 | 0.000 | 2382 | 0.164 | 1.43 | Minor |
| Isurus oxyrinchus | 318 | 0.000 | 21469 | 0.015 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Selachimorpha (Pleurotremata) | 273 | 0.000 | 2470 | 0.221 | 3.00 | Minor |
| Scomberomorus spp | 248 | 0.000 | 420 | 0.956 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Carcharhinus falciformis | 216 | 0.000 | 434 | 0.498 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Carcharhinidae | 163 | 0.000 | 1396 | 0.233 | 3.00 | Minor |
| Tetrapturus albidus | 141 | 0.000 | 1751 | 0.081 | 1.57 | Minor |
| Canthidermis maculata | 75 | 0.000 | 75 | 1.000 | 1.86 | Minor |
| Scyliorhinus canicula | 63 | 0.000 | 321 | 0.197 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Makaira nigricans | 62 | 0.000 | 6233 | 0.010 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Sphyrna zygaena | 61 | 0.000 | 84 | 0.728 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Squaliformes | 59 | 0.000 | 614 | 0.192 | 2.71 | Minor |
| Caranx crysos | 56 | 0.000 | 60 | 0.932 | 1.29 | Minor |
| Elagatis bipinnulata | 55 | 0.000 | 58 | 0.940 | 1.57 | Minor |
| Thunnus spp | 51 | 0.000 | 133 | 0.768 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Thunnus thynnus | 44 | 0.000 | 3236 | 0.013 | 2.14 | Minor |
| Mustelus asterias | 39 | 0.000 | 39 | 1.000 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Mustelus spp | 39 | 0.000 | 169 | 0.463 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Auxis rochei | 38 | 0.000 | 783 | 0.048 | 1.29 | Minor |
| Lamna nasus | 30 | 0.000 | 392 | 0.076 | 2.71 | Minor |
| Hexanchus griseus | 23 | 0.000 | 23 | 0.996 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Sphyrna spp | 17 | 0.000 | 825 | 0.040 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Carcharodon carcharias | 16 | 0.000 | 18 | 0.873 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Alopias vulpinus | 14 | 0.000 | 233 | 0.060 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Alopias spp | 14 | 0.000 | 407 | 0.061 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Galeorhinus galeus | 8 | 0.000 | 134 | 0.063 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Coryphaena hippurus | 7 | 0.000 | 13323 | 0.001 | 1.57 | Minor |
| Sphyrna lewini | 7 | 0.000 | 106 | 0.068 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Squalidae | 7 | 0.000 | 146 | 0.093 | 2.71 | Minor |
| Squalus acanthias | 6 | 0.000 | 9 | 0.712 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Scomber japonicus | 6 | 0.000 | 6 | 0.973 | 1.29 | Minor |
| Ruvettus pretiosus | 3 | 0.000 | 242 | 0.012 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Squalidae, Scyliorhinidae | 2 | 0.000 | 56 | 0.088 | 2.71 | Minor |
| Scomberesox saurus | 2 | 0.000 | 5 | 0.510 | 1.43 | Minor |
| Carcharhinus longimanus | 2 | 0.000 | 20 | 0.112 | 2.71 | Minor |
| Ranzania laevis | 2 | 0.000 | 2 | 1.000 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Makaira indica | 1 | 0.000 | 31 | 0.048 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Carcharhinus obscurus | 1 | 0.000 | 9 | 0.140 | 3.00 | Minor |
| Mustelus mustelus | 1 | 0.000 | 562 | 0.001 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Aluterus monoceros | 1 | 0.000 | 1 | 1.000 | 1.86 | Minor |
| Gempylus serpens | 1 | 0.000 | 1 | 0.995 | 1.86 | Minor |
| Sphyraena barracuda | 1 | 0.000 | 18 | 0.029 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Sphyrna mokarran | 0 | 0.000 | 11 | 0.043 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Seriola rivoliana | 0 | 0.000 | 3 | 0.141 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Scyliorhinus spp | 0 | 0.000 | 26 | 0.031 | 2.43 | Minor |
| Scyliorhinidae | 0 | 0.000 | 34 | 0.023 | 2.43 | Minor |
| Mola mola | 0 | 0.000 | 1 | 0.319 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Mobula japanica (=rancurelli) | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 2.43 | Minor |
| Balistes capriscus | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 1.71 | Minor |
| Mobula mobular | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Carcharhiniformes | 0 | 0.000 | 187 | 0.001 | 3.00 | Minor |
| Scyliorhinus stellaris | 0 | 0.000 | 5 | 0.024 | 2.43 | Minor |
| Manta birostris | 0 | 0.000 | 1 | 0.095 | 2.57 | Minor |
| Carcharhinus brevipinna | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 2.43 | Minor |
| Tetrapturus pfluegeri | 0 | 0.000 | 533 | 0.000 | 1.86 | Minor |
| Isurus paucus | 0 | 0.000 | 691 | 0.000 | 2.86 | Minor |
| Uraspis secunda | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.485 | 1.86 | Minor |
| Pteroplatytrygon violacea | 0 | 0.000 | 10 | 0.003 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Family Exocoetidae | 0 | 0.000 | 5 | 0.007 | 1.43 | Minor |
| Masturus lanceolatus | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.182 | 2.29 | Minor |
| Rhincodon typus | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 3.00 | Minor |
| Coryphaena equiselis | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 1.000 | 1.43 | Minor |
| Belone belone | 0 | 0.000 | 2 | 0.001 | 2.00 | Minor |
| Naucrates ductor | 0 | 0.000 | 0 | 0.004 | 1.57 | Minor |

2.1 Primary Species

P.2.1.1 Outcome Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.1.a Main primary species stock status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Main primary species are **likely** to be above the PRI OR If the species is below the PRI, the UoA has measures in place that are **expected** to ensure that the UoA does not hinder recovery and rebuilding. | Main primary species are **highly likely** to be above the PRI OR If the species is below the PRI, there is either **evidence of recovery** or a demonstrably effective strategy in place **between all MSC UoAs which categorise this species as main**, to ensure that they collectively do not hinder recovery and rebuilding. | There is a **high degree of certainty** that main primary species are above PRI **and are** fluctuating around a level consistent with MSY. |

Table 2.1.1 Main primary species status.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Species/ Stock | MSC Score | Justification |
| Yellowfin tuna  Thunnus albacares  Atlantic Yellowfin | 80 | The species is 'main' because the catch percentage (26%) is greater than the requirement (5%).  A full stock assessment was conducted for yellowfin tuna in 2016, using available catch data through 2014. The best estimate of stock size indicates that the stock is approximately 95% (71-136% CI) of the BMSY level in 2014, which points out the stock is in a slightly overfished state. The default value for the PRI is taken here to be 50% of the BMSY level so there is at least a 90% probability that the true status of the stock is higher than the point at which there is an appreciable risk of recruitment being impaired, so the status will meet SG80. Furthermore, the median estimate of fishing mortality, represented as F2014/FMSY, is estimated at 0.77 (95% CI 0.53–1.05), indicating that overfishing is not occurring in this case.  Projections conducted in 2016 considered that the maintaining of catch levels at the current TAC would maintain healthy stock status (B>BMSY, F<FMSY) through 2024 with at least 68% probability, increasing to 97% by 2024. However, the results also indicated that the actual 2016 catches were above MSY reference point and above the adopted catch limit, so in practice the stock might be expected to decline. Therefore, it is not possible at this point to state that the stock is fluctuating around BMSY so SG100 is not met.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_YFT" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (78%). |
| Bigeye tuna  Thunnus obesus  Atlantic Bigeye | 60 | The species is 'main' because the catch percentage (9%) is greater than the requirement (5%).  The last stock assessment was conducted in 2015 and gave more pessimistic results overall than the 2010 assessment. The results estimated that the stock relative biomass (B2014/BMSY) at 0.67 (90% CI 0.48–1.20) suggesting that bigeye stock in the Atlantic Ocean is in an overfished state. The relative fishing mortality (F2014/FMSY) was estimated at 1.28 (range: 0.62–1.85) indicating that overfishing is occurring.  This situation indicates that the stock was approximately 67% of the BMSY level in 2014, which is above the point where recruitment would be impaired (the default value for this is approximately 50% of the BMSY level). Also, probability analysis conducted in the most recent assessment indicated that there may be close to an 80% probability that the stock was above ½ BMSY. But there was also greater than an 80% probability that B/BMSY is less than 1. Additionally, there is considerable uncertainty as to where recruitment would be impaired. If the level at which recruitment is impaired was known more certainly to be ½ BMSY then this would marginally meet SG80.  Additionally, it is important to note that although current catches (~72,400 t in 2016) are below the estimate of MSY (78,800 t), they are above the TAC of 65,000 t recommended by the SCRS to recover the stock status with 49% probability by 2028. Therefore, catches maintained at current levels are not likely to allow the stock to rise above BMSY.  Given the additional uncertainties and that the stock is likely to have continued to decline since 2014, it can only be said that stock biomass is likely to be above the level where recruitment is impaired. Therefore, this meets SG60 but does not meet SG80.  [The PSA score is 2.89.](#T_BET" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (45%). |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.1.b Minor primary species stock status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  |  | For minor species that are below the PRI, there is evidence that the UoA does not hinder the recovery and rebuilding of minor primary species. |

