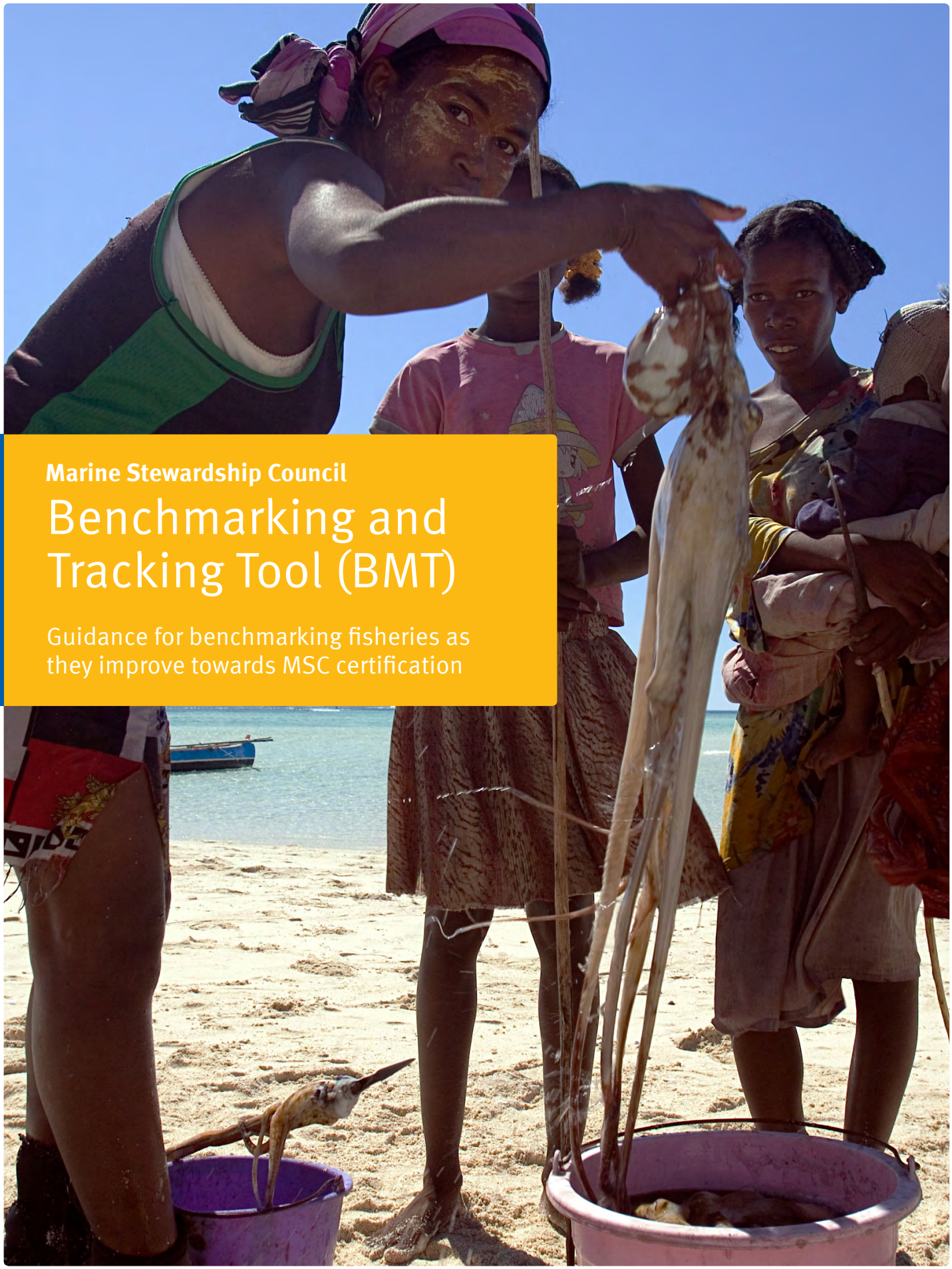
CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD



Marine Stewardship Council

Benchmarking and Tracking Tool (BMT)

Guidance for benchmarking fisheries as they improve towards MSC certification

Contents

1. Introduction

As market demand grows for sustainability, more and more fisheries are becoming interested in making the changes and improvements necessary to become sustainable. This in turn has led to considerable growth in organised efforts to improve fisheries toward sustainability. These efforts have now been termed “Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs)” and are defined as a multi-stakeholder effort to improve a fishery to sustainability. Participants in these projects vary, but often include stakeholders such as producers, non-governmental organisations, fishery managers, government and members of the fishery’s supply chain, working alongside the harvesters.

At the same time, many of the retailers who are leading the market demand for sustainable seafood have recognised the importance of encouraging these improvements and many have accordingly written into their sourcing policies that they will recognise FIPs.

