



MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

www.azti.es



Long Distance Advisory Council

TROPICAL TUNAS:

State of exploitation and perspectives for 2025-2026

Working Group 1

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

Tuesday, 14th October 2025

Gorka Merino - gmerino@azti.es

Outline

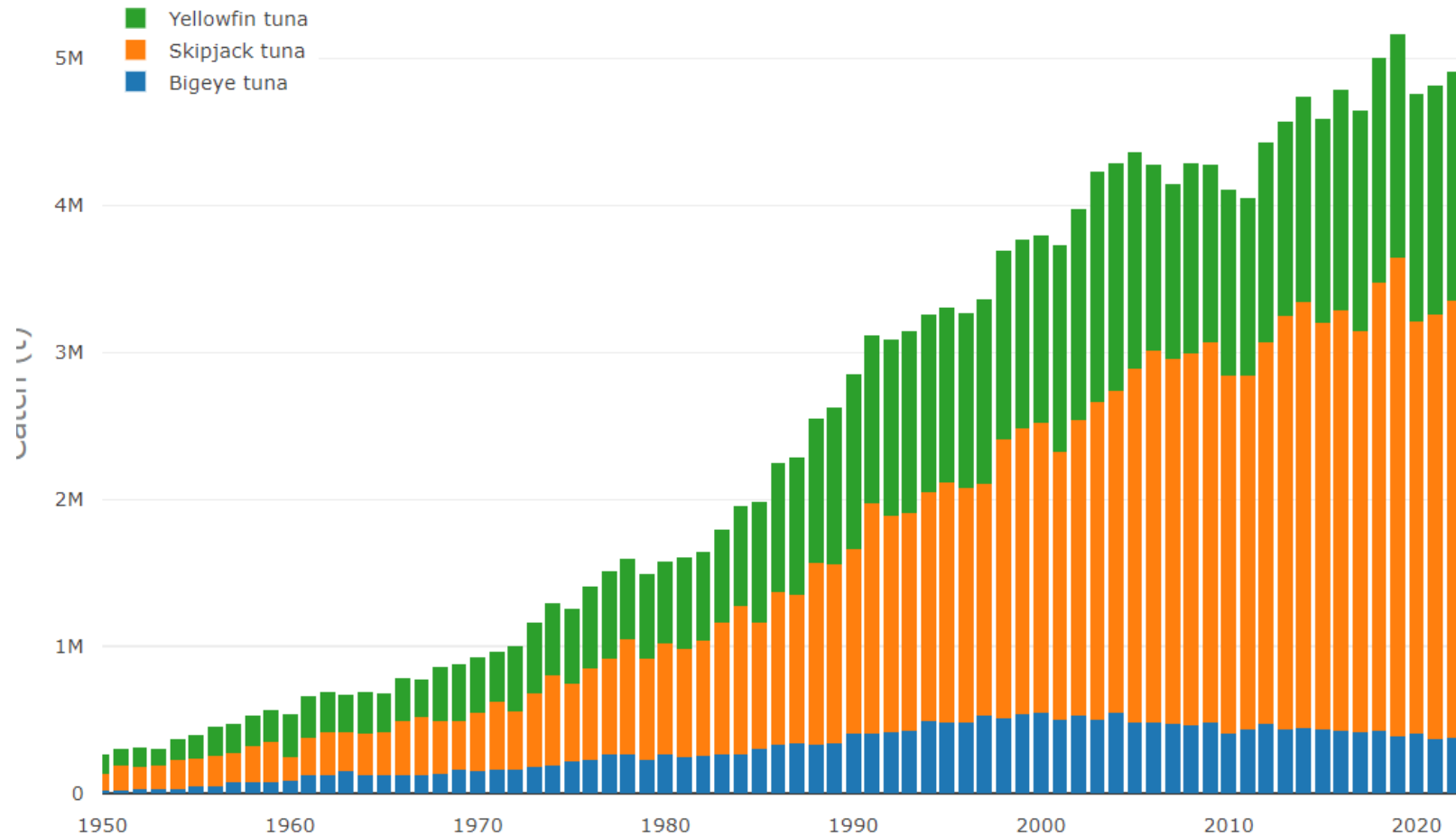
- Overview of catch trends and stock status for tropical tunas worldwide.
- Management advice in 2025 (ICCAT and WCPFC).

Outline

- Overview of catch trends and stock status for tropical tunas worldwide.