Table 2.1.1 Minor primary species status.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Species/ Stock | MSC Score | Justification |
| Frigate tuna  Auxis thazard  Atlantic Frigate Tuna | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (3%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The population has not been assessed. Most catch is taken by purse seiners as bycatch, although this species is also caught by pole and line, gillnet, mid-water trawls, handline and longline. No direct measures have been adopted by ICCAT.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.66.](#T_FRI" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (93%). |
| Little tunny(=Atl.black skipj)  Euthynnus alletteratus | 83 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (1%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.55.](#T_LTA" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (50%). |
| Blue shark  Prionace glauca  North Atlantic Blue Shark | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The status of North Atlantic blue shark stocks was assessed in 2015, using catch and effort data up to 2013. For the North Atlantic stock, estimated biomass and fishing mortality were above and below the levels that would result in the MSY respectively (B2013/BMSY=1.50–1.96; (F2013/FMSY=0.04–0.50). Overall, assessment results are uncertain (e.g. the level of absolute abundance varied by an order of magnitude between models with different structures) and should be interpreted with caution. Therefore, it is highly likely that the stock is above the PRI, meeting SG80, but not with a high degree of certainty so SG100 is not met.  The PSA score is 3.42.  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Blue shark  Prionace glauca  South Atlantic Blue Shark | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The status of South Atlantic blue shark stocks was assessed in 2015, using catch and effort data up to 2013. For the South Atlantic stock, estimates of stock biomass indicated current levels are above the MSY level (SB2013/SBMSY = 1.96 to 2.03) and fishing mortality below FMSY (F2013/FMSY = 0.01–0.11) although there are other possible scenarios where estimates are much less optimistic, predicting that the stock could be overfished (B2013/BMSY = 0.78–1.29) and that overfishing could be occurring (F2013/FMSY = 0.54–1.19).  Overall, assessment results are uncertain (e.g. level of absolute abundance varied by an order of magnitude between models with different structures) and should be interpreted with caution. Therefore, it is highly likely that the stock is above the PRI, meeting SG80, but not with a high degree of certainty so SG100 is not met.  [The PSA score is 3.42.](#T_BSH" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Atlantic bonito  Sarda sarda | 90 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.27.](#T_BON" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (15%). |
| Indo-Pacific sailfish  Istiophorus platypterus  Atlantic Sailfish | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  In the Atlantic Ocean, this species (*Istiophorus platypterus*) is treated as synonymous with *I. albicans*. The assessment of both the eastern and western Atlantic stocks conducted in 2009 resulted in considerable uncertainty that still remains in the 2016 update.  Examination of trends in abundance suggests that both the eastern and western stocks have declined markedly since the 1970s, suffering their greatest declines in abundance in the early 1990s. After that, for the eastern stock, catches appear to have declined substantially since 2010. However, models disagree over whether or not overfishing is occurring and whether the stock is recovering. For the western one, the assessment models agreed on MSY estimates between 1,200-1,400 t. Although current catches are well below this level, it is possible that the biomass is below BMSY, in which case overfishing could be occurring.  The assessment concludes that both the East and West Atlantic stocks may be overfished and subject to overfishing, with more pessimistic results for the eastern stock. The assessment did not find that it was likely that stocks were above their PRI in 2008 or in 2016, so SG60 is not met.  Longline catches greatly exceed other fishing gears, followed by gillnet fisheries. No direct measures have been adopted by ICCAT.  [The PSA score is 2.54.](#T_SFA" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (19%). |
| Wahoo  Acanthocybium solandri  Atlantic Wahoo | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  Wahoo makes up a small proportion of “small tuna” catches in the Atlantic Ocean. No assessment has been conducted due to a lack of data. Wahoo are exploited mainly by coastal fisheries and often by artisanal fisheries, although substantial catches are also made, either as target species or as bycatch, by purse seiners, mid-water trawlers, handlines, troll, driftnets, long-lines and gillnets. Several recreational fisheries also catch wahoo. The highest annual average catch is by handline, troll and longline fisheries.  The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) considers the Atlantic population a population of Least Concern, indicating that there is no evidence to suggest populations are declining overall; although local decreases in abundance might have occurred No direct measures have been adopted by ICCAT.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.89.](#T_WAH" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (14%). |
| Albacore  Thunnus alalunga  South Atlantic Albacore | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  In 2016, a stock assessment of South Atlantic albacore was conducted including catch, effort and size data up until 2014, and considering similar methods as in the previous assessment. The median estimate of stock size indicates that the stock is above but close the BMSY level (B2015/BMSY = 1.10; 95% CI 0.51–1.80) and the median estimate of fishing mortality, represented as F2014/FMSY, is 0.54 (95% CI 0.31–0.87). The overall analysis gave more optimistic results than the previous assessment indicating the stock is not overfished, and overfishing is not occurring. However, the wide confidence intervals reflect large uncertainty. Therefore, it is highly likely that the stock is above its PRI, but not with a high degree of certainty, meeting SG80.  The PSA score is 2.54.  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (2%). |
| Albacore  Thunnus alalunga  North Atlantic Albacore | 100 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The most recent assessment for the North Atlantic albacore stock was conducted in 2016 which included data through 2014. Results indicated that the stock has recovered from biomass reductions several decades ago is not in an overfished state, such that estimated biomass is greater than BMSY (B2015/BMSY)=1.36 (95% CI 1.05–1.78). Moreover, the fishing mortality represented as F2014/FMSY is estimated at 0.54 (95% CI 0.35–0.72) thus, stock overfishing is not occurring either.  The 80% bootstrap confidence interval excludes 50% BMSY by a very wide margin, which would indicate that there is a high degree of certainty that recruitment is not being impaired.  Although the assessment report noted that the exact condition of the stock is not well determined, the probability of the stock being above BMSY and below FMSY is 96.8% fulfilling the high degree of certainty that the stock has been fluctuating around a level consistent with MSY. Therefore, SG100 is met.  [The PSA score is 2.54.](#T_ALB" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (2%). |
| Blackfin tuna  Thunnus atlanticus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.89.](#T_BLF" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (27%). |
| Swordfish  Xiphias gladius  North Atlantic Swordfish | 100 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  Stock assessments were conducted in 2013 and were updated in 2017, using the dataset available up to 2015 (CPUE and Catch). For the North Atlantic swordfish stock, the current assessment (2017) results indicated that the rate of recovery has been much slower compared to the 2013 results, although by 2015 all formulations agreed in that the stock biomass is above BMSY, and the fishing mortality is below FMSY. Terminal year (2015) values for B/BMSY were 1.13 (95% CI 0.81–1.45) and those for F/FMSY were 0.75 (95% CI 0.57–0.92) thus, the stock is not overfished, and overfishing is not occurring. The estimates of total yield at MSY was 12,708t (12,175–13,240t). The estimate of fishing mortality at MSY was 0.17 (95% CI 0.14–0.21). Therefore, the stock is highly likely above the PRI and is likely fluctuating around MSY or increasing. This meets SG100.  The PSA score is 2.85.  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Swordfish  Xiphias gladius  South Atlantic Swordfish | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  Stock assessments were conducted in 2013 and were updated in 2017, using the dataset available up to 2015 (CPUE and Catch). For the South Atlantic stock, the results of the two models used estimated that current biomass (B2015) was lower than BMSY and fishing mortality (F2015) was higher than or very close to FMSY. Both models agreed that the southern swordfish stock biomass is overfished, and that overfishing is either occurring or current fishing mortality is very close to FMSY.  Thus, the stocks are considered most likely around MSY in recent years, which would imply it is highly likely that the stocks are above the PRI but not with a high degree of certainty and the stock is not fluctuating around MSY so SG100 is not met.  [The PSA score is 2.85.](#T_SWO" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Atlantic white marlin  Tetrapturus albidus  Atlantic White Marlin | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The most recent assessment for white marlin in the Atlantic Ocean was conducted in 2012 and included data up to 2010. The results indicated that the stock remains overfished (B2010/BMSY = 0.32, 95% CI 0.23–0.41) but most likely not undergoing overfishing (F2010/FMSY = 0.72, 90% CI 0.51-0.93). However, there is considerable uncertainty in the assessment. because of the possibility that reported catches underestimate fishing mortality and the lack of certainty in the productivity of the stock. As a result, forecasts of how the stock will respond to different levels of catch are uncertain.  In the Atlantic Ocean, around 90% of catches are taken by longline fisheries, but also by pole and line, purse seiner, recreational and some artisanal fisheries targeting marlins. In 2012, Rec 12-04 established a TAC for 2013, 2014, and 2015 of 400 t and placed a additional catch and commerce restrictions in recreational fisheries, and requested methods for estimating live and dead discards of this species.  Therefore, although it is likely that the stock is currently above the point where recruitment will be impaired, it is not highly likely, so only SG60 is met.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_WHM" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (8%). |
| Blue Marlin  Makaira nigricans  Atlantic Blue Marlin | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The most recent assessment for blue marlin was conducted in 2011, using fishery data up to 2009. The results indicated that the stock remains overfished and undergoing overfishing. In 2006 assessment, results indicated that the declining trend in biomass had partially stabilized, however, current results are more pessimistic and indicate a continued decline trend. The majority of catches are from longline fisheries, while gillnets, traps, purse seines and handlines also contribute to blue marlin mortality.  Although uncertain, the results of the 2011 stock assessment indicated that if the recent catch levels of blue marlin (3,358 t in 2010) are not substantially reduced, the stock will continue to decline further. In this regard, ICCAT has adopted a management plan for recovering the blue marlin stock to the BMSY. Also, ICCAT Rec 12-04, established a reduction of total harvest for blue marlin to 2,000 t in 2013, 2014, and 2015 to allow the rebuilding of the stock from the overfished condition.  Therefore, although it is likely that the stock is currently above the point where recruitment will be impaired, meeting SG60, there is significant uncertainty preventing the stock meeting SG80, not least because it is more than 5 years since the last assessment took place.  [The PSA score is 2.89.](#T_BUM" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Rainbow runner  Elagatis bipinnulata  Atlantic Rainbow Runner | 95 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The population has not been assessed. Purse seine fisheries are responsible for most rainbow runner catches. No direct measures have been adopted by ICCAT.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.02.](#T_RRU" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (94%). |
| Northern bluefin tuna  Thunnus thynnus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.66.](#T_BFT" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Bullet tuna  Auxis rochei | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.66.](#T_BLT" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (5%). |
| Common dolphinfish  Coryphaena hippurus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_DOL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Picked dogfish  Squalus acanthias | 75 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_DGS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (71%). |
| Chub mackerel  Scomber japonicus | 94 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.03.](#T_MAS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (97%). |
| Black marlin  Makaira indica  North Atlantic Black Marlin | 88 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  The population has not been assessed. Black marlins are found primarily in the Pacific and Indian oceans and are rare in the Atlantic Ocean and mostly caught by longline. No direct measures have been adopted by ICCAT.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.37.](#T_BLM" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (5%). |
| Longfin yellowtail  Seriola rivoliana | 83 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.55.](#T_YTL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (14%). |
| Longbill spearfish  Tetrapturus pfluegeri | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.98.](#T_SPF" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Pompano dolphinfish  Coryphaena equiselis | 88 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.36.](#T_CFW" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |

Overall Score for Species Elements

Of the 2 main species: One main species may not be at or above MSY, but is still highly likely to be above its PRI level. One main species is only 'likely' to be above its PRI and this UoA could be preventing any recovery.

Of the 24 minor species: 4 minor species are highly likely to be at or above their MSY level. 11 minor species may not be at or above MSY, but are still highly likely to be above their PRI level. Although the populations may be below their PRI, it is still likely that this UoA is not hindering the recovery of 8 minor species. One minor species is only 'likely' to be above its PRI and this UoA could be preventing any recovery.

PI 2.1.1 : 70

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P.2.1.2 Management strategy

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.2.a Management strategy in place | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There are **measures** in place for the UoA, if necessary, that are expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are likely to be above the PRI. | There is a **partial strategy** in place for the UoA, if necessary, that is expected to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of the main primary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above the PRI. | There is a **strategy** in place for the UoA for managing main and minor primary species. |

There is a harvest strategy for all tuna and tuna-like species, as required under the UN Law of the Sea and UN Fish Stocks Agreement for highly migratory species. The strategy consists of regular assessment and management response to control and limit fishing mortality on the stocks within the RFMO jurisdiction. The objective of the strategy is consistent with maintaining stocks at or above MSY levels, and above the PRI. The strategy also includes the objective to rebuild stocks from below the PRI, although the controls that will be applied to achieve this are not well-defined. Examples of controls used within all jurisdictions include seasonal area closures, overall catch limits and limits on vessel capacity.

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| 2.1.2.b Management strategy evaluation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The measures are considered **likely** to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar UoAs/species). | There is some **objective basis for confidence** that the measures/ partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the UoA and/or species involved. | **Testing** supports **high confidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy will work, based on information directly about the UoA and/or species involved. |

There is some objective basis for confidence that the strategy will work for most, but not all stocks. There has been a response to stock status, but the response has been slow and in some cases, lacks evidence that the management controls so far have been effective in achieving outcomes consistent with BMSY or able to maintain the stock above the PRI. Stock assessments are conducted or attempted on all tuna stocks and these provide an objective basis for assessing whether the current strategy will work. Although the stocks are monitored, parts of the strategy are not well-defined and have therefore not been tested, which limits the confidence that they will continue to work.

Atlantic bigeye, yellowfin and (predominantly) Eastern Atlantic skipjack are managed reasonably effectively to limit fishing mortality to prevent the stocks falling below the PRI (i.e. well below MSY). The strategy includes overall limits of fishing activity and special provision to reduce mortality on juvenile bigeye and yellowfin. For Northern Atlantic albacore, the stock is rebuilding back to MSY levels, providing objective evidence through the stock assessment. For these stocks, there is some objective basis of confidence that the strategy will work because there is some effective control and a feedback system to monitor and adjust the system to achieve the outcome. For western skipjack, such feedback does not exist and current controls might be considered measures rather than a strategy at this stage. Given the robustness of skipjack to overfishing, and limits on fishing being applied, these might be considered likely to work, meeting SG60. Although a weaker argument, similarly current limits on south Atlantic albacore are probably sufficient to prevent the stock declining to below the PRI.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.2.c Management strategy implementation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | There is **some evidence** that the measures/ partial strategy is being **implemented successfully.** | There is **clear evidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy is being **implemented successfully and is achieving its overall objective as set out in scoring issue (a).** |

There is some evidence that the strategies are being implemented successfully for all fisheries. All RFMOs operate a partial observer programme and VMS for larger vessels. Most landings are monitored to enforce TACs. These data amount to some evidence, meeting SG80. However, not all fleets are monitored, and there are substantial gaps in data. In addition, it is not clear that all fisheries within each jurisdiction are meeting their objectives, so SG100 is not met.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.2.d Shark finning | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| It is **likely** that shark finning is not taking place. | It is **highly likely** that shark finning is not taking place. | There is a **high degree of certainty** that shark finning is not taking place. |

None of the primary species considered here are sharks, so shark fining is not relevant.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.2.e Review of alternative measures | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There is a review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of unwanted catch of main primary species. | There is a **regular** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of unwanted catch of main primary species and they are implemented as appropriate. | There is a **biennial** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of unwanted catch of all primary species, and they are implemented, as appropriate. |

Primary species are not usually discarded. Small fish may be discarded and excessive catches may exceed processing capacity aboard vessels. Discarding is regularly considered in RFMO meetings, but these focus on perceived high-risk issues, primarily unwanted catch of secondary and ETP species (see PI 2.2.2).

All SG60 were met, and 3 out of 4 SG80 were met.

PI 2.1.2 : 75

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P.2.1.3 Information

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.3.a Information adequacy for assessment of impact on main species | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Qualitative information is **adequate to estimate** the impact of the UoA on the main primary species with respect to status. **OR If RBF is used to score PI 2.1.1 for the UoA:** Qualitative information is adequate to estimate productivity and susceptibility attributes for main primary species. | Some quantitative information is available and is **adequate to assess** the impact of the UoA on the main primary species with respect to status. **OR If RBF is used to score PI 2.1.1 for the UoA:** Some quantitative information is adequate to assess productivity and susceptibility attributes for main primary species. | Quantitative information is available and is **adequate to assess with a high degree of certainty** the impact of the UoA on main primary species with respect to status. |

For all Main primary stocks, full quantitative information is available and is adequate to assess with a high degree of certainty the impact of the fishery. Catches and other data are monitored adequately for stock assessments of all Main stocks, and these can determine status with a high degree of certainty relative to their exploitation levels.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.3.b Information adequacy for assessment of impact on minor species | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  |  | Some quantitative information is adequate to estimate the impact of the UoA on minor primary species with respect to status. |

Almost by definition, the status of all fully managed stocks, minor or not, is determined quantitatively through stock assessment. This is necessary to provide scientific advice. However, with the wider definition of primary species used here, information is not sufficient to conduct stock assessments on them all, and therefore SG100 is not met.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.1.3.c Information adequacy for management strategy | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Information is adequate to support **measures** to manage **main** primary species. | Information is adequate to support a **partial strategy** to manage **main** primary species. | Information is adequate to support a **strategy** to manage **all** primary species, and evaluate with a **high degree of certainty** whether the strategy is achieving its objective. |

For all Main primary stocks, there is sufficient data to support full quantitative stock assessments using advanced statistical models, such as Stock Synthesis 3 and Multifan CL. Where stock assessments have not yet been completed, this is because the model structure has not been adequately determined for a result which can be endorsed through the consensus of scientists involved rather the lack of information. This meets SG80. However, with the widened definition of primary species used in this assessment, information is inadequate to manage all primary species. For many species, information is limited. While RFMOs are expanding the number of species that are being assessed, many lack the required information to develop appropriate harvest strategies. Therefore SG100 cannot be met.

All SG60 and SG80 were met, and 1 out of 3 SG100 were met.