Due to the wide variation that exists among FIPs, buyers, funders, the supply chain and FIP managers are demanding information on FIPs, including a more transparent way of understanding what the current status of the fishery is in terms of environmental performance and a clear way of tracking expected and actual progress being made in the implementation of action plans.

While there are some excellent examples of FIPs with good reporting and transparency, there is a noted lack of consistent and robust information about FIPs more generally. Without such consistent and transparent information about FIPs, those parties interested in having proper information have been operating in an environment of information deficit.

1.1 Purpose

The Benchmarking and Tracking Tool (BMT) described in this document has been designed to help address and remedy that information deficit.

The purpose of the MSC BMT is to provide a consistent method of benchmarking the performance of a FIP against the MSC’s standard for sustainability, as well as track the progress of a FIP as it moves towards MSC certification.

The tool (BMT) can help buyers, funders and FIP co-ordinators to understand the current status of a FIP, and the rate and type of progress a FIP is making on the improvements required to become sustainable.

This tool will help fisheries that are moving towards MSC certification provide consistent and credible information about their FIPs to the external world, and help those interested in sourcing from them to be able to make decisions appropriate to their circumstances.

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1.2 Background to the MSC

The MSC operates a certification and ecolabelling program based on a scientifically robust standard for assessing whether wild-capture fisheries are ecologically sustainable and well-managed. Fish products from fisheries that meet the MSC's standard are eligible to use the MSC's blue ecolabel or otherwise make a claim that they are MSC-certified.

The MSC program has created market incentives to reward sustainable fishing practices. When any buyer chooses to purchase MSC-certified fish, certified fisheries are rewarded for their sustainable practices through that market preference. These purchasing preferences increase the global demand and market access for sustainable seafood and provide the critical incentives needed for fisheries to undergo the rigorous and transparent assessments required in the MSC program.

Since the launch of the MSC program in 1999, there has been a steady growth in market demand for sustainably harvested and certified seafood. This growth in demand has led to continuing growth in the number of fisheries entering MSC assessment and becoming certified against the MSC standard for sustainability.

The same incentives also provide a significant influence on many fisheries that are operating below the MSC standard. If such fisheries want to enjoy these market rewards, they will need to reduce their environmental impact and improve their management practices to become eligible for certification. This "pull" for improved sustainability performance in turn improves the stewardship of the world's oceans and enables many fisheries to better compete in a global marketplace that increasingly demands proof of sustainability.

The MSC standard provides a clear set of performance indicators against which fisheries can be assessed to determine their level of sustainability vis-à-vis the MSC standard for sustainable fishing.

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1.3 MSC's environmental standard for sustainable fishing

Many FIPs have chosen to use the MSC standard as a framework for benchmarking the environmental performance of their fishery, and based upon that benchmark to write a detailed Action Plan to improve performance up to the level of sustainability.

The MSC's standard for sustainable fishing is comprised of 3 core principles that require:

1) Healthy fish stocks;
2) That the fishery does not jeapordise the supporting ecosystem; and,
3) That management systems ensure the long-term future of all resources.

Based on this standard, the MSC assessment process reviews 31 indicators (Appendix 1) about the fishery's performance and management to determine a fishery's sustainability. These performance indicators (PIs) are grouped under each of the MSC's three main principles described above.

Each of the 31 PIs is scored on a 1-100 scale, with the 60, 80 and 100 levels defining key sustainability elements and benchmarks. These elements and benchmarks correspond to levels of quality and certainty of fisheries management practices and their likelihood to deliver sustainability. In order for a fishery to be certified as sustainable against the MSC standard, the PIs that make up each principle need to score at least an average of 80, and none of the PIs can score less than 60.

As scores increase from 60 to 100 there is greater certainty that the fishery is more resilient to fishing pressure and natural changes in the ecosystem and has a lower risk of falling below the minimum performance level required by the Standard.

The following shows the scoring levels for one of the 31 MSC PIs:

The scoring thresholds were derived from the experience of fisheries managers, scientists and other stakeholders worldwide. The MSC's "scoring system", has been developed over the past decade with the help of hundreds of international fisheries and environmental experts.

Component	Outcome		
PI 1.1.1- Stock status	**The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing**		
Scoring issues	**SG60**	**SG80**	**SG100**
a.Stock status	It is likely that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.	It is highly likely that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.	There is a high degree of certainty that the stock is above the point where recruitment would be impaired.
b.Stock status in relation to target reference point		The stock is at or fluctuating around its target reference point.	There is a high degree of certainty that the stock has been fluctuating around its target reference point, or has been above its target reference point, over recent years.

2. Developing a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP)

In order to use the BMT, there are important steps that need to be followed as part of the process for a FIP, such as the undertaking of an MSC pre-assessment and the development of a robust Action Plan.