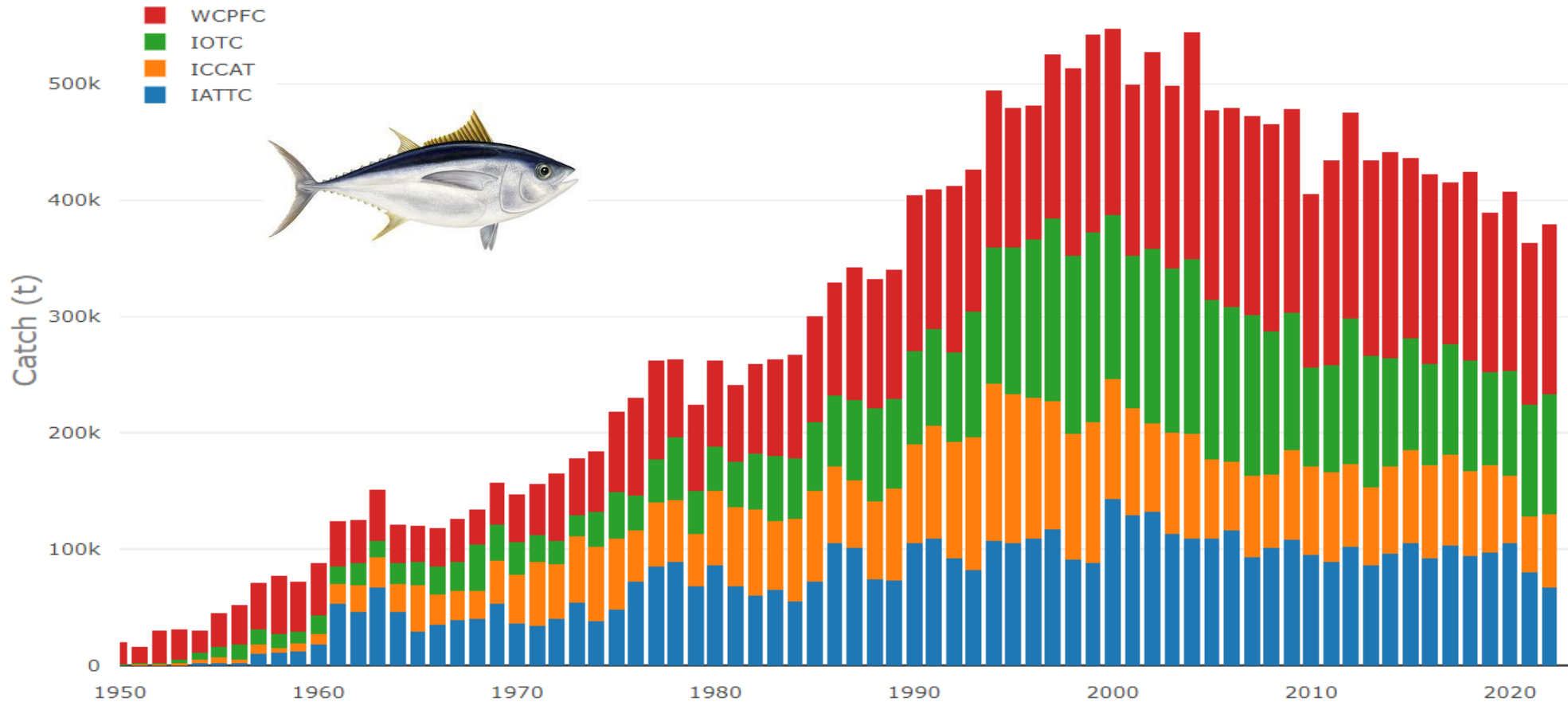
Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