PI 2.1.3 : 85

References

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2.2 Secondary Species

P.2.2.1 Outcome Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.2.1.a Main secondary species stock status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Main secondary species are **likely** to be above biologically based limits. OR If below biologically based limits, there are **measures** in place expected to ensure that the UoA does not hinder recovery and rebuilding. | Main secondary species are **highly likely** to be above biologically based limits OR If below biologically based limits, there is either **evidence of recovery** or a **demonstrably effective partial strategy** in place such that the UoA does not hinder recovery and rebuilding. | There is a **high degree of certainty** that main secondary species are above biologically based limits. |

There are no Main in-scope secondary species.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.2.1.b Minor secondary species stock status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  |  | For minor species that are below biologically based limits there is evidence that the UoA does not hinder the recovery and rebuilding of secondary species. |

Table 2.2.1 Minor in-scope secondary species status.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Species/ Stock | MSC Score | Justification |
| Tunas nei  Thunnini | 66 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_TUN" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (62%). |
| Tuna-like fishes nei  Scombroidei | 66 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_TUX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (73%). |
| Marlins,sailfishes,etc. nei  Istiophoridae | 72 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_BIL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (63%). |
| Plain bonito  Orcynopsis unicolor | 72 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_BOP" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (80%). |
| West African Spanish mackerel  Scomberomorus tritor | 81 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.73.](#T_MAW" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (16%). |
| Shortfin mako  Isurus oxyrinchus  North Atlantic Shortfin Mako | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The 2012 assessment results indicated that in general the status of the North and South Atlantic stocks is healthy, and the probability of overfishing is low. Pelagic longline records represent the vast majority of the catch. ICCAT Rec 07-06 limits mortality on North Atlantic shortfin mako, ICCAT Rec 10-06 prohibits the retention of shortfin mako on-board vessels flagged to countries that do not report catches for this species, and ICCAT Rec 14-06 aims to improve data collection and reporting.  Taking into consideration those results from this stock assessment have important uncertainty, it can be stated that Atlantic shortfin mako shark is highly likely to be above the PRI, but not with a high degree of certainty, and its relation to MSY has not been determined. Therefore SG80 is met but SG100 is not.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_SMA" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Various sharks nei  Selachimorpha (Pleurotremata) | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 4.24.](#T_SKH" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (22%). |
| Seerfishes nei  Scomberomorus spp | 66 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_KGX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (96%). |
| Silky shark  Carcharhinus falciformis  Atlantic Silky Shark | 71 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The population has not been assessed. The available information suggests large declines in abundance for this species, for example, in the Northern Atlantic, a population decline of 46% has been estimated between 1992-2005. Estimates suggest that the magnitude of silky shark catches in longline and purse seine fisheries is similar, but may be under-reported. Observer data from European purse seine fisheries for the period 2003-2007 suggest that silky sharks are more often caught in floating object‐associated purse seine sets, including entanglement in FADs. Catches reported for other gears are very small, but highly uncertain. ICCAT Rec 11-08 prohibits the retention on‐board, transshipment or landing of any part or whole carcasses of silky sharks.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_FAL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (50%). |
| Requiem sharks nei  Carcharhinidae | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.80.](#T_RSK" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (23%). |
| Oceanic triggerfish  Canthidermis maculata | 91 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.25.](#T_CNT" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Small-spotted catshark  Scyliorhinus canicula | 85 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.55.](#T_SYC" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (20%). |
| Smooth hammerhead  Sphyrna zygaena | 61 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.42.](#T_SPZ" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (73%). |
| Dogfish sharks, etc. nei  Squaliformes | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_SHX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (19%). |
| Blue runner  Caranx crysos | 95 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.03.](#T_RUB" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (93%). |
| True tunas nei  Thunnus spp | 66 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_TUS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (77%). |
| Starry smooth-hound  Mustelus asterias | 79 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_SDS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Smooth-hounds nei  Mustelus spp | 75 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.94.](#T_SDV" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (46%). |
| Porbeagle  Lamna nasus  North Atlantic Porbeagle | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  Exploratory assessments of the North Atlantic stocks in 2009 indicate that the stock is probably overfished and that overfishing may be occurring, whereas the stock assessments of South Atlantic stocks were inconclusive. All assessments indicated that stocks were at significant risk of being below MSY levels and precautionary management action is required, but also suggested stocks are stable. It is therefore overall likely that the stocks are above the PRI. Longline catches most porbeagle, especially those targeting sharks, but porbeagle is also caught with gillnets, pelagic trawl and handlines. ICCAT Rec 07-06 limits mortality on porbeagle. More recently, Rec 15-06 requires that vessels that caught porbeagle sharks in association with tuna fisheries immediately release unharmed individuals and establishes that CPCs must ensure the collection and submission of data for porbeagle sharks, including discards and releases and the indication of status (dead or alive).  [The PSA score is 3.00.](#T_POR" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (8%). |
| Bluntnose sixgill shark  Hexanchus griseus | 75 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.94.](#T_SBL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Hammerhead sharks nei  Sphyrna spp  Atlantic Oceanic Hammerhead Sharks | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The population has not been assessed. Hammerhead sharks in the Atlantic Ocean are mainly caught by gillnet fisheries, followed by longline and other gears. ICCAT Rec 10‐08 prohibits the retention on-board of several species of hammerhead sharks.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.68.](#T_SPN" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (4%). |
| Thresher  Alopias vulpinus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.18.](#T_ALV" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (6%). |
| Thresher sharks nei  Alopias spp | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.42.](#T_THR" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (6%). |
| Tope shark  Galeorhinus galeus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.87.](#T_GAG" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (6%). |
| Scalloped hammerhead  Sphyrna lewini | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.42.](#T_SPL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (7%). |
| Dogfish sharks nei  Squalidae | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 4.05.](#T_DGX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (9%). |
| Oilfish  Ruvettus pretiosus | 87 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.46.](#T_OIL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Dogfishes and hounds nei  Squalidae, Scyliorhinidae | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_DGH" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (9%). |
| Atlantic saury  Scomberesox saurus | 81 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.73.](#T_SAU" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (51%). |
| Oceanic whitetip shark  Carcharhinus longimanus  Atlantic Oceanic Whitetip Shark | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  The population has not been assessed. Longline most likely has the greatest impact on this species, purse seine sets on FADs are also known to catch whitetip sharks. Catches reported to ICCAT for longline fisheries may be under-reported. ICCAT Rec 10‐07 prohibits the retention on‐board of oceanic whitetip sharks.  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.57.](#T_OCS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (11%). |
| Slender sunfish  Ranzania laevis | 72 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.07.](#T_RZV" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Dusky shark  Carcharhinus obscurus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_DUS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (14%). |
| Smooth-hound  Mustelus mustelus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.81.](#T_SMD" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Unicorn leatherjacket filefish  Aluterus monoceros | 74 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.98.](#T_ALM" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Snake mackerel  Gempylus serpens | 83 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.64.](#T_GES" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (99%). |
| Great barracuda  Sphyraena barracuda | 89 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.37.](#T_GBA" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (3%). |
| Great hammerhead  Sphyrna mokarran | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.26.](#T_SPK" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (4%). |
| Catsharks, nursehounds nei  Scyliorhinus spp | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.82.](#T_SCL" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (3%). |
| Catsharks, etc. nei  Scyliorhinidae | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.82.](#T_SYX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (2%). |
| Ocean sunfish  Mola mola | 75 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.96.](#T_MOX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (32%). |
| Grey triggerfish  Balistes capriscus | 90 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.33.](#T_TRG" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Devil fish  Mobula mobular | 75 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.94.](#T_RMM" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Ground sharks  Carcharhiniformes | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.54.](#T_CVX" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Nursehound  Scyliorhinus stellaris | 82 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.68.](#T_SYT" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (2%). |
| Giant manta  Manta birostris | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.02.](#T_RMB" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (10%). |
| Spinner shark  Carcharhinus brevipinna | 76 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.89.](#T_CCB" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (100%). |
| Longfin mako  Isurus paucus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 3.19.](#T_LMA" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Cottonmouth jack  Uraspis secunda | 74 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.98.](#T_USE" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA could hinder recovery. This species makes up more than 10% of the UoA catch or the UoA species catch makes up more than 30% of the total species catch (48%). |
| Pelagic stingray  Pteroplatytrygon violacea | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.74.](#T_PLS" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Flyingfish  Family Exocoetidae | 92 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.18.](#T_FLY" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (1%). |
| Sharptail mola  Masturus lanceolatus | 80 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (2%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.96.](#T_MRW" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (18%). |
| Garfish  Belone belone | 87 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.46.](#T_GAR" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |
| Pilotfish  Naucrates ductor | 92 | The species is 'minor' because the catch percentage (<0.5%) is less than the requirement (5%).  There is no stock assessment.  [The PSA score is 2.22.](#T_NAU" \o "PSA Table)  This UoA would probably not hinder recovery. This species makes up less than 10% of the UoA catch and the UoA species catch makes up less than 30% of the total species catch (<0.5%). |

Overall Score for Species Elements

All SG60 and SG80 were met, and 1 out of 3 SG100 were met. Out-of-scope species have not been evaluated.

There were no main species.

Of the 53 minor species: 4 minor species are highly likely to be at or above their MSY level. 11 minor species may not be at or above MSY, but are still highly likely to be above their PRI level. Although the populations may be below their PRI, it is still likely that this UoA is not hindering the recovery of 21 minor species. 17 minor species are only 'likely' to be above their PRI and this UoA could be preventing any recovery.

PI 2.2.1 : 90

References

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P.2.2.2 Management strategy

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| 2.2.2.a Management strategy in place | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There are **measures** in place, if necessary, which are expected to maintain or not hinder rebuilding of main secondary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above biologically based limits or to ensure that the UoA does not hinder their recovery. | There is a **partial strategy** in place, if necessary, for the UoA that is expected to maintain or not hinder rebuilding of main secondary species at/to levels which are highly likely to be above biologically based limits or to ensure that the UoA does not hinder their recovery. | There is a **strategy** in place for the UoA for managing main and minor secondary species. |

Pole and line bycatch levels are low, with the notable exception of live bait species. Most bait fisheries have measures in place to reduce fishery impact where problems have been identified. This may amount, with closed seasons or areas, mesh size regulations and so on, as a partial strategy meeting SG80. Some bait fisheries have full strategies meeting SG100, although in these cases they might be considered primary species (it is unclear what is meant by a strategy managing secondary species which are by definition unmanaged). Given that most bait fish would have measures, but would not be managed targeted fisheries (for example, catches are rarely reported), they meet SG60, but may not meet SG80.

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| 2.2.2.b Management strategy evaluation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The measures are considered **likely** to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar UoAs/ species). | There is **some objective basis for confidence** that the measures/ partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the UoA and/or species involved. | **Testing** supports **high confidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy will work, based on information directly about the UoA and/or species involved. |

Pole and line fisheries have low bycatch, but may use significant quantities of live bait which may be considered main secondary species. The level of management of bait fish fisheries varies, but many depend on general measures that are expected to avoid exploitation. These should in most cases for these resilient species meet SG60, but unless some evaluation is available in each case which provides support for the strategy or measures protecting bait fish stocks, SG80 will not be met.

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| 2.2.2.c Management strategy implementation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | There is **some evidence** that the measures/ partial strategy is being **implemented successfully**. | There is **clear evidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy is being **implemented successfully and is achieving its overall objective as set out in scoring issue (a).** |

There is some evidence that the measures which are required are being implemented successfully in some fleets where information exists. Information from landings inspections and observers may indicate rules on the retention of sharks are being applied where such inspections take place. Compliance is not routinely reported, but low compliance is suspected in some cases. Because enforcement is not universal and effectively absent from some fleets, the SG80 may not be met. Where compliance for a particular fleet can be demonstrated, SG80 could be met, but this cannot be assumed. In any case, there is no evidence that the overall objectives are being achieved at this stage, so SG100 cannot be met except in those cases where there catches of secondary species are demonstrably negligible.

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| 2.2.2.d Shark finning | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| It is **likely** that shark finning is not taking place. | It is **highly likely** that shark finning is not taking place. | There is a **high degree of certainty** that shark finning is not taking place. |

Each RFMO has a measure that concerns the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries they manage. The resolutions or measures include minimum reporting requirements for sharks, and call for full utilization, including a specified ratio of fin-to-body weight for shark fins retained onboard a vessel. This effectively requires that shark finning does not take place. Observer coverage and landings inspections would be necessary as clearly there is a market for shark fins and finning has and will take place in some fisheries. Where there is no information supporting compliance with the measure, SG60 may not be met.

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| 2.2.2.e Review of alternative measures to minimise mortality of unwanted catch | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There is a review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of **unwanted** catch of main secondary species. | There is a **regular** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of **unwanted** catch of main secondary species and they are implemented as appropriate. | There is a **biennial** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of **unwanted** catch of all secondary species, and they are implemented, as appropriate. |

There is evidence of ongoing review of mitigation measures for fisheries related to reducing unwanted catch of common and vulnerable secondary species in all RFMOs. The reviews are based on studies of bycatch risks and techniques that might reduce bycatch. Such studies are shared among RFMOs and are regularly discussed, so RFMO members should be aware of issues raised and the potential impact on their fisheries. This meets the SG60. However, few measures have been implemented despite evidence they may be appropriate at least for wider trials, so SG80 is not met.

All SG60 were met, but no SG80 or SG100.

PI 2.2.2 : 60

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P.2.2.3 Information

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| 2.2.3.a Information adequacy for assessment of impact on main secondary species | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Qualitative information is **adequate to estimate** the impact of the UoA on the main secondary species with respect to status. OR **If RBF is used to score PI 2.2.1 for the UoA:** Qualitative information is adequate to estimate productivity and susceptibility attributes for main secondary species. | Some quantitative information is available and is **adequate to assess** the impact of the UoA on the main secondary species with respect to status. OR **If RBF is used to score PI 2.2.1 for the UoA:** Some quantitative information is adequate to assess productivity and susceptibility attributes for main secondary species. | Quantitative information is available and is **adequate to assess with a high degree of certainty** the impact of the UoA on main secondary species with respect to status. |

RBF has been used to score all species. There is a fairly complete species list of fish and other animals which interact with the fisheries. In general, qualitative information is adequate to score productivity attributes for all these species, although some information is inferred from the taxon and size of the animal. For susceptibility attributes, information is generally less clear, but would probably be available for individual fleets (e.g. better information on the areal extent of the fishery compared to the likely stock, and more specific depth profile for the gear). Given that a higher score is allocated where it is uncertain, the RBF scoring is robust. This meets SG60. In addition, there is some quantitative information (catches) which can be used among other things to identify main species. Ostensibly, this meets SG80. Data may not be adequate for all gears in all areas. Generally, public data used here available for the Atlantic, and to a lesser extent Indian Ocean, appears more precise in terms of estimates by species and area than data from the Pacific fisheries. Because RBF is used, the SG100 cannot be achieved.

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| 2.2.3.b Information adequacy for assessment of impact on minor secondary species | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  |  | Some quantitative information is adequate to estimate the impact of the UoA on minor secondary species with respect to status. |

Information should be sufficient to support measures to manage main secondary species. Landings by species are reported and monitored. All RFMOs include programmes to collect data related on bycatch. Observer programmes report on activities and catches at sea for main industrial fleets, including all interactions with various species as well as catches and discards, but coverages are generally low. However, information remains patchy, and researchers have struggled to develop strategies to manage bycatch effectively. This meets SG60. Information is not adequate to develop a partial strategy. RFMOs have not managed to develop more general strategies, and appear to be struggling to adopt effective measures which might apply to other secondary species, covering, for example, other non-shark, non-ETP species. This does not meet SG80. Data are not adequate to evaluate whether any strategy is achieving its objective, and the diverse nature of some catches would make it difficult to manage all secondary species for these gears. It is unlikely that gears making a diverse catch, like longline or driftnet, will be able to meet SG100 in the foreseeable future. Where it can be shown there is little or no bycatch of any species other than primary species, the SG100 could be met in future, but information will need to be demonstrated to show this.

