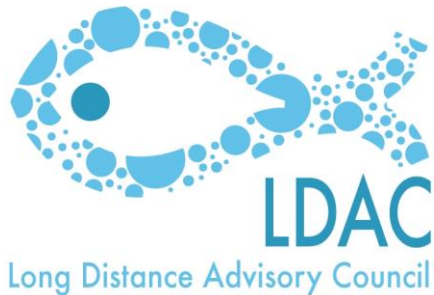




MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

www.azti.es



Long Distance Advisory Council

TROPICAL TUNAS:

Outcomes of SCRS and MSE for tropical tunas 2024

Working Group 1

Highly Migratory (Tuna and Tuna-like) Stocks and its RFMOs

Tuesday, 15th October 2024

Gorkar Merino - gmerino@azti.es

Outcomes

- Atlantic yellowfin stock assessment
- Recommendations
- Responses to the Commission

YFT-SA

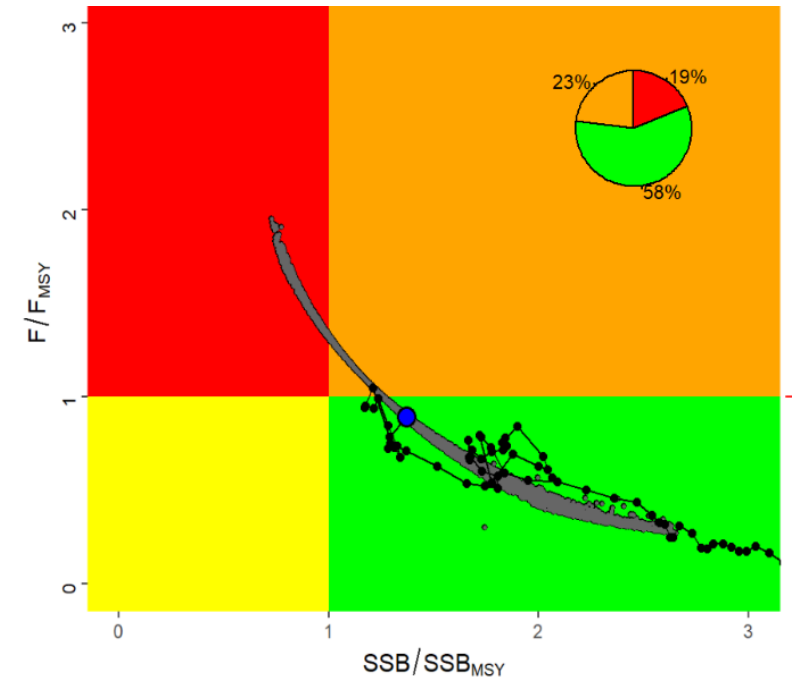


- A new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin in 2024.

YFT-SA



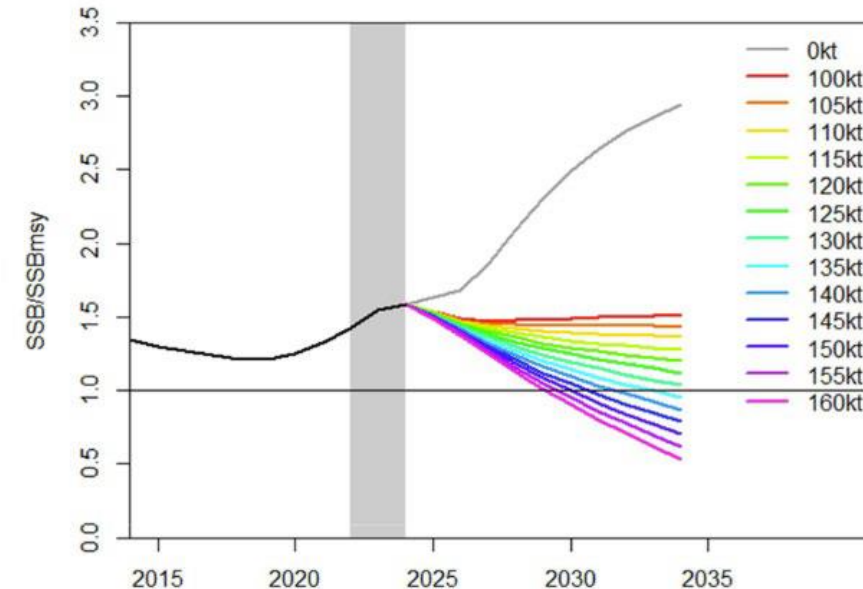
- A new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin in 2024.
- The results indicate that yellowfin is not-overfished and not subject to overfishing (Green quadrant of the Kobe plot, 58% probability).