These stages are:

2.1 MSC pre-assessment

The first step needed within a FIP is to undertake an MSC pre-assessment, or gap analysis.

a- An **MSC pre-assessment** uses the MSC's 31 PIs to provide a baseline determination of how the fishery performs relative to each of the indicators within the MSC standard. This allows a fishery to identify any areas that need to be improved as the fishery moves towards sustainability.

The pre-assessment result gives an indication of the scoring range for each of the PIs. There are three scoring categories: ‹60, 60-79, ≥80.

b- A pre-assessment report should be produced outlining the results of the pre-assessment. The **Pre-assessment Template** should be used as the minimum reporting requirements for this step.

The process for undertaking an MSC pre-assessment is described in detail in the **MSC Certification Requirements**.

The assessor undertaking the MSC pre-assessment, or equivalent, needs to have a good understanding of the MSC's standard and fishery certification requirements. The MSC recommend that the pre-assessment be undertaken by a Conformity Assessment Body (CABs) accredited to undertake MSC fishery assessments. There are specified competencies and training requirements that accredited CABs are required to meet which provides a higher level of assurance about the quality of the outcome.

Description of Scoring Categories	Category
Information suggests fishery is not likely to reach the 60 level and therefore would fail on this PI.	‹60 (Precondition)
Information suggests fishery will reach the 60 level but may not exceed the 80 level.	60-79 (Condition)
Information suggests fishery is likely to exceed 80 level resulting in a pass for this PI.	≥80

2.2 Stakeholder engagement

Different stakeholders will need to be involved in the FIP process to play essential roles in making improvements. Stakeholder groups may include fishers, processors, exporters, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), scientists, government representatives, fishery managers etc. The manager of the FIP should ensure that stakeholders are identified and roles are understood and accepted.

2.3 Action Plan

Workplans with measurable indicators of progress should be developed following the initial pre-assessment against the MSC's 31 PIs. These may be captured using the **Action Plan template and guidance**.

Actions developed as part of these workplans need to ensure that progress is being made to ensure the fishery will be able to reach the relevant scoring levels with confidence, within a suitable timeframe. The workplan should include an indication of the expected changes in scoring categories for each of the PIs over the period of implementation of the workplan.

Along with defining milestones, other elements to ensure the successful undertaking of an action need to be considered within the Action Plan, such as assigning clear responsibilities, budget needed etc.

The person developing an Action Plan needs to have a good understanding of the MSC's standard and may be someone that is involved with the fishery as a co-ordinator, manager, consultant or champion of the project.

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3. Overview of the Benchmarking and Tracking Tool

The BMT uses the MSC standard to provide a status benchmark index for FIPs at a particular point in time and for the duration of the period that the fishery is in the FIP. The BMT index is produced using the results of an MSC pre-assessment.

While MSC pre-assessments provide a good indication of where the fishery sits against the MSC standard and is adequate for benchmarking a fishery in a FIP, it does not have the rigour and robustness of an MSC full assessment. Therefore in order to confirm the performance of the fishery against the MSC standard, at completion of the FIP the fishery would need to undergo a full assessment to achieve MSC certification and make any claim of sustainability.

3.1 BMT scoring

Each of the scoring categories which are assigned during the pre-assessment have a corresponding BMT score:

MSC Score	BMT Score
≥80	1
60-79	0.5
‹60	0

The BMT index of a fishery in a FIP reflects the number of PIs that are at the different scoring levels. Once a BMT score has been awarded to each of the PIs, the BMT scores are averaged so that an overall FIP BMT index is obtained which ranges between 0-1.

A BMT index of 1 would mean that all PIs of the fishery are at least at the 80 level, whereas a BMT score of 0 would mean that all of the PIs are less than the 60 level. As the BMT index moves closer to 1, it means the fishery is moving towards all of the PIs being at least at the 80 level.

In addition to reporting on the FIP BMT index, there is also reporting on the number of PIs that fall into each scoring category. This allows users of the BMT to see the difference between fisheries which may have the same BMT index, but with differences in the number of PIs in each scoring category.

The BMT dashboard provides a summary of the BMT scores for a fishery for each PI, principle level BMT score and the overall BMT index. It also reports the number of PIs falling into each scoring category.

3.2 Tracking progress of a FIP using the BMT

Included within the BMT is the ability to track expected and actual progress of a FIP through time.

The extent of progress a FIP is making will be reflected in the changes in the BMT index during the course of the years of implementation of the FIP. An indication of the actual progress being made will be shown through regular review of the BMT indices as improvements are being made in the fishery.

The expected change in the FIP BMT index can be determined by using information provided within the Action Plan.

In addition to using the Action Plan Template to plan actions for improvement, the action plan should also document clear milestones. While not all milestones will lead to an increase to the next scoring level, it should be clear from the action plan when the achievement of particular milestones will lead to change in the scoring category of a PI.