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| 2.2.3.c Information adequacy for management strategy | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Information is adequate to support **measures** to manage **main** secondary species. | Information is adequate to support a **partial strategy** to manage **main** secondary species. | Information is adequate to support a **strategy** to manage **all** secondary species, and evaluate with a **high degree of certainty** whether the strategy is **achieving its objective**. |

For secondary species, there is sufficient data to support measures to reduce bycatch and therefore manage main secondary species populations. They are able to determine with current data when and where secondary species are being caught in the main fishing fleets, which would allow management to introduce controls. This meets SG60. However, there are significant gaps in secondary species data, with high levels of discarding likely, low observer coverage for many fleets and missing catch data. For this pre-assessment, publicly availble catch data are poor, which may have led to misclassification between main and minor species. It is unlikely a partial strategy could be developed for all secondary species without improved information, so SG80 is not met.

All SG60 were met, and 1 out of 2 SG80 were met.

PI 2.2.3 : 70

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2.3 ETP Species

P.2.3.1 Outcome Status

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| 2.3.1.a Effects of the UoA on population/ stocks within national or international limits, where applicable | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Where national and/or international requirements set limits for ETP species, the **effects of the UoA** on the population/ stock are known and **likely** to be within these limits. | Where national and/or international requirements set limits for ETP species, the **combined effects of the MSC UoAs** on the population /stock are known and **highly likely** to be within these limits. | Where national and/or international requirements set limits for ETP species, there is a **high degree of certainty** that the **combined effects of the MSC UoAs** are within these limits. |

Tuna occupies the same space in the pelagic ecosystem as a number of ETP species therefore there is a potential for interaction and impact between tuna fisheries and the ETP species which must be assessed and scored. ETP species are those which are:

* Out of scope of MSC certification (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles) and which are also listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable on the IUCN Redlist.
* Species listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) or other key agreements under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), such as the Agreement on Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP).
* Species that are recognized by national ETP legislation.

It should be noted that not all species of marine turtle, dolphin, bird or cetacean are necessarily ETP (where not classified as ETP they would be scored as ‘secondary’). By contrast, as sharks are “in scope”, they would only qualify as ETP if protected by relevant legislation, regardless of their IUCN Redlist status. It should also be noted that the classification of ETP species is independent of the type of gear interaction, with no ‘main’ qualifier for those with the greatest interaction, as there for primary and secondary species. The ETP species which are likely to be most significant to scoring of tuna fisheries are whales (e.g. *Balaenoptera physalus*, *Balaenoptera borealis*, *Balaenoptera edeni*), marine turtles (e.g. *Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas*, *Eretmochelys imbricate*, *Lepidochelis olivacea*) and to a lesser extent some protected birds (primarily those listed under the Agreement on Conservation of Albatross and Petrels [ACAP]). Sharks are less likely to be listed as ETP species as none are listed on CITES Appendix I (although a number are on Appendix II), and sharks are within scope of the MSC programme and therefore would not be automatically considered ETP on account of their IUCN Redlist status score. The only shark species that are ETP will be those protected by National legislation or other international conventions. For example, whale shark, a species sometimes associated with tuna fisheries is protected and therefore considered ETP in certain waters such as Australia, the Maldives, Philippines, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Honduras, Mexico, US Atlantic waters and a small area off Belize.

To meet SG80, there is a new requirement in the latest version of the MSC Fisheries Certification Requirements (FCR v2 October 2014) that necessitates the consideration the cumulative impacts of all MSC UoAs. This is done by considering what impact overlapping in-assessment and certified UoAs have on the same ETP species. For the purposes of this assessment, we treat all tuna fisheries as being certified.

Line fisheries are comparatively clean and are generally considered to have minimal interaction with ETP species. These fisheries have previously scored highly in MSC assessments so it may be expected that any new fishery would harmonize with these. Fishing operations are typically highly selective, and fishermen are able to determine the species caught and release any incidental captures with high likelihood of post-capture survival. (However, any baited tuna fishery will also need to consider the effects on ETP of the bait fishery – this is addressed in the ‘Indirect Impacts’ scoring issue [2.3.1c]). In order to meet the SG100, systematic monitoring and/or research would be needed to increase the level of certainty.

**Seabirds**:

One ETP area requiring more careful scrutiny for line fisheries may be the impact on seabird populations. Some seabirds will be classified as ETP, such as those listed under the Agreement on Conservation of Albatross and Petrels).

FAD sets are more likely to have a less mono-specific catch than free school sets. As well as including a wider variety of fish species, this may also include a larger number of ETP species.

**Turtles**:

In studies of the EU purse seine tuna fisheries the majority of turtle bycatch was associated with FAD fisheries (compared to free school sets), although many ETP species were recorded to have been released alive. Restrepo et al. (2014) note that the level of direct turtle mortality in FAD fisheries is low compared to other fisheries. However, they report that up to a couple of hundred individuals per ocean per year are probably caught, with some 90% of these being released alive. A possibly large issue of concern for turtles in FAD fisheries is as a result of entanglement. This is addressed against scoring issue (c).

**Sharks**:

Although there is a potentially high bycatch of shark (through direct capture or entanglement), perhaps the two main species of shark (silky shark and oceanic whitetip) are both classed as secondary species, not ETP, unless protected by national legislation.

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| 2.3.1.b Direct effects | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Known direct effects of the UoA are likely to not **hinder recovery** of ETP species. | Direct effects of the UoA are **highly likely** to not **hinder recovery** of ETP species. | There is a **high degree of confidence** that there are no **significant detrimental direct effects** of the UoA on ETP species. |

This scoring issue focuses on the direct impacts of the UoA and the likelihood that this would hinder recovery of the ETP species. This will examine the amount of direct mortality that is attributable to the UoA and view this in comparison to overall mortality on the ETP species (including from other fisheries and other sources of mortality) and the overall status (and status trend, if known) of the ETP species. For example, where it can be shown that the mortality attributed to the UoA is small compared to a known other source of mortality, which is connected to the endangerment of the ETP species, then it may be argued that it is not the UoA that is hindering recovery. Similarly, if it can be shown that the stock status of the ETP species is improving, then it may also be argued that the UoA cannot be hindering recovery. The context of other fisheries, other sources of mortality and stock status is therefore important (see SA3.1.5).

**Turtles**:

Comparative studies have shown that the level of turtle bycatch in FAD fisheries remains well above the level of capture in other tuna fisheries – notably free school sets. Although there is a high percentage of turtles released alive, with a high chance of post-capture survival, there remains insufficient evidence to conclude that the impact on populations is insignificant. However, it is noted that greater threats to the recovery of ETP turtles are issues not related to this UoA, such as capture in coastal net fisheries, capture in coastal demersal trawl fisheries, loss of breeding habitat, illegal directed fisheries, etc. However, given the lack of obvious recovery of the affected species and the known level mortality, it cannot be concluded with a high degree of certainty that the UoA is not hindering recovery; however given the more obvious anthropogenic sources of high mortality, it can be concluded that the direct effects of the UoA are likely to not hinder recovery of ETP species, meeting SG60. To meet SG80, more information is needed to increase the level of certainty.

A number of line fisheries have already been MSC certified. Many concluded that the level of direct impact of this type of relatively selective gear was highly likely to not hinder recovery of ETP species (i.e. SG80 was met). Given the comparatively low level of interaction, the more obvious potential for live release (with reduced levels of stress and higher probability of post-capture survival) and the more obvious sources of mortality for key ETP species (and more probable causes of hindering recovery), the scoring of previous MSC assessments (i.e., meeting SG80) could be repeated. However, some additional considerations are required. There are a number of papers and reports referring to potential impacts on ETP species, including through line entanglement and direct capture. For example, a number of tuna RFMOs have recognized the potential for line fisheries to impact on marine turtles and implemented management measures, such as bait and hook modifications to limit bycatch. Determining the impact of a UoA will therefore partly depend on the degree to which these management measures are in place. In spite of the non-conditional passes of previous MSC assessments for this performance indicator, there are sufficient grounds for considering that this scoring issue may cause at least a condition in a future assessment. SG60 is met but not SG80 because more information is needed to increase the level of certainty.

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| 2.3.1.c Indirect effects | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | Indirect effects have been considered for the UoA and are thought to be **highly likely** to not create unacceptable impacts. | There is a **high degree of confidence** that there are no **significant detrimental indirect effects** of the UoA on ETP species. |

As there is no scoring guidepost provided at the SG60, a lack of consideration of the indirect effects would not cause any fishery to fail. However, if the SG80 is not met, this may cause a condition in some tuna fisheries.

Unobserved or indirect mortality is potentially also a significant concern for FAD fisheries. Entanglement in the sub-surface structure of the FAD is likely to go unobserved and unrecorded. While work on development of mitigation measures, such as ecological or non-entangling FADs is advantageous and would lead to increased scores. In order for these to be verified, sufficient control and traceability systems must be on board / in place to ensure that the only FAD sets were indeed on the fleets own non-entangling ecological FADs. In addition, there remains some stakeholder concern about the uncertain indirect impact that large numbers of FADs may play on ecological balance. WWF’s 2011 position paper on FADs notes that “the ecological impact of a network of thousands of artificial drifting and anchored FADs aggregate tunas and other pelagic species from surrounding waters has not been assessed”. Overall, this score likely depends on the fishery’s level of interaction with ETP species (i.e. if interactions are negligible, indirect effects are also likely negligible). In the absence of demonstrating negligible interactions, fisheries will struggle to meet SG80.

Any baited tuna fishery will also need to consider the indirect effects on ETP of the bait fishery. This will vary according to the location of the bait fishery and the gear used. In addition, where these smaller scale fisheries occur in inshore waters a potentially wider range of ETP species must come into consideration (such as *Dugongidae* or *Trichechidae* spp.), or those already considered are found in greater coastal concentrations (i.e. marine turtles and birds). Given the increased number of species and the increased potential for interaction, it is possible that the ETP scores for these baited tuna fisheries with otherwise comparatively clean methods of capture will be reduced by the possible impacts of their bait fisheries, meeting SG60. In order to meet SG80, we would expect to see evaluations of issues such as mortality caused while collecting bait, the effect of gear loss, boat strikes and so on.

All SG60 were met, but no SG80 or SG100.

PI 2.3.1 : 60

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P.2.3.2 Management strategy

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| 2.3.2.a Management strategy in place (national and international requirements) | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There are **measures** in place that minimise the UoA-related 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 UoA’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 species. | There is a **comprehensive strategy** in place for managing the UoA’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. |

The scoring of the management that is in place to mitigate against unwanted ETP bycatch will vary according to fleet nationality, on-board operational practices (such as training and handling) and Codes of Conduct. As such, although scoring commentary may refer to the management in place within a particular tuna RFMO, applying to a particular region or gear type, it is likely that a more tightly defined client group (UoA) may specify further management measures for consideration at the time of a full MSC assessment. Whilst such local or on-board initiatives or mitigation measures may be discussed in relation to 2.3.2, credit is not given in the scoring of this pre-assessment exercise unless they are universally adopted (i.e. an RFMO requirement).

ICAAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics has taken oversight of issues relating to bycatch (in particular ETP bycatch) in recent years. Commissioning research, compiling databases and making management recommendations. As a result, a number of ICAAT management measures, relating to ETP mitigation have emerged. For example, ICCAT Recommendation 10-09 (2010) requires that the Contracting Party, Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity (CPC) collects and annually reports information on the interactions of its fleet with sea turtles in ICCAT fisheries by gear type, including catch rates, gear characteristics, times and locations, target species, and disposition status (i.e., discarded dead or released alive). The recommendation also requires purse seine vessels of contracting parties to avoid encircling sea turtles, release encircled or entangled sea turtles, including on FADs, when feasible, and report interactions between purse seines and/or FADs and sea turtles to their flag CPC so that this information is included in the CPC reporting requirements. This was further amended, providing more details by Recommendation 13-11. Additional initiatives, such as the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding on Sea Turtles (IOSEA http://www.ioseaturtles.org), also contribute to management efforts. These recommendations collectively constitute an in-place strategy that is highly likely to achieve national and international ETP protection requirements. SG100 is not met since there is not a comprehensive strategy that is designed to achieve protection levels above national and international requirements.

The level of interaction with ETP species is greater when fisheries use FAD. Although there is evidence that some practices can effectively reduce the level of impact such as non-entangling or eco FADs, there is little management requirement that these be exclusively used (although an increasing number of RFMO resolutions and recommendations are moving in this direction), and sufficient monitoring and enforcement are often not in place to verify that any such rulings are applied. Although some fleets do make use of these non-entangling FADs, it is difficult to confirm that these are the only FADs that are in use. There remains no record of the number of non-anchored FADs in use, or their ultimate fate, with many more FADs have been added each year. WWF points to some obvious further management measures that could, with further research and investment, be brought in to seek to improve the sustainable management of FAD fisheries. In addition to the measures already mentioned (such as non-entangling FADs), additional possible management measures could include:

* Dedicated FAD management plans to control the number and density of FADs
* Time/area closures for purse seine FAD sets, informed by improved data, to mitigate ecological problems in key areas or seasons

SG60 is met but not SG80 since there is not a strategy in place that is highly likely to achieve national and international ETP protection requirements.

RFMOs pass recommendations / resolutions that include management measures specifically designed for line fisheries, such as using modified hook design and alternative bait choices. In addition, there are likely to be additional measures that may be applied at the fleet / nation / UoA level such as streamer lines, night-time bait setting, or releasing lines via underwater chute that may be appropriate to the local fishery conditions. Where there are known mitigation measures that may be applied to limit ETP impacts, these should be demonstrably in place in any fishery wishing to proceed with MSC certification. These recommendations / resolutions collectively constitute an in-place strategy that is highly likely to achieve national and international ETP protection requirements. SG100 is not met since there is not a comprehensive strategy that is designed to achieve protection levels above national and international requirements.

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| 2.3.2.b Management strategy in place (alternative) | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There are **measures** in place that are expected to ensure the UoA does not hinder the recovery of ETP species. | There is a **strategy** in place that is expected to ensure the UoA does not hinder the recovery of ETP species. | There is a **comprehensive strategy** in place for managing ETP species, to ensure the UoA does not hinder the recovery of ETP species. |

When scoring ETP management strategy, either scoring issue (a) or scoring issue (b) is scored, not both (MSC FCR 2.0 SA3.11.2). Scoring issue (a) is scored where there are requirements for protection and rebuilding provided through national ETP legislation or international agreements. Where these are absent, scoring issue (b) is scored. For the purposes of this pre-assessment exercise, in the context of ETP management measures being applied through an RFMO, it is appropriate to score issue (a) only. However, an artisanal fishery in a country that is not signatory to international agreements may be more appropriately scored under issue (b). In this case, locally specific management measures are likely to be the key determinant of scoring outcome. This is beyond the scope of this pre-assessment.