Global production at max level



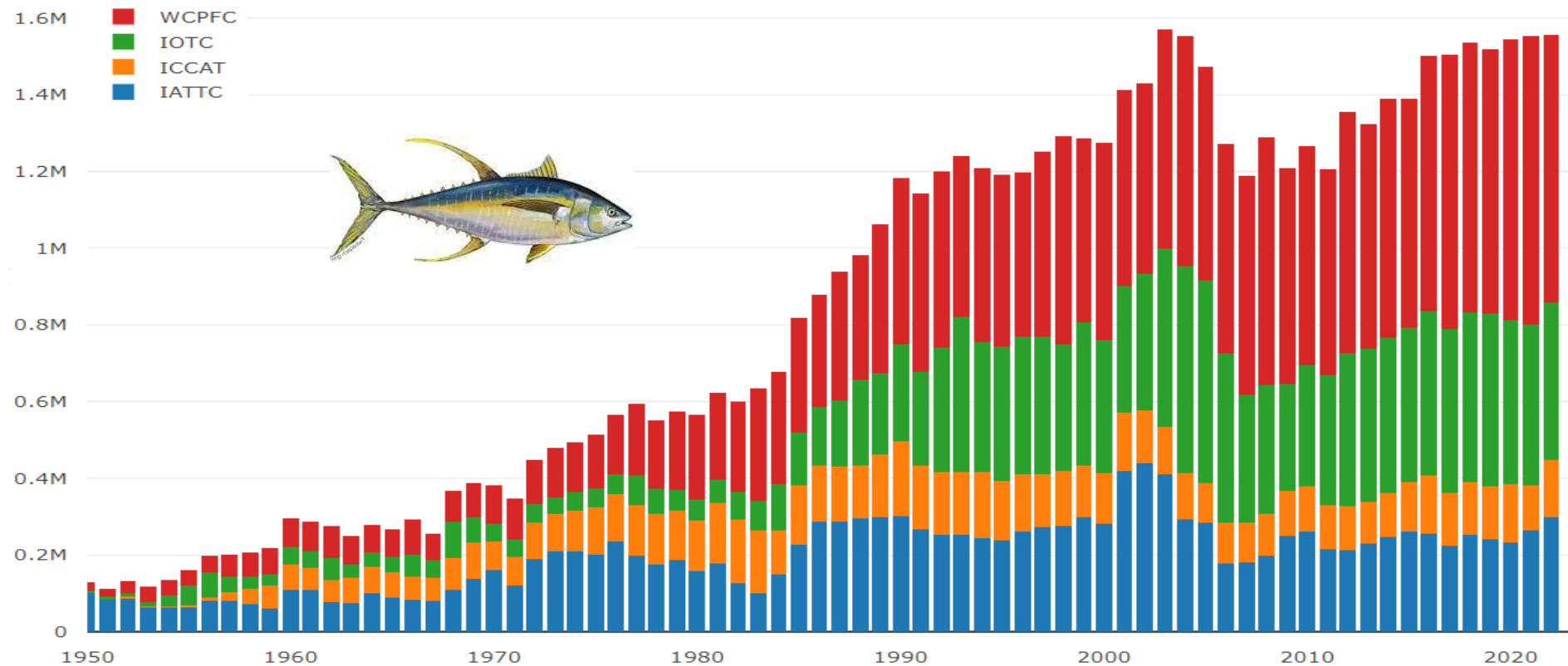
Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

Global production at max level, different trends by species (**bigeye decreasing**, yellowfin/skipjack increasing)



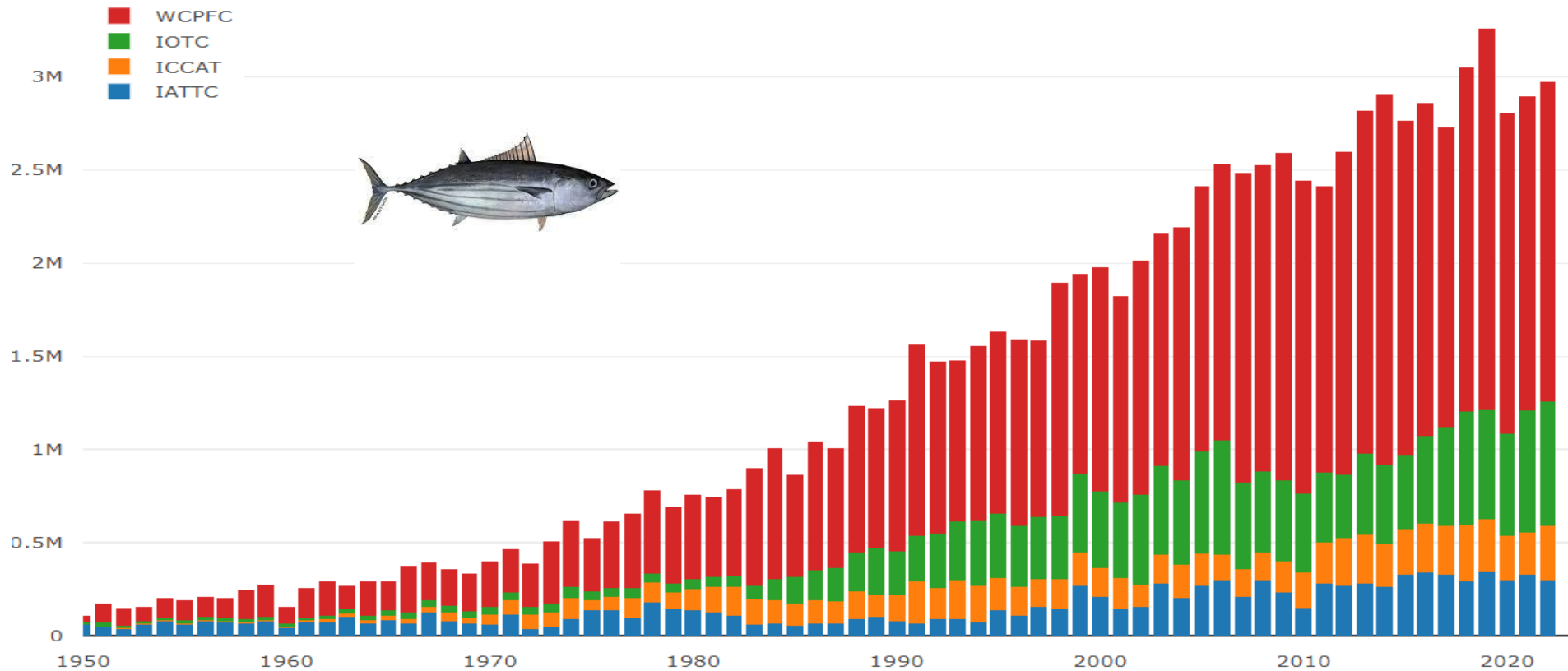
Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