YFT-SA



- A new stock assessment was carried out for yellowfin in 2024.
- The results indicate that yellowfin is not-overfished and not subject to overfishing (Green quadrant of the Kobe plot, 58% probability).
- However, it was noted that recent catches (~140 kt) are not sustainable in the long term.
- Projections show that reducing catch to <125,000 tons would maintain the stock in the green quadrant in 10 yrs.



Responses to the Commission

Relevant for
tropical tunas

- **19.36** *Estimate of capacity in the Convention area, to include at least all the fishing units that are largescale or operate outside the EEZ of the CPC they are registered in, Rec. 22-01 para 66b.*
- **19.38** *Fishing prohibited with FADs, Rec. 22-01 para 28.*

Responses to the Commission

Relevant for
tropical tunas

- *19.36 Estimate of capacity in the Convention area, to include at least all the fishing units that are largescale or operate outside the EEZ of the CPC they are registered in, Rec. 22-01 para 66b.*

- Available only for purse seine.
- A reduction or some vessels identified previously were not active (or other cause).
- Likely capacity decrease.

	SCRS 2019	SCRS/2020 /123	SCRS/2021 /153	SCRS/2022 /151	This paper
FLAG/Year	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023
BLZ	2	8	8	8	10
BRA	0	0-1	0-1	0	0-1
CPV	1	1	1	0	0
CUW	5	4	4	2	0
EU.ESP	10	10	11	10	8
EU.FRA	10	9	10	10	9
GHA	15	16	16-17	16-17	16
GIN	0	0	0	0	1
GTM	2	2	2	2	2
LBR	0	2	2	0	0
MAR	0	1	3-4	3-4	1
PAN	2	3-6	5-6	4-6	4
SEN	7	7	7	7	6
SLV	4	4	3	3	3
VEN	0	1	2-4	2-3	2
Total	58	68-72	74-80	67-72	62-63

Responses to the Commission

Relevant for
tropical tunas

- *19.38 Fishing prohibited with FADs, Rec. 22-01 para 28.*
- There is no evidence that the moratoria has produced a reduction in the fishing mortality of young individuals of bigeye and yellowfin.
- A recent study suggests that, in the absence of a mechanism to reduce catch for yellowfin, closures of one to three months could help reduce catch and avoid overfishing. The analysis identifies season 2 (April-June) as the period that would produce the highest benefit.
- The effect of the closure for bigeye is less evident as the current catch and TAC (62,000 tons) are already below the catch levels associated with the stock being not overfished and not subject to overfishing.

Recommendations

Relevant for
tropical tunas

- Yellowfin: Reduce catch to sustainable levels (125,000 tons).
- New stock assessment for Atlantic bigeye in 2024.
- Continue MSE works.
- Consider advancing on Management objectives for tropical tunas.
- New stock assessment for Atlantic bigeye in 2024.

MSE



Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Atlantic tropical tunas

MSE



Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Atlantic tropical tunas

- To support the development of a robust advice framework consistent with the Precautionary Approach and to evaluate Management Procedures for the common management of TT stocks.
- Started in 2018, with an initial workplan and in 2021-2023 with the development of specific components of the MSE framework (mostly mathematical components).
- Common structure for the recent assessments:
 - Bigeye (2018-2021), Yellowfin (2019, 2024), E-Skipjack (2022).
- MSE Model (FLBEIA)

MSE



Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Atlantic tropical tunas

- In 2024 and beyond:
 - Recommendation for the Com to determine management objectives.
 - Technical developments still to come...
 - Preliminary evaluations of candidate MPs expected by September 2025.



MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

www.azti.es



Long Distance Advisory Council

TROPICAL TUNAS:

Outcomes of SCRS and MSE for tropical tunas 2024

Working Group 1

Highly Migratory (Tuna and Tuna-like) Stocks and its RFMOs

Tuesday, 15th October 2024

Gorkar Merino - gmerino@azti.es

Thanks!