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| 2.3.2.c Management strategy evaluation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The measures are **considered likely** to work, based on **plausible argument** (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar UoAs/ species). | There is an **objective basis for confidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy will work, based on **information** directly about the UoA and/or the species involved. | The strategy/ comprehensive strategy is mainly based on information directly about the UoA and/or species involved, and a **quantitative analysis** supports **high confidence** that the strategy will work. |

Confidence about the success of the management strategy / measures applied at the RFMO level for all tuna fishing fleets comes from the associated requirement for fleets to report ETP interactions and for the contracting state to submit this data annually to the RFMO. This provides some empirical basis, augmented by observer reports upon which analysis can be undertaken and the level of confidence objectively determined. Additionally, there is a good body of independent research on possible approaches to ETP mitigation in tuna fisheries for a wide variety of gears and locations. In many cases, this body of research will be analogous or applicable to the UoA and may be used by the management authority (whether national or RFMO) to evaluate and give confidence to the choice of management strategy to be applied. SG80 is met but not SG100 since a quantitative analysis to support high confidence has not be done.

The ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics commissioned work to:

* Compile meta-database of reports and publications on by-catch species from tuna fisheries
* Develop database for bycatch data for priority species, such as marine mammals; turtles; seabirds; and many sharks, rays and teleost fish that are not subjected to stock assessment by ICCAT
* Establish interaction with scientists leading national observer programmes to make inventory of past and current observer programmes
* Develop protocols for ongoing bycatch data collection in the future

This work has been completed and provides a solid foundation on which to draw conclusions about the efficacy of the management strategies and measures that are in place to mitigate against impact on ETP species (the ICCAT bycatch meta-database is available for download). Additionally, there are a considerable number of studies that have explored the efficacy of different mitigation measures applied in the different fleets / gears, such as non-entangling FADs, handling and release protocols or longline mitigation, meeting SG80. SG100 is not met since a quantitative analysis to support high confidence has not be done.

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| 2.3.2.d Management strategy implementation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | There is some **evidence** that the measures/strategy is being implemented successfully. | There is **clear evidence** that the strategy/ comprehensive strategy is being implemented successfully and is **achieving its objective as set out in scoring issue (a) or (b).** |

The scoring of ‘implementation’ of management strategies and measures is in many ways linked to the scoring of strategies and measures being ‘in place’ in scoring issue (a). The justification provided there is not repeated here. However, in addition the degree of ‘implementation’ scored here will depend upon the observations of the assessors during site visits to determine the degree to which the measures and strategies referred to in scoring issue (a) are in day-to-day operational use. For example, where has an RFMO resolution or recommendation been adopted? To what extent has this been implemented at fleet level? Is there evidence of appropriate training having occurred and relevant logbooks, species identification guides or necessary equipment being in place on board vessels? Do crews have an understanding of the Codes of Good Practice for handling and release of ETP species? Is it evident from logbooks that the requirements for compulsory reporting of ETP interactions are being complied with? This degree of local / fleet level implementation will vary according to the client grouping and the nationality therefore cannot be remotely scored as part of this global generic pre-assessment exercise. At this time, no instances of obvious lack of implementation have been identified; however, this would be further scrutinized at the time of full assessment. Some RFMOs provide details of the level of implementation of their management measures / resolutions and recommendations by contracting parties (i.e. nations). Where available, these lists would also be consulted upon to determine the degree to which the UoA flag state was compliant with the implementation requirements for RFMO management measures (for example, the IOTC provide updates on the level of implementation of national plans of action for sharks and seabirds and implementation of FOA guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations). Therefore, SG80 is met since there is some evidence that the strategy is being implemented successfully, but due to a lack of clear evidence, SG100 is not met.

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| 2.3.2.e Review of alternative measures to minimise mortality of ETP species | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There is a review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of ETP species. | There is a **regular** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality of ETP species and they are implemented as appropriate. | There is a **biannual** review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimise UoA-related mortality ETP species, and they are implemented, as appropriate. |

This scoring issue is new to the latest version of the MSC fisheries certification requirements (FCRv2 October 2014). The ‘Alternative Measures’ that are under consideration here may include alternative fishing gears and / or practices in an effort to reduce the level of incidental ETP mortality to the lowest achievable levels. To meet SG80, a review must be regular (i.e. at least once every 5 years). The SG80 requirement for implementation ‘as appropriate’ allows for sensible consideration of cost effectiveness, vessel and crew safety and loss of target catches. It is likely that, when scored, this will look in turn at each of the ETP species that have been identified in 2.3.1 and determine the extent to which these species have been included in reviews of alternative measures (i.e. scoring species separately as scoring elements). The reviews and evaluations referred to in 2.3.2 and the resulting RFMO management measures or recommendations are sufficient to demonstrate that there has been some review of the alternative measures to minimize UoA related mortality of many ETP species. However, even if it can be demonstrated that some ETP species have met the requirement for regular review and implementation, it is possible that for at least some of the identified ETP species the review to date will have only happened once with no plan for regular repeat. The requirement for ‘Regular Review of Alternative Measures’ is one area in which it may be possible for the client fishery (or UoA) to commission or undertake their own review work. Where it can be demonstrated that this is a regular review of alternative methods and that recommendations are implements as appropriate, then this may enable the client fishery to achieve higher scores than might otherwise be the case (if solely reliant on reviews at the RFMO level).

There is evidence that the ICCAT has undertaken regular review of conservation and mitigation measures for sea turtles. Recommendation 10-09 replaced Resolution 03-11 on sea turtles, bringing the recommendation up to date and in line with developing management initiatives such as the FAO’s Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations. However, this latest Recommendation is now several years old and does not mention when it will next be reviewed. Recommendation 07-07 on reducing incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries was supplemented with more up-to-date management requirements by Recommendation 11-09, which recognises that the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels is now in force. Again, this Recommendation does not indicate when the next review will occur. The most active area of ICCAT review and updating of recommendations relate to shark species; however in most jurisdictions it is likely that from an MSC point of view at least these will not be considered ETP. SG80 is not met since regular reviews (i.e. once every five years) do not seem to be occurring.

All SG60 were met, and 2 out of 4 SG80 were met.

PI 2.3.2 : 70

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P.2.3.3 Information

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.3.3.a Information adequacy for assessment of impacts | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Qualitative information is **adequate to estimate** the UoA related mortality on ETP species. **OR If RBF is used to score PI 2.3.1 for the UoA:**  Qualitative information is **adequate to estimate productivity and susceptibility** attributes for ETP species. | Some quantitative information is **adequate to assess** the UoA related mortality and impact and to determine whether the UoA may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species. **OR If RBF is used to score PI 2.3.1 for the UoA:** Some quantitative information is **adequate to estimate productivity and susceptibility** attributes for ETP species. | Quantitative information is available to assess with a high degree of certainty the **magnitude of UoA-related impacts, mortalities and injuries and the consequences for the status** of ETP species. |

ETP interactions with tuna fisheries has been subject to many studies over a range of ecosystems, target fisheries and fishing strategies. There is an extensive list of publications that provide insight into this subject. For most if not all tuna fisheries, it will therefore be possible to draw some qualitative conclusions about the likely scale of impact, in particular when further information about vessel numbers, fishing intensity, ETP species distribution and gear type are included in the consideration. This ensures that all tuna fisheries meet at least the SG60 requirement. By contrast, ETP interactions are not routinely reliably recorded in most tuna fisheries, although RFMO management measures are increasingly including this as a requirement. There is awareness on the part of most fleets that ETP interactions are potentially illegal, are focus of considerable NGO scrutiny and above all are potentially damaging to the reputation of their product with end consumers. Regardless of efforts to avoid ETP interaction and capture (as discussed in 2.3.2), it is certainly conceivable that attempts at self-recording of interactions (for example in logbooks – whether voluntary or a legal requirement) may be inaccurate or represent an under-estimation. Given this potential incentive to under-report interactions, considerable focus of this information performance indicator will fall on the independence and likely veracity of any quantitative data on interaction. Fisheries with more observer coverage are likely to score higher in this performance indicator. In some tuna fisheries, there is 100% observer coverage. Where the remit for this observer work includes quantifying ETP interactions, perhaps complemented by research work focused on the specific fleet or UoA characteristics, then it is likely that this may meet the SG100 level, almost regardless of the level of impact since the focus of this performance indicator is on the quality of information not the scale of the impact. By contrast, those fisheries that lack the high level of observer coverage or independent research are likely to suffer lower scores, even where attempts have been made to augment the level of quantitative information by implementing onboard recording of interactions (for example in logbooks). The score for this performance indicator will therefore likely be influenced by local fleet factors and to some extent nationality / national policy. However, it should be noted that a number of MSC assessments have concluded that there is insufficient quantitative information to assess the UoA related mortality and impact thus triggering a condition. This applies in both the Pacific and Indian Ocean and with both pole and line and purse seine fleets. From a harmonisation point of view, it is therefore likely that this would trigger a condition in any new tuna MSC assessments, unless it was clearly demonstrated that the information gaps identified in these previous assessments did not apply in this instance.

The 2009 ICCAT performance review urged contacting parties to make data and scientific expertise available to the ICCAT so that progress can be achieved on evaluating the effect the fisheries have on seabirds and turtles. This implies that, although data are often collected, they do not always contribute to the overall evaluation. SG80 is met but not SG100 since the level of quantitative information does not support a high degree of certainty regarding the UoA’s impact.

For FAD sets, given the previously discussed potential for indirect mortality (from entanglement), determining a quantitative estimate of UoA-related mortality is more challenging. This is not simply because this indirect mortality is typically unseen. Even where the impact of an individual FAD can be estimated (as has been achieved with a number of studies), the lack of understanding of the number of FADs means that it is not possible to scale up the impact to determine a cumulative impact for all FADs. There is therefore a clear need to monitor the type and number of FADs in use so that the level of overall FAD effort and impact may be determined (and potentially controlled by management – see 2.3.2). SG60 is met but not SG80 since the necessary level of information (i.e. no quantitative information) is not available to adequately assess the UoA’s impact.

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| 2.3.3.b Information adequacy for management strategy | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Information is adequate to support **measures** to manage the impacts on ETP species | Information is adequate to measure trends and support a **strategy** to manage impacts on ETP species | Information is adequate to support a **comprehensive strategy** to manage impacts, minimize mortality and injury of ETP species, and evaluate with a **high degree of certainty** whether a strategy is achieving its objectives. |

The information adequacy for a management strategy implies not only information in relation to the UoA (which is more the focus of scoring issue a) but also information about the ETP species themselves. There is some understanding as to the status of most ETP species. Indeed, it is partly this understanding of status that has led to their protection under relevant national legislation or international agreements or their classification on the IUCN Redlist. For those ETP species that qualify as such on the basis of being both out of MSC scope (i.e. reptiles, amphibians, birds or mammals) and classified by IUCN as either critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable, the IUCN listing typically provides some information on stock status trends, although this is not always regularly or recently updated. From the perspective of the UoA, there is comprehensive information available in relation to the fleet operations (spatial effort, temporal activity, overall effort). And as seen from scoring issue (a), there is also good understanding of the impacts of different gear types on ETP species and how these may be changed by appropriate mitigation, and the tuna RFMOs are also increasingly requiring that all interactions with ETPs are reported upon. Taken in combination, these separate fields of information could be seen as adequate to support a full strategy to manage impacts on ETP species. This is particularly relevant in the context of a precautionary approach to management where any lack of information should not be taken as a reason for delaying management. However, some past MSC assessments (such as the reference below for Fiji Albacore Tuna Longline) have focused more explicitly on the adequacy of information to support stock assessments on relevant ETP species and have concluded this to be insufficient, therefore triggering a condition. Other assessments have focused less on the quality of available information for ETP stock assessments and more on the availability of information of fleet related impacts. The best approach to scoring of this scoring issue under the latest version of the MSC certification requirements is for each ETP species affected by the fishery (unless the interaction is demonstrably negligible) to be scored as an ‘element’ for the quality and availability of information for a management strategy for that species. Given that many ETP species are not subject to regular assessments, and in many cases, there is only limited understanding on overall anthropogenic causes of mortality, it is probable that for a number of ETP species it may be concluded that information is not sufficient to measure trends (a requirement of SG80), thus triggering a condition. It is not necessarily clear what this scoring issue is addressing. If it is looking for overall information to measure ETP stock trends, then many ETP species will not meet this requirement. The following challenge would be that any condition will be hard to address and will certainly beyond the ability of a client fishery. SG80 is met but not SG100 since the level of information does not support a high degree of certainty regarding the strategy’s success.

All SG60 were met, and 1 out of 2 SG80 were met.

PI 2.3.3 : 70

References

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2.4 Habitats

P.2.4.1 Outcome Status

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.4.1.a Commonly encountered habitat status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The UoA is **unlikely** to reduce structure and function of the commonly encountered habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. | The UoA is **highly unlikely** to reduce structure and function of the commonly encountered habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. | There is **evidence** that the UoA is highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the commonly encountered habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. |

Tuna fisheries considered here occur in deep oceanic waters and do not physically impact the seafloor during their operation. The effect on oceanic waters would be negligible. Discarding of trash or pollutants would be detrimental to the habitat. Based on observer data, this is prohibited and appears to be broadly complied with, but a good record in this respect would need to be verified for any UoC vessels. Ghost fishing due to lost or discarded gear would also negatively impact seafloor habitat. However, since tuna fisheries are limited to oceanic waters and the impact of fishing on this habitat is negligible, SG100 is met.

In the case of FAD sets, the FADs themselves form part of the habitat so interactions through FAD fishing include changes to naturally occurring FADs caused by fishing as well as the addition of artificial FAD to the pelagic habitat. The main question is whether fishing on FADs or deploying FADs causes “serious or irreversible harm to habitat structure and function”. A number of factors suggest that fishing on FADs or deploying FADs does not have serious or irreversible impacts. These include: (i) the short residency and aggregation times of fish under FADs imply they are part of a temporary and dynamic process; (ii) in most cases, natural logs are removed from the purse seine, followed by smaller fish to ‘recolonise’ the logs immediately upon release; and (iii) the number of FADs naturally fluctuate, being created by processes such as storms and eventually sinking. FAD structures do not extend beyond 40m depth. Because the FAD population is not stable, the processes linking populations to FADs are likely to be opportunistic and robust, implying the fishery is highly unlikely to alter habitat structure to the where any harm is either serious or irreversible. SG100 is unlikely to be met because not enough is known about these processes to claim there is no evidence of any harm.