By defining clear milestones, and how and when achievement of the milestones will lead to an increase in scoring level for a PI, it will be possible to estimate the expected changes in the BMT index over the course of implementation of the FIP.

In addition, through regular monitoring of the performance of the fishery it will be possible to determine the actual BMT index at any point in time and compare it to the expected BMT index as a way of determining if the FIP is on track with regards to making improvements.

The BMT dashboard provides a snapshot of the actual and expected progress of a FIP, as well as reporting on whether or not the FIP is on track according to planned progress.

The person preparing a BMT report needs to have a good understanding of the MSC's standard. This may be someone that is involved with the fishery as a co-ordinator, manager, consultant or champion of the project.

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4. Using the BMT

This section describes the process of using the BMT. It describes how to determine the BMT scores at PI and principle level, and how to determine the BMT index and produce a BMT report sheet for a FIP. This is a five step process:

4.1 Step 1 - Enter Fishery Information

The information included here ensures that the unit that is being considered as part of the FIP is properly defined and understood by users of the BMT.

Fill in the following information in the accompanying BMT dashboard template:

a- The name of the fishery.
b- The name of the FIP provider.
c- The name of the person undertaking the benchmarking.
d- The date of the BMT report.
e- Information on the Unit of Assessment of the fishery.

The unit of assessment information should include the species, gear and area of the fishery.

Species	Area	Gear type
Black snapper	Southern Pacific	Gillnet

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Index Year 1
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	<60
		1.1.2	Reference points	60-79
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	60-79
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	60-79
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	<60
		1.2.3	Information and monitoring	<60
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	<60
2	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	60-79
		2.1.2	Management	60-79
		2.1.3	Information	60-79
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	<60
		2.2.2	Management	<60
		2.2.3	Information	60-79
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	≥80
		2.3.2	Management	≥80
		2.3.3	Information	≥80
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	60-79
		2.4.2	Management	≥80
		2.4.3	Information	≥80
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	60-79
		2.5.2	Management	60-79
		2.5.3	Information	60-79
3	Governance and Policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	<60
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	<60
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	<60
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	<60
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	<60
		3.2.2	Decision making processes	<60
		3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	<60
		3.2.4	Research plan	<60
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	<60
	Total number of PIs less than 60			15
	Total number of PIs 60-79			11
	Total number of PIs equal to or greater than 80			5
	Overall BMT Index			**0.34**

4.2 Step 2 - Determining the BMT index

a- PI BMT scores

Using the pre-assessment report, fill the BMT template with the likely scoring category for each of the PIs into the BMT template (example below). A corresponding BMT score (0, 0.5 or 1) will be automatically generated for each PI.

b- Principle level BMT score

A BMT score will be automatically generated at principle level.

This score is calculated as an average of the BMT scores for all of the PIs that make up that principle. Also automatically generated for each principle is the number of PIs that fall into each scoring category.

c- BMT index

An overall BMT index will be automatically generated as an average of each of the PI BMT scores. This number will be a score between 0-1. This index gives an overall indication of the performance of the FIP in relation to the MSC standard at a particular point in time.

4.3 Step 3 - Determining expected BMT indices

For those PIs where improvement is required, the expected change in score from the current level to the next scoring level should be documented in the BMT template to ensure that the FIP progress can be tracked over time.

a- Expected progress

For those PIs that do not currently meet the 60-79 or ≥80 scoring level, indicate within the BMT template when the next scoring level is expected to be reached. This should be determined using the milestones developed as part of the action plan and identifying when an action will lead to a higher scoring category being achieved for the PI.

The information should be entered by selecting the relevant scoring category in the particular year that the change is expected to occur (see below for an example). It should be noted that a number of actions may need to be completed before the scoring levels change. There may also be PIs that do not need to be improved. In those cases there would be no need to enter any new scoring levels, however checks still need to be made to confirm there is no change to the status of the PI over time.

b- Expected BMT indices

The expected change in principle and overall BMT index (example below) for each year will be automatically calculated based on the expected changes to PI scoring categories. The expected BMT index will be calculated based on the planned actions for each year of the FIP.