Global production at max level, different trends by species (bigeye decreasing, **yellowfin/skipjack increasing**)

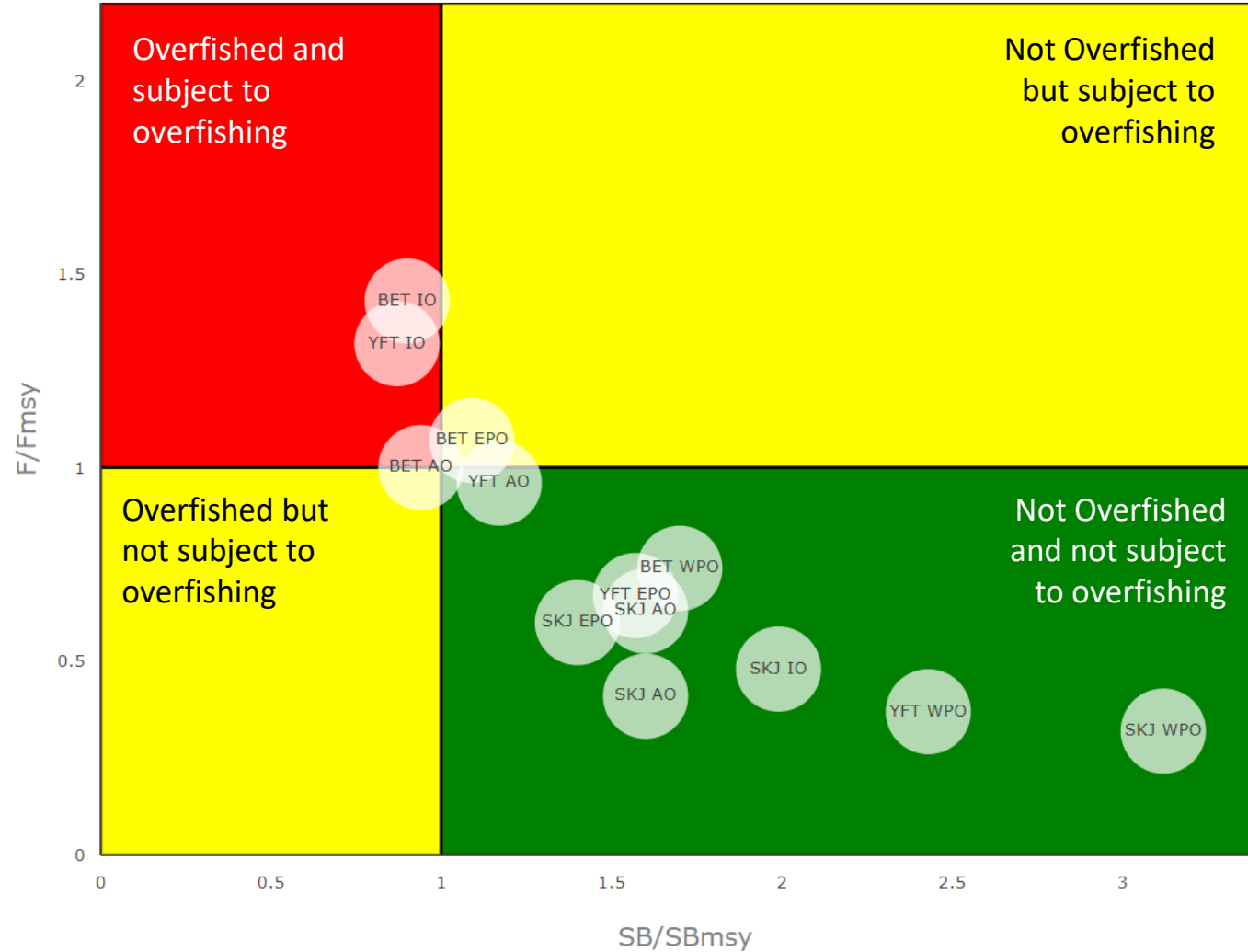


Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

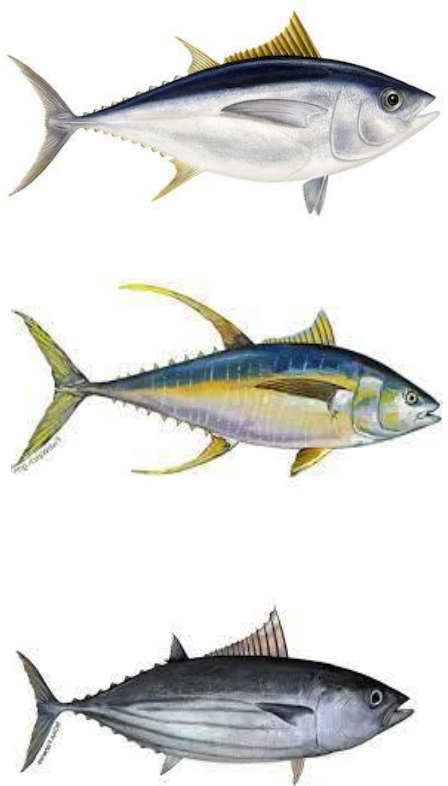
Global production at max level, different trends by species (bigeye decreasing, yellowfin/skipjack increasing)



Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026



Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

Status of the stocks					
					
	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2025	Overfished and subject to overfishing 2021	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2023	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2024	
	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2024	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing (pending confirmation) 2024	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2023	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2025	
	Not overfished and not subject to overfishing 2022	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2023	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2025	Not Overfished & not subject to overfishing 2021	

Tropical tunas: Status and perspectives for 2025-2026

New advice in 2025



**Stock assessment
Catch limits on K2SM**

**New stock assessment
Advice provided with
MP (92,670 t 2026-28)**

**Evaluation of
Management
(Reduction of closure
to 64 days (from 72))**



**Catch limits on K2SM
(to be confirmed)**



**Application of MP for
catch limits in period
2027-2029
(565,745 t, 2027-29)**

New stock assessment

Outline

- Overview of catch trends and stock status for tropical tunas worldwide.