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| 2.4.1.b VME habitat status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The UoA is **unlikely** to reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. | The UoA is **highly unlikely** to reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. | There is **evidence** that the UoA is highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the VME habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. |

There are no VME habitats within tuna fishery areas within any of the oceans. Coral reefs and habitats associated with seamounts would not be affected directly by fishing activities, as they occur strictly near the surface in deep oceanic waters. This is verified by VMS and observer records. Gear could drift onshore if lost, and therefore impact coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, but there is no evidence that this is a significant problem.

Within the MSC scoring template, the 2.4.1.b scoring issue can be marked as “not relevant”. This implies this issue should not be scored as long as the fishery can show it does not take place on any VMEs. In this case, noting exceptions for some fisheries, the directed fishery on tuna does not take place on VMEs, and therefore this issue was not scored.

Anchored FADs would not encounter VMEs as they are set in deep water and do not move. For non-purse seine gears, drifting FADs are not widely used, and there is no evidence of impact outside fishing areas. Therefore, this scoring issue is considered not relevant in these cases.

In the case of pole and line fishing, collection of bait fish could impact VMEs depending on the bait fish used and collection methods. For most baitfish fisheries, it remains highly unlikely that there would be any significant impact on VME habitats because the majority of species are pelagic or semi-pelagic and not demersal. Therefore there is no incentive to interact with vulnerable habitats. However, in some cases, there is evidence that some fishers have used destructive methods to catch live bait on coral reefs, for example, as well as indirect damage caused by anchoring. Clearly, where there is a distinct possibility that this is occurring, the fishery would not meet SG60. However, in most cases, this should be determined as highly unlikely, meeting the SG80 on this issue. Unless baitfish are small pelagics collected well away from the coast, in most cases, there would be a lack of evidence for a negligible impact, preventing SG100 being met.

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| 2.4.1.c Minor habitat status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  |  | There is **evidence** that the UoA is highly unlikely to reduce structure and function of the minor habitats to a point where there would be serious or irreversible harm. |

Minor habitats in this case are more homogeneous waters away from seamounts, current interfaces and other areas where tuna abundance is lower. There is direct evidence from observer programmes and other sources that the tuna fisheries would not have a direct significant impact on any minor habitat structure and function. This meets SG100.

In the case of pole and line fishing, collection of bait fish could impact inshore habitats depending on collection methods. For most live baitfish fisheries, but unless baitfish were small pelagics, such as anchovy, there would be a lack of evidence of for a negligible impact so SG100 is not met.

All SG60 and SG80 were met, and 0 out of 3 SG100 were met.

PI 2.4.1 : 80

References

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P.2.4.2 Management strategy

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.4.2.a Management strategy in place | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| 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 all MSC UoAs/non-MSC fisheries on habitats. |

Because the guideposts refer to a partial strategy “where necessary”, the strategy applied across all gears is considered in scoring this issue. For all gears except purse seine, there is no strategy in place for managing impact on habitat because it is not considered necessary. This meets SG80. Additionally, in order to meet SG100, the management strategy should be in place even for gears that do not regularly contact benthic habitats since gear loss or unexpected seafloor impacts could occur.

For pole and line, live baitfish capture will also need to be considered. Without an overall strategy addressing potential habitat impacts, the fishery will be dependent on measures that are applied where necessary, which meets SG60, but not SG80. In most cases, we might expect only measures would be applied where considered necessary to protect habitat, primarily in lagoon and coral reef habitats. Where a partial strategy has been developed and is in place, the fishery should at least meet SG80. Without a partial strategy, most fisheries are likely to meet SG60 as long as there is evidence that measures, such as prohibition of damaging coral reefs, are in place.

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| 2.4.2.b Management strategy evaluation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The measures are **considered likely** to work, based on plausible argument (e.g. general experience, theory or comparison with similar UoAs/ habitats). | There is some **objective basis for confidence** that the measures/ partial strategy will work, based on **information directly about the UoA and/or habitats** involved. | **Testing** supports **high confidence** that the partial strategy/strategy will work, based on **information directly about the UoA and/or habitats** involved. |

The main threat to tuna habitat is likely to be FAD use. Even though the full effects of FADs are unknown, no negative impact has been detected, and further research is planned. Based on research to date and expert evaluation, there is reason for confidence that the current partial strategy and measures have eliminated high risk to habitat, meeting SG80. Across all gears, no habitat management strategy has been tested so SG100 cannot be met.

For pole and line, the impact of the bait fishery operations on habitat and whether measures in place are adequate will need to be determined on a case-by-case basis. No habitat management strategy will have been tested so SG100 will not be met. Where measures prevent destructive interaction with habitat or activities occur strictly in low risk areas, the SG80 will be met. If the bait fishery impact on habitat might be treated as negligible (effectively zero), SG100 might also be met. However, testing has not been undertaken for these fisheries so, for the purposes of this preassessment, SG80 is scored.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.4.2.c Management strategy implementation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | There is some **quantitative evidence** that the measures/ partial strategy is being implemented successfully. | There is **clear quantitative evidence** that the partial strategy/strategy is being implemented successfully and is achieving its objective, as outlined in scoring issue (a). |

For tuna fishing itself, there is no incentive to fish on or near vulnerable habitats. With verifiable VMS data and some observer coverage, it should be possible to provide clear quantitative evidence that the impact on habitats is negligible. A lack of such independent evidence, as might the case for smaller scale fisheries, would likely lead to a lower score here, as alternative monitoring information will be incomplete but is still unlikely to fall below SG80.

FAD effects and other associated activities apart from tuna fishing may not be directly monitored. There are considerable uncertainties with their impact so it is not possible at this stage to claim there is evidence that the current strategies are achieving their objectives. However, in most cases, there is quantitative evidence concerning measures applied, such as where and how much of each activity like bait collection, takes place and numbers of FADs and their locations. This suggests that these fisheries may not meet SG100 but are still likely to meet SG80.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.4.2.d Compliance with management requirements and other MSC UoAs’/non-MSC fisheries’ measures to protect VMEs | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There is **qualitative evidence** that the UoA complies with its management requirements to protect VMEs. | There is **some quantitative evidence** that the UoA complies with both its management requirements and with protection measures afforded to VMEs by other MSC UoAs/ non-MSC fisheries, where relevant. | There is **clear quantitative evidence** that the UoA complies with both its management requirements and with protection measures afforded to VMEs by other MSC UoAs/ non-MSC fisheries, where relevant. |

Larger vessels are required to carry VMS, and relevant fleets have observer programmes. Where VMS and observers are used and it can be clearly demonstrated that all fishing activities do not interact with VMEs, SG100 is met. Smaller vessels with incomplete coverage may only meet SG80 where some risk exists. However, VMEs should not occur within the normal areas of vessel operations, and this should be verifiable. As a result, for most tuna fishing operations, this scoring issue would be treated as “not relevant” because VMEs would not be encountered.

For small scale pole and line operations, it is possible that baitfish collection occurs in and around VMEs (inshore areas including coral reefs). In most of these cases, it will be expected that only limited evidence will be available while there is some risk of detrimental impact. As long as some observations are made on these vessel operations, it should be possible to meet SG80. However, for many baitfish fisheries operating inshore, the vessel operations may be poorly monitored. Without some quantitative information supporting management measures, the SG80 cannot be met.

All SG60 were met, and 2 out of 4 SG80 were met.

PI 2.4.2 : 70

References

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P.2.4.3 Information / monitoring

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.4.3.a Information quality | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The types and distribution of the main habitats are **broadly understood. OR If CSA is used to score PI 2.4.1 for the UoA:**Qualitative information is adequate to estimate the types and distribution of the main habitats. | The nature, distribution and **vulnerability** of the main habitats in the UoA area are known at a level of detail relevant to the scale and intensity of the UoA. **OR If CSA is used to score PI 2.4.1 for the UoA:** Some quantitative information is available and is adequate to estimate the types and distribution of the main habitats. | The distribution of all habitats is known over their range, with particular attention to the occurrence of vulnerable habitats. |

The physical, chemical and biological properties of the pelagic environment within RFMO jurisdictions are monitored, the habitat itself is adequately mapped in terms of depth and main oceanographic features, and the fishing operations and their location are also accurately recorded in relation to those features. Assessments of habitat preferences among fished species and the effect of environmental changes have also been made. All larger vessels operate a VMS, and thus there is accurate, near real-time monitoring of the spatial extent of interaction and the timing and location of use of the fishing gear. Observer programmes exist for longline and purse seine, and these record information on sets made and outcome of fishing. Information on smaller vessels is more limited, but still it is known VMEs do not occur within tuna fishing areas. Remote sensing data are available to map surface waters, productivity and depth. Shallow water vulnerable habitats, such as coral reefs and seagrass, which might be used by an associated baitfish fishery, would also be identified and mapped in most cases using remote sensing. There are no vulnerable habitats that interact directly with the tuna fishery, and the habitat is well recorded for assessment of the fishery, meeting SG100. Vulnerable habitats that might be used for baitfish would also be well-defined, also meeting SG100.

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| 2.4.3.b Information adequacy for assessment of impacts | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Information is adequate to broadly understand the nature of the main impacts of gear use on the main habitats, including spatial overlap of habitat with fishing gear. **OR If CSA is used to score PI 2.4.1 for the UoA:** Qualitative information is adequate to estimate the consequence and spatial attributes of the main habitats. | Information is adequate to allow for identification of the main impacts of the UoA on the main habitats, and there is reliable information on the spatial extent of interaction and on the timing and location of use of the fishing gear. **OR If CSA is used to score PI 2.4.1 for the UoA:** Some quantitative information is available and is adequate to estimate the consequence and spatial attributes of the main habitats. | The physical impacts of the gear on all habitats have been quantified fully. |

Available information would suggest that physical impact of all gears on the pelagic habitats will be negligible and short-lived. The main impact would be ecological alterations to the environment through use of FADs. Information on the use and distribution of FADs is not complete, although all FADs will be required to have identification information attached from 2015 in the EPO. However, the broad extent of FAD and other gear use is adequate for assessment of impact, including the timing and extent of gear deployment. This meets the SG80. Since the physical impact of the gear on all habitats has not been quantified, the SG100 is not met.

For pole and line, the distribution and likely impact of the baitfish fishery is likely to be known. For fisheries conducted on or near coral reefs, information would be adequate for assessment, but actual physical impact of gear on all habitats would be unlikely to be monitored since scientific observers would not be present. Therefore, these fisheries should meet SG80 but not SG100.

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| 2.4.3.c Monitoring | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | Adequate information continues to be collected to detect any increase in risk to the main habitats. | Changes in all habitat distributions over time are measured. |

Monitoring consists of recording the time and location of fishing and the type of set or quantity of hooks set, which can be linked to oceanographic data. Oceanographic information including basic physical (e.g. depth, temperature) and biological (e.g. phytoplankton density) data are recorded. However, on changes in deeper waters that tuna may use for foraging, such as current other changes to prey populations and feeding behaviour, are not monitored in detail. The spatial scales for these fisheries are very large, and most such monitoring depends on remote sensing. Increases in risk to habitats should be available from observer information, which is collected routinely for larger vessels. For fisheries that monitor distribution changes to all habitats over time, not just the change to main habitats, information is adequate to meet SG100. Since most tuna fisheries are unlikely to monitor to that extent, it is unlikely that the SG100 would be met.

For fisheries based on FADs, a key issue is the deployment of FADs and distribution of natural logs, which are not yet recorded except through set types. Such monitoring of FADs themselves as well as natural logs (their movement and the behaviour of populations in behaviour to these) has been proposed, but monitoring has not yet been fully implemented. This prevents these fisheries meeting SG100, although information is adequate for SG80.

For pole and line baitfish fisheries, risks may change depending on which baitfish species are targeted. It may well be that information is sufficient to detect increases of risk to vulnerable habitat, but many of these fisheries are not well monitored with respect to their activities in and around coral reefs and inshore lagoons. For these fisheries, SG80 will not be met unless it can be shown that the baitfish fishery is monitored sufficiently to detect any changes in baitfish operations.

All SG60 were met, and 2 out of 3 SG80 were met.

PI 2.4.3 : 75

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2.5 Ecosystem

P.2.5.1 Outcome Status

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.5.1.a Ecosystem status | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The UoA 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 UoA 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 UoA 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. |

In cases where there is only one scoring issue in a performance indicator, the MSC allows partial scoring. This means that, for example, a score of 90 can be given if SG80 is met and half of SG100 is also met. In this instance, it could mean that there is evidence that the UoA is not disrupting key elements but maybe that evidence has not been fully substantiated.

For these fisheries, there is no evidence of major disruption to the pelagic ecosystem beyond direct depletion due to fishing covered under other performance indicators. There are no reports of responses in the ecosystem, such as outbreaks of unexpected fluctuations, that cannot be attributed to natural responses. On balance, it is likely that the fishery would be considered highly unlikely to disrupt key elements of the ecosystem, but specific evidence is lacking to support this. Therefore, tuna fishing meets SG80 but not SG100.

For the pole and line live baitfish fishery, an assessment of the impact of baitfish removals would be required. In most cases, a stock assessment would not be available. Baitfish can be in short supply, but whether this is due to over-exploitation as opposed to natural fluctuations in stock size would be unclear without appropriate research. Most baitfish are short-lived, highly productive species that fluctuate greatly in population size through natural causes and are able to recover quickly. Sustained overfishing on these species is difficult and would be considered unlikely in most fisheries. The species are low trophic but not likely to be “key low trophic species” (as defined by MSC FCR v2.0 SA2.2.9) because, in the tropical marine inshore environments, there are a wide range of species within this role. Nevertheless, sustained capture of the range of low trophic species used as baitfish could have a wider impact on inshore ecosystems. While these impacts are unlikely to cause serious or irreversible harm, evidence on a case-by-case basis would be required to show this was highly unlikely and to meet SG80. Therefore SG60, but not SG80, is met.

All SG60 were met, but no SG80 or SG100.

