



Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch

New and Updated Ratings

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New rating

Species	Scientific name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Tuna, Albacore	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	U.S. and Canada - Eastern Central, Northeast, and Northwest Pacific Oceans	Trolling lines	Green	<p>Albacore is rated green when caught with trolling lines by U.S. and Canadian fleets, and it's rated red when caught with drifting longlines by any fleet in the northeast, northwest, and southeast Pacific Oceans. The stock is healthy or likely healthy, depending on the Pacific region, and overfishing isn't occurring. There's no bycatch in the trolling line fishery, but it's significant in the longline fisheries and includes turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Trolling line fishery management is moderately effective overall because the harvest strategy for albacore hasn't been fully implemented. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Trolling lines and longlines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.</p> <p>Approximately 84 percent is rated red, and the remaining 16 percent is rated green.</p>

Updated ratings

Species	Scientific name	Location	Method	Previous rating	Updated rating	Justification
Dolphinfish	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Eastern Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pacific Oceans	Drifting longlines	Red	Red	Dolphinfish caught in the eastern Pacific Ocean with drifting longlines is rated red. Limited assessments have been conducted in the Southeast Pacific, and those studies found it's likely healthy and overfishing isn't occurring. In other eastern Pacific regions, the stock status and whether overfishing is occurring are unknown. Bycatch impacts are significant in the longline fisheries and include turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Longlines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Chile - Southeast Pacific Ocean	Drift gillnets	Red	Red	Swordfish caught in Chile with drift gillnets is rated red. The stock is likely healthy in the southeast Pacific, but fishing levels are uncertain. The available bycatch data show that at-risk and highly vulnerable sharks, turtles, and marine mammals are being caught. In addition, management is ineffective overall. It's unclear if the swordfish management plan is being implemented, and no measures exist for retained porbeagle and shortfin mako sharks. In addition, measures to reduce bycatch of at-risk species are not in place, and bycatch impacts are poorly monitored. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Drift gillnets have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.

Species	Scientific name	Location	Method	Previous rating	Updated rating	Justification
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Eastern Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pacific Oceans	Drifting longlines	Red	Red	Swordfish caught in the eastern Pacific Ocean with drifting longlines is rated red. In the northeast Pacific, the stock is healthy, and overfishing isn't occurring. The stock is likely healthy in the southeast Pacific, but fishing levels are uncertain. Bycatch impacts are significant in the longline fisheries and include turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Longlines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.
Tuna, Albacore	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Eastern Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pacific Oceans	Drifting longlines	Red	Red	Albacore is rated green when caught with trolling lines by U.S. and Canadian fleets, and it's rated red when caught with drifting longlines by any fleet in the northeast, northwest, and southeast Pacific Oceans. The stock is healthy or likely healthy, depending on the Pacific region, and overfishing isn't occurring. There's no bycatch in the trolling line fishery, but it's significant in the longline fisheries and includes turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Trolling line fishery management is moderately effective overall because the harvest strategy for albacore hasn't been fully implemented. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Trolling lines and longlines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats. Approximately 84 percent is rated red , and the remaining 16 percent is rated green .

Species	Scientific name	Location	Method	Previous rating	Updated rating	Justification
Tuna, Bigeye	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Eastern Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pacific Oceans	Drifting longlines	Red	Red	<p>Bigeye tuna from the eastern Pacific Ocean is rated yellow when caught with purse seines and red when caught with drifting longlines. The stock is healthy, and overfishing isn't occurring. Bycatch impacts are significant in the longline fisheries and include turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Purse seine fisheries incidentally catch sharks, rays, and other marine life, but those using FADs to lure tuna have more bycatch. Purse seine fishery management is moderately effective overall, but a more robust response is needed when stocks show decline and to address bycatch impacts, which vary by gear type. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but additional measures are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Longlines and purse seines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.</p> <p>Approximately 53 percent is rated yellow and 47 percent is rated red.</p>
		Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Floating object purse seines (FAD)	Red	Yellow	
Tuna, Skipjack	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Floating object purse seines (FAD)	Red	Yellow	<p>Skipjack tuna caught in the Eastern Central Pacific Ocean with purse seines is rated yellow. The stock is healthy, and overfishing isn't occurring, but bycatch is a serious concern. Both purse seine fisheries incidentally catch sharks, rays, and other marine life, but those using FADs to lure tuna have more bycatch. Purse seine fishery management is moderately effective overall, but a more robust response is needed when stocks show decline and to address bycatch impacts, which vary by gear type. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but stronger policies are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Purse seines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.</p>
			Unassociated purse seines (non-FAD)	Yellow	Yellow	

Species	Scientific name	Location	Method	Previous rating	Updated rating	Justification
Tuna, Yellowfin	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Eastern Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pacific Oceans	Drifting longlines	Red	Red	<p>Yellowfin tuna from the eastern Pacific Ocean is rated yellow when caught with purse seines and red when caught with drifting longlines. The stock is likely healthy, overfishing isn't occurring, but bycatch is a serious concern across all fisheries. Bycatch impacts are significant in the longline fisheries and include turtles, marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, rays, billfish, and other pelagic finfish. Purse seine fisheries have bycatch of sharks, rays, and other species, especially those using FADs to lure tuna. Purse seine fishery management is moderately effective overall, but a more robust response is needed when stocks show decline and to address bycatch impacts, which vary by gear type. Longline fishery management is ineffective overall, as stronger measures are needed to prevent overfishing of sharks and marlins and to reduce bycatch. Some policies to protect the ecosystem are in place, but additional measures are needed to fully protect top predators and prevent disruptions to the food web. Longlines and purse seines have minimal to no impact on bottom habitats.</p> <p>Approximately 94 percent is rated yellow and 6 percent is rated red.</p>
		Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Dolphin set purse seines	Yellow	Yellow	
			Floating object purse seines (FAD)	Red	Yellow	
			Unassociated purse seines (non-FAD)	Yellow	Yellow	

To be archived

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Dolphinfish	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Unassociated purse seine (non-FAD)	Yellow	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Dolphinfish	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Floating object purse seine (FAD)	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Shark, Blue	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean, Northeast Pacific Ocean	Drifting longlines	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Shark, Blue	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean, Southeast Pacific Ocean	Drifting longlines	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Shark, Silky	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean, Northeast Pacific Ocean	Drifting longlines	Red	A non-retention ban is in place for silky sharks, meaning they must be released back into the water.
Shark, Silky	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean, Southeast Pacific Ocean	Drifting longlines	Red	A non-retention ban is in place for silky sharks, meaning they must be released back into the water.
Shark, Silky	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Floating object purse seine (FAD)	Red	A non-retention ban is in place for silky sharks, meaning they must be released back into the water.
Shark, Shortfin Mako	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Chile - Southeast Pacific Ocean	Drift gillnets	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	East Pacific	Handlines	Yellow	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Harpoons	Yellow	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Peru - Southeast Pacific Ocean	Drift gillnets	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Tuna, Skipjack	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Dolphin set purse seine	Yellow	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.
Wahoo	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	Eastern Central Pacific Ocean	Floating object purse seine (FAD)	Red	Significant volumes are not available on the U.S. market.