	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Expected Scoring Categories				
				Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	<60	<60	60-79	60-79	60-79
		1.1.2	Reference points	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79	≥80
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	<60	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		1.2.3	Information and monitoring	<60	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	<60	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Expected Scoring Categories				
				Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	<60	<60	60-79	60-79	60-79
		1.1.2	Reference point	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79	≥80
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	<60	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		1.2.3	Information	<60	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	<60	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
2	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	60-79	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		2.1.2	Management	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.1.3	Information	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	<60	<60	<60	60-79	≥80
		2.2.2	Management	<60	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.2.3	Information	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.3.2	Management	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.3.3	Information	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79
		2.4.2	Management	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.4.3	Information	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.5.2	Management	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		2.5.3	Information	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
3	Governance and Policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	<60	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	<60	<60	60-79	≥80	≥80
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	<60	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	<60	60-79	60-79	60-79	60-79
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	<60	60-79	≥80	≥80	≥80
		3.2.2	Decision making	<60	≥80	≥80	≥80	≥80
		3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	<60	<60	<60	<60	<60
		3.2.4	Research plan	<60	60-79	60-79	≥80	≥80
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	<60	60-79	60-79	60-79	≥80
	Total number of PIs less than 60			15	4	2	1	1
	Total number of PIs 60-79			11	15	11	7	4
	Total number of PIs equals to or greater than 80			5	12	18	23	26
	Overall BMT Index			0.34	0.63	0.76	0.85	0.90

4.4 Step 4 - Tracking Progress

a- Tracking the BMT index

The BMT index of the FIP should be evaluated and updated regularly to track the progress being made as the fishery moves towards sustainability.

In order to calculate actual changes to the BMT index of the FIP on an ongoing basis, the improvements being made in the fishery need to be monitored and the information used to evaluate whether or not the next scoring level has been reached by the fishery. If a change in scoring level has occurred, this should be entered against the PI in the year that it is achieved using the BMT template. If no change has occurred, the scoring category from the previous year should be entered. For any PIs where there has been a change in the scoring category, the corresponding BMT score will be assigned within the template. A new BMT index for the fishery will then be automatically generated.

b- Tracking actual progress against expected progress

The actual BMT indices should be evaluated against the indices projected as part of the initial benchmarking exercise. For each PI a progress status will be automatically assigned according to whether or not the scoring category has been achieved for the year as planned. The progress statuses are as follows:

- **On track -** For PIs that have reached their expected scoring category;
- **Behind track -** For those PIs that have not achieved their expected scoring category;
- **Ahead -** For those PIs that have achieved a higher scoring category ahead of time.

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4.5 Step 5 - Reporting Progress

The results of the benchmarking exercise should be clearly reported using the BMT dashboard template. The dashboard provides an overview of the results:

a- BMT summary table

A BMT summary table (example below) will be automatically generated once the information is entered as described in step 4.3. The BMT summary table contains information on the principle level BMT score, the overall BMT index and the number of PIs that fall into each of the scoring categories. The table will be automatically generated using the most recent year's actual scoring information.

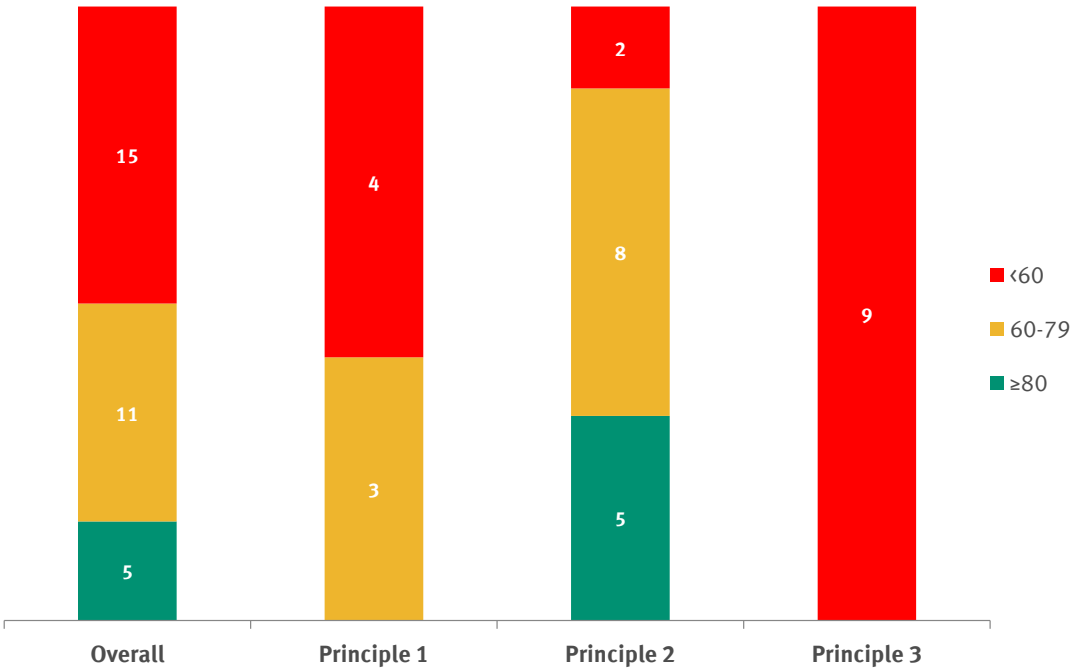
b- Scoring Category Overview

The BMT Scoring Category Overview will be automatically updated with the proportion of PIs that fall into each scoring category (see example below). The results are based on the proportion of PIs overall, as well as the number of PIs in each Principle. The results will be based on information available for the most recent year.