PI 2.5.1 : 60

References

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P.2.5.2 Management strategy

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.5.2.a Management strategy in place | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| There are **measures** in place, if necessary which take into account the **potential impacts** of the UoA on key elements of the ecosystem. | There is a **partial strategy** in place, if necessary, which takes into account **available information and is expected to restrain impacts** of the UoA on the ecosystem so as to achieve the Ecosystem Outcome 80 level of performance. | There is a **strategy** that consists of a **plan**, in place which contains measures to **address all main impacts of the UoA** on the ecosystem, and at least some of these measures are in place. |

The management system primarily works to minimise bycatch and limit the reduction in the biomass of target species to acceptable levels (MSY). By default, where species are caught together, the management system applies controls to protect the most vulnerable reducing risks not only to this species but to the ecosystem as a whole. Hence, the ecosystem is protected to an extent by controls aimed at regulating mortality on target stocks. In addition, activities that might cause potential hazards to marine life (such as discarding rubbish or entanglement in FADs) are controlled through resolutions, codes of practice and training. Because of the background research and attempts to control the type of fishing and where and when fishing takes place fishing gear used and behaviour at sea, these are more than just measures and arguably amount to a partial strategy. These controls and the overall strategy of research with management responses are expected to protect the ecosystem over the longer term. This meets SG80. However, there is no overall ecosystem plan to detected risks so SG100 is not met.

For the pole and line live baitfish fishery, the ecosystem management would need to control for effects of the fishery. In many cases, this would amount to measures to limit impacts, rather than any strategy. This meets SG60. Some control to limit exploitation and wider impacts of fishing baitfish would be required to constitute a partial strategy, subsequently meeting SG80.

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| 2.5.2.b Management strategy evaluation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| The **measures** are considered likely to work, based on plausible argument (e.g., general experience, theory or comparison with similar UoAs/ ecosystems). | There is **some objective basis for confidence** that the measures/ partial strategy will work, based on some information directly about the UoA and/or the ecosystem involved. | **Testing** supports **high confidence** that the partial strategy/ strategy will work, based on information directly about the UoA and/or ecosystem involved. |

The partial strategy is using available information to monitor success and is likely to restrain and reduce impacts in the medium term, achieving the Outcome SG80 for PI 2.5.1. The lack of a full strategy and lack of research prevents the management addressing all impacts. The strategy is not clear enough, and information is limited preventing testing of the strategy. Overall, there is an objective basis for confidence that the partial strategy will work based on the process of management interventions and evaluation. Monitoring and evaluation has led to responses that have clearly reduced impacts. However, whether or not current controls are sufficient is uncertain so confidence is limited and based on ongoing effective measures and evaluation. The current approach meets SG80 but not SG100.

For the pole and line live baitfish fishery, in many cases, management is limited to measures to avoid destructive practices and protect ecosystem components that are important food fish, for example. The ecosystem management would need to control for effects of the fishery. In many cases, this would amount to measures to limit impacts, rather than any strategy. This meets SG60. Some control to limit exploitation and wider impacts of fishing baitfish would be required to meet SG80 for these fisheries.

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| 2.5.2.c Management strategy implementation | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | There is **some evidence** that the measures/partial strategy is being **implemented successfully.** | There is **clear evidence** that the partial strategy/strategy is being **implemented successfully and is achieving its objective as set out in scoring issue (a).** |

For larger longline and purse seine vessels, there is evidence from the observer program that existing measures are being implemented successfully. It is less clear that the measures are achieving objectives at this point. Furthermore, direct observations are only available for some fleets so coverage is limited. This amounts to some evidence that measures are being implemented successfully, meeting SG80, but evidence and whether overall objectives will be achieved are not yet clear so SG100 is not met.

For the pole and line live baitfish fishery, in most cases, it should be possible to identify whether measures are being implemented successfully. Many inshore areas have fishery independent monitoring of resources as well as fishery monitoring and surveillance, which should be adequate to assess whether measures are effective. This should meet SG80 in most cases.

All SG60 were met, and 1 out of 3 SG80 were met.

PI 2.5.2 : 65

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P.2.5.3 Information / monitoring

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.5.3.a Information quality | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Information is adequate to **identify** the key elements of the ecosystem. | Information is adequate to **broadly understand** the key elements of the ecosystem. |  |

Information is adequate to broadly understand all key elements of ecosystems that tuna fisheries interact with. All tuna RFMOs are developing a number of measures covering key elements of the ecosystem. This includes main genus and species (including phyto- and zoo-plankton) as well their trophic relationships, which are most likely the major determinants of abundance. The broad effects of the physical oceanography are also understood. Inshore ecosystems, which might provide baitfish, are managed locally, but these ecosystems are not well studied across the range they exist. Therefore, this meets SG80 but not SG100.

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| 2.5.3.b Investigation of UoA impacts | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
| Main impacts of the UoA on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, but **have not been investigated** in detail. | Main impacts of the UoA on these key ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and **some have been investigated in detail.** | Main interactions between the UoA and these ecosystem elements can be inferred from existing information, and **have been investigated in detail.** |

The main impact from fishing will likely be through catches affecting trophic relationships. Discards are being recorded by observers and retained catch from landings. In addition, more qualitative information has been used in a measure of susceptibility for a preliminary ecological risk assessment. Some aspects of ecosystem and the impact of fishing, including baitfish fishing, have been investigated in detail through various models. This meets SG80.

Main interactions between tuna fisheries can be inferred from considerable ecosystem information that is available, but not all such interactions have been investigated. For example, further research is required to investigate how FADs may affect population dynamics of tuna and other pelagic species or how species interact with each other (e.g. spinner dolphins and yellowfin tuna). Although some interactions have been investigated in detail and are used in ecosystem models, not all important interactions are well enough understood for this so SG100 is not met.

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| 2.5.3.c Understanding of component functions | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | The main functions of the components (i.e., P1 target species, primary, secondary and ETP species and Habitats) in the ecosystem are **known.** | The impacts of the UoA on P1 target species, primary, secondary and ETP species and Habitats are identified and the main functions of these components in the ecosystem are **understood.** |

The main functions of all ecosystem components are known. The oceanic pelagic ecosystem has been well studied, and the ecosystem role of large species such as tuna, other tuna-like species and surface pelagic fish species is well understood. This has allowed for the development and use of spatial ecosystem models for management advice in some fisheries. Modelling however has mostly related to trophic relationships among species. Other types of interaction, such as competition, interaction with the physical environment and the effect of predation on dynamics, have been explored, and their roles are understood. Assessment of fishery-related impacts on the ecosystem is limited by the available data on the wide range of species involved in tuna fisheries. Recording direct and indirect impacts is difficult across the large spatial scales that these fisheries operate. The impacts of the fishery on these components can be inferred. While these impacts have not been fully quantified, risks to the ecosystem and its components have been identified. Since all potential and actual impacts on the different components of the ecosystem have been identified and the functions of these components are understood, SG100 is met.

There is an additional issue arising for both dolphin sets and FAD sets. In either case, the functions of these between tuna and dolphins or objects are not well understood so the effect of the disturbance of these during fishing is also not perhaps well understood. However, it is likely that the main ecosystem impacts will be through the discarded bycatch under FADs, dolphin mortality or altering the number of FADs as part of the habitat or all of which are addressed under other performance indicators. Beyond these factors, there is no evidence of ecosystem impact, but the lack of information is likely to prevent these gears from meeting the SG100.

For pole and line baitfish fisheries, functions of baitfish species are also adequately understood from research on inshore areas (coral reefs and lagoon ecosystems). These should be adequate for at least a qualitative assessment of wider ecosystem risks from these fisheries. Therefore, SG80 is met. To meet SG100, additional information would be needed to understand the main functions of the components within the ecosystem.

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| 2.5.3.d Information relevance | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | Adequate information is available on the impacts of the UoA on these components to allow some of the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred. | Adequate information is available on the impacts of the UoA on the components **and elements** to allow the main consequences for the ecosystem to be inferred. |

Sufficient information is available to infer the main consequences of the fishery impact, and information is sufficient to keep risks to the ecosystem low. The implication on trophic relationships of declines in biomass of bycatch species can be obtained from the available models and qualitative consideration of the likely knock-on effects. It is not clear that the individual ecosystem elements are well enough understood that consequences at this greater level of detail might be inferred. Models and expert opinion would currently only be able to infer broad and direct effects on the ecosystem (e.g. lower natural mortality on tunas from a reduced shark population). This is adequate to infer some important consequences of fishing on the ecosystem, meeting SG80. However, although impacts on components and elements (species and habitat categories) have been considered, it is not clear that all main consequences of the fisheries can be yet determined so SG100 is not met.

For pole and line baitfish fisheries, the consequences for the ecosystem of many baitfish fisheries are not well understood. Whereas information on the components themselves is adequate, quantitative information of the full consequences of fishery interactions with these components, often compounded with other uses of inshore resources, may not be inferred. Management is based on surmising likely risks. Where baitfish fisheries cannot infer consequences on the inshore ecosystem of fisheries, SG80 cannot be met.

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| 2.5.3.e Monitoring | | |
| 60 Guidepost | 80 Guidepost | 100 Guidepost |
|  | Adequate data continue to be collected to detect any increase in risk level. | Information is adequate to support the development of strategies to manage ecosystem impacts. |

Adequate data are being collected to detect increases in risk. These include monitoring all catches, bycatch and independent environmental data on the oceanic pelagic ecosystem. Data are not yet extensive enough to develop full strategies to manage ecosystem impacts. Bycatch data are not complete, and secondary effects are not well enough understood to develop these. Therefore, SG80 is met but not SG100.

Many pole and line baitfish fisheries have inadequate monitoring of the live baitfish component of the fishery. Fisheries lacking basic monitoring information (estimates of bait catches by species, CPUE, vessel operations) of live baitfish fisheries would not meet SG80. However, where baitfish are supplied from a managed fishery, monitoring should be adequate to achieve SG80 or better.

All SG60 were met, and 3 out of 5 SG80 were met.

PI 2.5.3 : 70

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Appendix: PSA Score Justification

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **[Yellowfin tuna](#S_YFT" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus albacares*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2408153 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 239, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 103, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-250m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 40.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 239cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **[Bigeye tuna](#S_BET" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus obesus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 5531858 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 250, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 100, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-250m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 40.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 250cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.89 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **[Frigate tuna](#S_FRI" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Auxis thazard*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.787, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.787, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 200000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 65, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 30, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 50-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 33.77%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 65cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 59.09%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.66 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **[Little tunny](#S_LTA" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Euthynnus alletteratus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 71000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 122, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 42, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Mainly Atlantic distribution, but some catches reported in Indian Ocean. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-150m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 66.67%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 122cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.55 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **[Blue shark](#S_BSH" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Prionace glauca*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 4 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 400, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 206, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1000m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 10.00%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 400cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.42 |

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| **[Atlantic bonito](#S_BON" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Sarda sarda*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.529, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.529, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 91, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 37, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and Indian Oceans | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 80-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 17.36%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 91.4cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 83.09%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.27 |

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| **[Indo-Pacific sailfish](#S_SFA" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Istiophorus platypterus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.311, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.311, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 348, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 150, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, absent in Mediterranean. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 348cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.54 |

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| **[Wahoo](#S_WAH" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Acanthocybium solandri*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.300, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.300, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 6000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 250, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 99, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-20m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 250cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.89 |

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| **[Albacore tuna](#S_ALB" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus alalunga*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1107500 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 140, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 85, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-600m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 16.67%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 140cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.54 |

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| **[Blackfin tuna](#S_BLF" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus atlanticus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.300, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.300, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 108, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 49, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and Indian Oceans | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 50-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 33.77%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 108cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 98.18%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.89 |

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| **[Swordfish](#S_SWO" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Xiphias gladius*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.158, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.158, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 17000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 455, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 221, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.14 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-800m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 12.50%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 455cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.85 |

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| **[Atlantic white marlin](#S_WHM" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Kajikia albida*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.600, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.600, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Engraulidae, which included 4 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 300, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 164, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific Ocean, but catches reported in Indian Ocean. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-150m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 66.67%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 300cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| **[Blue marlin](#S_BUM" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Makaira nigricans*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.324, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.324, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 500, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 50, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution (see fishbase as could be the same species as M. mazara). | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 500cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.89 |

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| **[Rainbow runner](#S_RRU" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Elagatis bipinnulata*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.354, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.354, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Echeneidae , which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 180, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 65, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution, mainly coastal | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 2-10m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 180cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.02 |

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| **[Atlantic bluefin tuna](#S_BFT" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus thynnus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 34833333 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 458, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 97, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.14 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and rare in Indian Oceans. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-985m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 10.15%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 458cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.66 |

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| **[Bullet tuna](#S_BLT" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Auxis rochei*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.464, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.464, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 31000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 50, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 35, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 10-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 47.64%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 50cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 45.45%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.66 |

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| **[Common dolphinfish](#S_DOL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Coryphaena hippurus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 1.340, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 1.340, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 58000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 210, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 56, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-85m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 210cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| **[Picked/ spiny dogfish](#S_DGS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Squalus acanthias*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 160, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 81, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Northern and Southern oceans subtropical distrbution | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1460m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 6.85%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 160cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| **[Chub mackerel](#S_MAS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scomber japonicus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 64, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 26, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Commercial bait fisheries as well as bycatch in tropical gears. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | Primarily bait for longline/troll gears, but also reported as bycatch in some tuna fisheries. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 64cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 58.18%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.03 |

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| **[Black marlin](#S_BLM" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Istiompax indica*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.231, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.231, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 40000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 465, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 465cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution. Although reportedly absent in North and Central Atlantic, catches are reported with these stocks. Species is coastal. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-915m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 10.93%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 465cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.37 |

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| **[Longfin yellowtail](#S_YTL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Seriola rivoliana*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 3 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 160, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 160cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, uncommon in North Atlantic Ocean and southern Oceans, mainly coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 5-245m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 39.83%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 160cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.55 |

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| **[Longbill spearfish](#S_SPF" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Tetrapturus pfluegeri*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Somniosidae, which included 2 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Somniosidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 254, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 254cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, but catches reported in Indian Ocean and Pacific. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 254cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.98 |

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| **[Pompano dolphinfish](#S_CFW" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Coryphaena equiselis*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.500, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 127, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 22, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-400m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 25.00%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 127cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.36 |