- Management advice in 2025 (ICCAT and WCPFC).

ICCAT TROPICAL TUNAS



Key issues

- New stock assessment of Atlantic Ocean bigeye.
 - Stock estimated to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing (PGK of 73.8%).
 - Projections indicate that the current TAC (73,000 t) will maintain the stock in the green with the probability requested in Rec 24-01 (>65%), specifically at 83% in 2026 increasing to 91% by 2034.
 - According to the K2SM developed from projections, a catch of 85,000 tons would maintain the stock in the green quadrant of the Kobe plot with a probability of 71% BY 2034.
- Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE):
 - Process for W-SKJ mature enough for adoption of MP in 2025. A suite of MPs evaluated and potential adoption in 2025 November (Com).
 - Multi-stock MSE:
 - Simulations completed and preliminary evaluation of multistock MPs presented.
 - Refinements in progress.
 - Interaction with Commission (Panel 1, ambassadors) commencing.

WCPFC TROPICAL TUNAS

Key issues

- New stock assessment of WCP skipjack.
 - Stock estimated to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing with high probability.
 - Impact on closure negligible (MP SKJ -> Multiplier = 1).
- Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE):
 - Progress on Oms for bigeye (MP run in 2027).





MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

www.azti.es



Long Distance Advisory Council

TROPICAL TUNAS:

State of exploitation and perspectives for 2025-2026

Working Group 1

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

Tuesday, 14th October 2025

Gorka Merino - gmerino@azti.es

....thanks