BMT Summary Table (Last updated on actual year 1)

Scoring level	**Overall BMT Index** Number of PIs	**Principle 1** Number of PIs	**Principle 2** Number of PIs	**Principle 3** Number of PIs
≥80	5	0	5	0
60-79	11	3	8	0
‹60	15	4	2	9
BMT index	0.34	0.21	0.60	0.00

Scoring Category Overview



c- BMT index table

The BMT index table provides a summary of the actual and expected changes in BMT index over time. The table will be automatically populated with the indices for each principle, as well at the overall BMT index for each year of the FIP. The information is extracted from the BMT template.

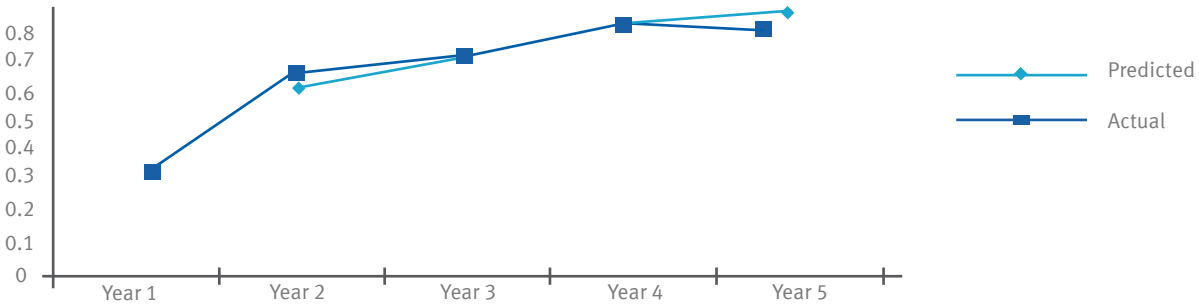
BMT Index Table

Principle		BMT Index Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Principle 1	Actual	0.21	0.43	0.43	0.79	0.79
	Predicted		0.50	0.71	0.86	0.93
Principle 2	Actual	0.60	0.83	0.90	0.90	0.87
	Predicted		0.77	0.87	0.93	0.97
Principle 3	Actual	0.00	0.67	0.78	0.83	0.83
	Predicted		0.50	0.61	0.72	0.78
Overall	Actual	0.34	0.69	0.76	0.85	0.84
	Predicted		0.63	0.76	0.85	0.90

d- BMT progress tracker

The BMT progress tracker will be automatically updated to show the actual change in BMT index against the expected increase in BMT index over time. This will be produced initially using the actual BMT index for year one of the FIP, and the expected increases in BMT scores over time. Following the calculation of actual BMT indices in ensuing years of the FIP, the chart will be updated to compare these against the prediction over time.

BMT Progress Tracker



e- BMT report sheet

The BMT report sheet is automatically generated to show a summary of the most recent year's actual scores against the expected scores. It also shows the number of PIs in each scoring category and the BMT indices, along with the progress status.

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Expected Scoring Category: Year5	Actual Scoring Category: Year 5	Status
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	60-79	60-79	On target
		1.1.2	Reference point	≥80	‹60	Behind
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	≥80	≥80	On target
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	≥80	≥80	On target
2	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.1.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.1.3	Information	≥80	60-79	Behind
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	≥80	60-79	Behind
		2.2.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.2.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.3.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.3.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	60-79	60-79	On target
		2.4.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.4.3	Information	≥80	60-79	Behind
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.5.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.5.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
3	Governance and Policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	60-79	60-79	On target
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	60-79	60-79	On target
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.2	Decision making processes	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	‹60	60-79	Ahead
		3.2.4	Research plan	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	≥80	≥80	On target
	Total number of PIs less than 60			1	1	
	Total number of PIs 60-79			4	8	
	Total number of PIs equals to or greater than 80			26	22	
	Overall BMT Index			0.90	0.84	

Appendix 1 - MSC standard

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Description of PI
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	The stock is at a level which maintains high productivity and has a low probability of recruitment overfishing.
		1.1.2	Reference point	Limit and target reference points are appropriate for the stock.
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	Where the stock is depleted, there is evidence of stock rebuilding within a specified timeframe.
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	There is a robust and precautionary harvest strategy in place.
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	There are well defined and effective harvest control rules in place.
		1.2.3	Information	Relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy.
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	There is an adequate assessment of the stock status.