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| **[Tunas nei](#S_TUN" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnini*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Triakidae, which included 6 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-150m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 66.67%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 50 species is 458cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Mackerels and tunas](#S_TUX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Family Scombridae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Centrolophidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Centrolophidae, which included 2 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 50 species is 458cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Billfish](#S_BIL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Family Istiophoridae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Belonidae, which included 2 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Belonidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Belonidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Belonidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Belonidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 9 species is 500cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[Plain bonito](#S_BOP" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Orcynopsis unicolor*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 23 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 23 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 3000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 130, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 75, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | East Atlantic distribution, uncommon in West Atlantic | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 130cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[West African Spanish mackerel](#S_MAW" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scomberomorus tritor*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.318, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.318, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 100, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 37, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, but catches reported in Pacific and Indian Oceans. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-40m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 100cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 90.91%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.73 |

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| **[Shortfin mako](#S_SMA" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Isurus oxyrinchus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 4 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 445, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 278, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Coastal, oceanic species occurring from the surface to at least 500 m depth and is widespread in temperate and tropical waters of all oceans from about 50°N (up to 60°N in the NE Atlantic) to 50°S; occasionally found close inshore where the continental shelf is narrow; not normally found in waters below 16°C. Absent or rare in Indo-Pacific subtropics, uncommon in Mediterranean. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-750m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 13.33%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 445cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Various sharks nei](#S_SKH" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Selachimorpha (Pleurotremata)*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | There is no information. | | 3 |
| Average max age | There is no information. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Angelshark, of 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Various sharks nei, of 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Various sharks nei, of 4 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Various sharks nei, of 4 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Various sharks nei, of 4 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 3.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | No information. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | No information. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | No information. | | 3 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 3.00 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 4.24 |

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| **[Seerfishes nei](#S_KGX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scomberomorus spp*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Molidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Molidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Centrolophidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-20m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 50 species is 458cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Silky shark](#S_FAL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Carcharhinus falciformis*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 350, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 228, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution, mainly coastal | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-4000m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 2.50%. This species is reef associated. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 350cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[Requiem sharks](#S_RSK" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Family Carcharhinidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 14 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 14 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 44 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 3.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 32 species is 750cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.80 |

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| **[Oceanic triggerfish](#S_CNT" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Canthidermis maculata*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Caesionidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Caesionidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 50, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 50cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution, mainly coastal | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-110m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 90.91%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 50cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 45.45%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.25 |

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| **[Small-spotted catshark](#S_SYC" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scyliorhinus canicula*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 29 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 100, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 57, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.8, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Southeast Atlantic distribution, but catches reported elsewhere. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 10-780m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 11.80%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 100cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 90.91%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.55 |

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| **[Smooth hammerhead](#S_SPZ" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Sphyrna zygaena*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 20 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 500, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 265, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.9, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 500cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.42 |

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| **[Dogfish sharks, etc. nei](#S_SHX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Squaliformes*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Etmopteridae, which included 5 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Etmopteridae, which included 5 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Etmopteridae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Etmopteridae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1460m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 6.85%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 3 species is 160cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[Blue runner](#S_RUB" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Caranx crysos*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.347, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.347, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 41000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 70, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 27, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.1, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and Indian Oceans, mainly coastal | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 70cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 63.64%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.03 |

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| **[True tunas nei](#S_TUS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Thunnus spp*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 35 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 35 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 44 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-250m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 40.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 50 species is 458cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Starry smooth-hound](#S_SDS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Mustelus asterias*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 7 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 140, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 80, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.6, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Southeast Atlantic distribution, but catches reported elsewhere | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-350m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 28.57%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 140cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| **[Smooth-hounds nei](#S_SDV" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Mustelus spp*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 2 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide demersal distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-350m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 28.57%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 6 species is 200cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.94 |

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| **[Porbeagle shark](#S_POR" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Lamna nasus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 350, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 175, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.6, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Wide-ranging coastal and oceanic species found in temperate and cold-temperate waters worldwide, more common on continental shelves; coastal and oceanic, amphitemperate, with centres of distribution in the North Atlantic and in a circumglobal band of temperate water of the southern Atlantic, southern Indian Ocean, southern Pacific and Antarctic Ocean; In the SW Atlantic Ocean it is found below 26°S and SE Pacific, between 23 and 37°S. Catches reported in some tropical tuna fisheries. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-715m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 13.99%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 350cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.00 |

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| **[Bluntnose sixgill shark](#S_SBL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Hexanchus griseus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Molidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Molidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 22 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 482, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 410, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide demersal distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-2500m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 4.00%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 482cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.94 |

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| **[Hammerhead sharks](#S_SPN" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Family Sphyrnidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Sphyrnidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Sphyrnidae, which included 2 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Clupeidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Ephippidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Ephippidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Ephippidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 4 species is 610cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.68 |

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| **[Thintail Thresher Shark](#S_ALV" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Alopias vulpinus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 573, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 303, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-650m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 15.38%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 573cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.18 |

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| **[Thresher sharks nei](#S_THR" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Alopias spp*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Caesionidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Caesionidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-500m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 20.00%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 3 species is 573cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.42 |

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| **[School Shark, Tope shark](#S_GAG" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Galeorhinus galeus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 6 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 193, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 146, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, uncommon in tropics | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 9.09%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 193cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.87 |

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| **[Scalloped hammerhead](#S_SPL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Sphyrna lewini*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 13 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 430, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 225, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.1, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1000m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 10.00%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 430cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.42 |

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| **[Dogfish sharks nei](#S_DGX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Squalidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | There is no information. | | 3 |
| Average max age | There is no information. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Angelshark, of 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Dogfish sharks nei, of 3 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Dogfish sharks nei, of 5 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Dogfish sharks nei, of 5 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is the maximum risk score in the catch group, Dogfish sharks nei, of 5 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | No information. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | No information. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | No information. | | 3 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 3.00 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 4.05 |

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| **[Oilfish](#S_OIL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Ruvettus pretiosus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Odontaspididae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Odontaspididae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Odontaspididae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 300, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 300cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 15 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.2, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, mainly West Atlantic, absent East Pacific and subtropical Pacific Oceans. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 100-800m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 0.14%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 300cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.46 |

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| **[Dogfishes and hounds nei](#S_DGH" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Squalidae, Scyliorhinidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Diodontidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carcharhinidae, which included 32 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1460m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 6.85%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 3 species is 160cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[Atlantic saury](#S_SAU" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scomberesox saurus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.710, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.710, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 50, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 27, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.9, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and Indian Oceans | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-30m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 50cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 45.45%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.73 |

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| **[Oceanic whitetip shark](#S_OCS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Carcharhinus longimanus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 400, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 187, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.2, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-230m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 43.48%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 400cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.57 |

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| **[Slender sunfish](#S_RZV" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Ranzania laevis*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Dasyatidae, which included 3 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Dasyatidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Dasyatidae, which included 6 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 100, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 100cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Echeneidae , which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.7, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-140m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 71.43%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 100cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 90.91%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.07 |

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| **[Dusky shark](#S_DUS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Carcharhinus obscurus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.040, which is lower than highest risk K (0.061) for age at maturity. | | 3 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.040, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 3 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 420, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 235, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 3.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-400m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 25.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 420cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Smooth-hound](#S_SMD" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Mustelus mustelus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.100, which is lower than highest risk K (0.12) for maximum age. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 4 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 200, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 80, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.8, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Widespread, from Northern Europe to S. Africa, including the Mediterranean Sea, although it is less common in the northern portion of its range; usually found in shallow waters at 5-50 m depth, although it occurs to at least 350 m deep. Although mainly found in the coastal East Atantic, catches are reported in the Indian Ocean. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 5-624m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 15.48%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 200cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.81 |

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| **[Unicorn leatherjacket filefish](#S_ALM" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Aluterus monoceros*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.220, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.220, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 76, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 76cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | There is no information, but fish are not live bearers. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.8, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide juvenile pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-80m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 76.2cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 69.27%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.98 |

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| **[Snake mackerel](#S_GES" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Gempylus serpens*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Gempylidae, which included 3 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 650000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 100, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 50, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Distribution worldwide in tropical and subtropical seas. | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-600m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 16.67%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 100cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 90.91%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.64 |

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| **[Great barracuda](#S_GBA" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Sphyraena barracuda*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.124, which is in the medium risk K range (0.061-0.183) for age at maturity. | | 2 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.124, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 200, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 66, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution, mainly coastal | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 200cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.28 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.37 |

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| **[Great hammerhead](#S_SPK" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Sphyrna mokarran*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Istiophoridae, which included 5 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Istiophoridae, which included 5 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 13 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 610, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 251, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.3, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution. Species is coastal. | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-300m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 33.33%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 610cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.26 |

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| **[Catsharks, nursehounds nei](#S_SCL" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scyliorhinus spp*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 14 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 14 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Molidae, which included 4 species. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 15 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide demersal distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-800m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 12.50%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 5 species is 170cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.82 |

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| **[Cat sharks](#S_SYX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scyliorhinidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scyliorhinidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Somniosidae, which included 2 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Somniosidae, which included 7 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 44 species. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide demersal distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-800m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 12.50%. This species is demersal. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 5 species is 170cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.82 |

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| **[Ocean sunfish](#S_MOX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Mola mola*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 35 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 35 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 300000000 eggs/year, which is higher than the lowest risk value (20000). | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 333, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 333cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.7, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 30-480m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 15.74%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 333cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.96 |

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| **[Grey triggerfish](#S_TRG" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Balistes capriscus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 60, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 16, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.1, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.71 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Atlantic distribution, absent in Pacific and Indian Oceans, mainly coastal | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 60cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 54.55%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.33 |

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| **[Giant Devil Ray](#S_RMM" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Mobula mobular*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 520, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 520cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.7, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Occurs throughout the Mediterranean Sea, and possibly in the nearby NE Atlantic, but absent from the Black Sea. It has been reported from the coast of NW Africa (Morocco to Senegal), the Canary Islands, Madeira, the Azores, Portugal, and as a vagrant off southern Ireland . Species is coastal. However, catches have been reported in Atlantic and Indian Ocean fisheries. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 520cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.94 |

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| **[Ground sharks](#S_CVX" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Carcharhiniformes*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Centrophoridae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Centrophoridae, which included 3 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 44 species. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 50 species. | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 3.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-800m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 12.50%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 32 species is 750cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.54 |

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| **[Nursehound](#S_SYT" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Scyliorhinus stellaris*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Somniosidae, which included 2 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 35 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Dasyatidae, which included 6 species. | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 170, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 77, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.0, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Southeast Atlantic distribution, but catches reported elsewhere | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-400m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 25.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 170cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.13 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.68 |

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| **[Giant manta](#S_RMB" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Manta birostris*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 1 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 910, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 400, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide coastal distribution | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-120m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 83.33%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 910cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.02 |

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| **[Spinner shark](#S_CCB" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Carcharhinus brevipinna*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 3 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 300, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 210, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.2, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, absent in Mediterranean / Southern Indian Ocean, mainly coastal | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-100m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 300cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.89 |

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| **[Longfin mako](#S_LMA" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Isurus paucus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 427, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 205, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.5, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-1752m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 5.71%. | | 1 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 427cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 3.19 |

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| **[Cottonmouth jack](#S_USE" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Uraspis secunda*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 17 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Carangidae, which included 3 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 50, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 50cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.0, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.86 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-50m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 50cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 45.45%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 2.33 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.98 |

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| **[Pelagic stingray](#S_PLS" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Pteroplatytrygon violacea*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.200, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 2 eggs/year, which is lower than the highest risk value (100). | | 3 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 96, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 38, which is lower than the lowest risk value (40cm). | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is live bearer, which is high risk. | | 3 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-381m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 26.25%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 96cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 87.27%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.74 |

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| **[Flyingfish](#S_FLY" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Family Exocoetidae*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | There is no information, but fish are likely to produce >100 eggs/year. | | 2 |
| Average max size | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.43 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-20m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 100.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is missing, but the family's maximum length based on 1 species is 30cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 27.27%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 1 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.65 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.18 |

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| **[Sharptail mola](#S_MRW" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Masturus lanceolatus*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 2 |
| Average max age | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Myliobatidae, which included 1 species. | | 3 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Scombridae, which included 27 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 337, which is higher than the highest risk value (300cm). | | 3 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 337cm, which is higher than the highest risk value (200cm). | | 3 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is broadcast spawner, which is low risk. | | 1 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.8, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.29 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide pelagic distribution | | 3 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-670m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 14.93%. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 337cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 100.00%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.88 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.96 |

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| **[Garfish](#S_GAR" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Belone belone*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 0.290, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 0.290, which is in the medium risk K range (0.12-0.30) for maximum age. | | 2 |
| Fecundity | Species fecundity is 19252 eggs/year, which is in the medium risk range (100-20000). | | 2 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 104, which is in the medium risk range (100-300cm). | | 2 |
| Average size at maturity | Species length at maturity is 45, which is in the medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 4.2, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 2.00 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Northeastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea only, but catches reported for elsewhere. | | 1 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-200m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 50.00%. | | 3 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 104cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 94.55%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.43 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.46 |

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| **[Pilotfish](#S_NAU" \o "PSA Score)** | | ***Naucrates ductor*** | |
| **Productivity** | | | |
| Average age at maturity | Species growth rate (K) is 2.360, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.183) for age at maturity. | | 1 |
| Average max age | Species growth rate (K) is 2.360, which is higher than lowest risk K (0.30) for maximum age. | | 1 |
| Fecundity | The score is based on the maximum risk score in the family Agonidae, which included 1 species. | | 1 |
| Average max size | Species maximum length is 70, which is lower than the lowest risk value (100cm). | | 1 |
| Average size at maturity | Species maximum length is 70cm, which is in the length at maturity medium risk range (40-200cm). | | 2 |
| Reproductive strategy | Species reproductive strategy is demersal egg layer, which is medium risk. | | 2 |
| Trophic level | Species trophic level is 3.4, which is higher than the highest risk value (3.25). | | 3 |
|  | Productivity score | | 1.57 |
| **Susceptibility** | | | |
| Areal overlap (availability) | Worldwide distribution, mainly coastal | | 2 |
| Encounterability | The depth range of the species is 1-300m. For surface gears, the vertical overlap index with this species is 33.33%. This species is reef associated. | | 2 |
| Selectivity | The maximum length of the species is 70cm. For tropical surface fisheries, the length overlap index with this species is 63.64%. Pole and line induces feeding behaviour in tunas which tends to exclude other species. | | 2 |
| Post capture mortality | No direct evidence of survival after capture. | | 3 |
|  | Susceptibility score | | 1.58 |
|  | Vulnerability score | | 2.22 |