Appendix 1 - MSC standard *continued*

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Description of PI
2	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the retained species and does not hinder recovery of depleted retained species.
		2.1.2	Management	There is a strategy in place for managing retained species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to retained species.
		2.1.3	Information	Information on the nature and extent of retained species is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage retained species.
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to the bycatch species or species groups and does not hinder recovery of depleted bycatch species or species groups.
		2.2.2	Management	There is a strategy in place for managing bycatch that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to bycatch populations.
		2.2.3	Information	Information on the nature and amount of bycatch is adequate to determine the risk posed by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage bycatch.

Appendix 1 - MSC standard *continued*

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Description of PI
2	Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species	2.3.1	Outcome	The fishery meets national and international requirements for protection of ETP species. The fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species and does not hinder recovery of ETP species.
		2.3.2	Management	The fishery has in place precautionary management strategies designed to: - meet national and international requirements; - ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ETP species; - ensure the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species; and - minimise mortality of ETP species. There is a strategy in place for managing ETP species that is designed to ensure the fishery does not hinder the recovery of ETP species.
		2.3.3	Information	Relevant information is collected to support the management of fishery impacts on ETP species, including: - information for the development of the management strategy; - information to assess the effectiveness of the management strategy; and - information to determine the outcome status of ETP species.
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to habitat structure, considered on a regional or bioregional basis, and function.
		2.4.2	Management	There is a strategy in place that is designed to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to habitat types.
		2.4.3	Information	Information is adequate to determine the risk posed to habitat types by the fishery and the effectiveness of the strategy to manage impacts on habitat types.
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	The fishery does not cause serious or irreversible harm to the key elements of ecosystem structure and function.
		2.5.2	Management	There are measures in place to ensure the fishery does not pose a risk of serious or irreversible harm to ecosystem structure and function.
		2.5.3	Information	There is adequate knowledge of the impacts of the fishery on the ecosystem.

Appendix 1 - MSC standard *continued*

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Description of PI
3	Governance and policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	The management system exists within an appropriate and effective legal and/or customary framework which ensures that it: - Is capable of delivering sustainable fisheries in accordance with MSC Principles 1 and 2 and - Observes the legal rights created explicitly or established by custom of people dependent on fishing for food or livelihood; and - Incorporates an appropriate dispute resolution framework.
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	The management system has effective consultation processes that are open to interested and affected parties. The roles and responsibilities of organisations and individuals who are involved in the management process are clear and understood by all relevant parties.
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	The management policy has clear long-term objectives to guide decision-making that are consistent with MSC Principles and Criteria, and incorporates the precautionary approach.
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	The management system provides economic and social incentives for sustainable fishing and does not operate with subsidies that contribute to unsustainable fishing.
	Fishery specific	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	The fishery has clear, specific objectives designed to achieve the outcomes expressed by MSC's Principles 1 and 2.
		3.2.2	Decision making processes	The fishery-specific management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives and has an appropriate approach to actual disputes in the fishery under assessment.
		3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	Monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the fishery's management measures are enforced and complied with.
		3.2.4	Research plan	The fishery has a research plan that addresses the information needs of management.
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	There is a system for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the fishery-specific management system against its objectives. There is effective and timely review of the fishery-specific management system.

Appendix 2 - BMT dashboard

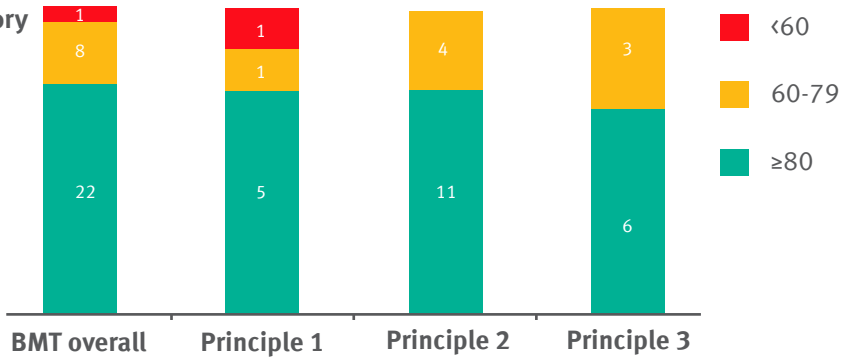
Fishery name	Southern Pacific Black Snapper
Provider	Blue Waters Inc.
Auditor	Marine Actions Consulting
Date of BMT	28/01/2014

Species	Area	Gear Type
Black Snapper	Southern Pacific	Gillnet

BMT Summary Table (Last updated on actual year 5)

Scoring level	Overall BMT Index Number of PIs	Principle 1 Number of PIs	Principle 2 Number of PIs	Principle 3 Number of PIs
≥80	22	5	11	6
60-79	8	1	4	3
<60	1	1	0	0
BMT Index	**0.84**	**0.79**	**0.87**	**0.83**

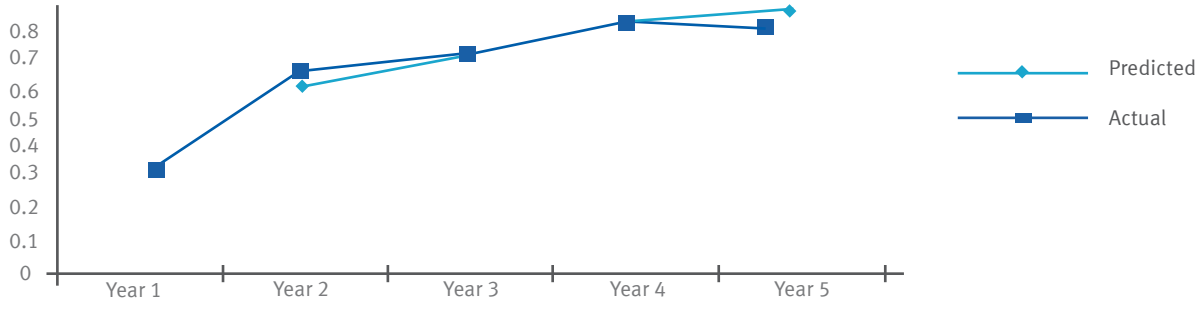
Scoring Category Overview



BMT Index Table

Principle		BMT Index Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Principle 1	*Actual*	0.21	0.43	0.43	0.79	0.79
	Predicted		0.50	0.71	0.86	0.93
Principle 2	*Actual*	0.60	0.83	0.90	0.90	0.87
	Predicted		0.77	0.87	0.93	0.96
Principle 3	*Actual*	0.00	0.67	0.78	0.83	0.83
	Predicted		0.50	0.61	0.72	0.78
Overall	*Actual*	0.34	0.69	0.76	0.85	0.84
	Predicted		0.63	0.76	0.85	0.90

BMT Progress Tracker



BMT - Report Sheet

Principle	Component	PI	Performance Indicator	Expected Scoring Category: Year5	Actual Scoring Category: Year 5	Status
1	Outcome	1.1.1	Stock status	60-79	60-79	On target
		1.1.2	Reference point	≥80	‹60	Behind
		1.1.3	Stock rebuilding	≥80	≥80	On target
	Management	1.2.1	Harvest Strategy	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.2	Harvest control rules and tools	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
		1.2.4	Assessment of stock status	≥80	≥80	On target
2	Retained species	2.1.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.1.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.1.3	Information	≥80	60-79	Behind
	Bycatch species	2.2.1	Outcome	≥80	60-79	Behind
		2.2.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.2.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
	ETP species	2.3.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.3.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.3.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
	Habitats	2.4.1	Outcome	60-79	60-79	On target
		2.4.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.4.3	Information	≥80	60-79	Behind
	Ecosystem	2.5.1	Outcome	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.5.2	Management	≥80	≥80	On target
		2.5.3	Information	≥80	≥80	On target
3	Governance and Policy	3.1.1	Legal and customary framework	60-79	60-79	On target
		3.1.2	Consultation, roles and responsibilities	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.1.3	Long term objectives	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.1.4	Incentives for sustainable fishing	60-79	60-79	On target
	Fishery specific management system	3.2.1	Fishery specific objectives	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.2	Decision making processes	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.3	Compliance and enforcement	‹60	60-79	Ahead
		3.2.4	Research plan	≥80	≥80	On target
		3.2.5	Management performance evaluation	≥80	≥80	On target
	Total number of PIs less than 60			1	1	
	Total number of PIs 60-79			4	8	
	Total number of PIs equals to or greater than 80			26	22	
	Overall BMT Index			0.90	0.84	

Appendix 3 - Sources and further guidance

Marine Stewardship Council:

www.msc.org

Get Certified! Fisheries, A Practical Guide to the Marine Stewardship Council's fishery certification process:

http://www.msc.org/go/get-certified-fisheries-pdf

Protecting fisheries, improving livelihoods, MSC Developing World Fisheries Programme

http://www.msc.org/go/protecting-fisheries

Fishery Improvement Action Plan Guidance Document

http://www.msc.org/go/action-plan-guide

MSC Standard

http://www.msc.org/go/msc-environmental-standard-for-sustainable-fishing

MSC scheme requirements

http://www.msc.org/go/msc-scheme-requirements

Partnering for sustainable fisheries

http://www.msc.org/go/partnerships-document

Net Gains

http://www.msc.org/go/net-gains

Net benefits

http://www.msc.org/go/net-benefits-pdf

Technical consultants

http://www.msc.org/go/technical-consultants

Risk based framework:

http://www.msc.org/go/rbf

Stakeholder guide to the MSC:

http://www.msc.org/go/stakeholder-guide-to-msc

Default assessment tree:

http://www.msc.org/go/msc-default-assessment-tree

Benchmarking and Tracking tool

http://www.msc.org/go/bmt

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