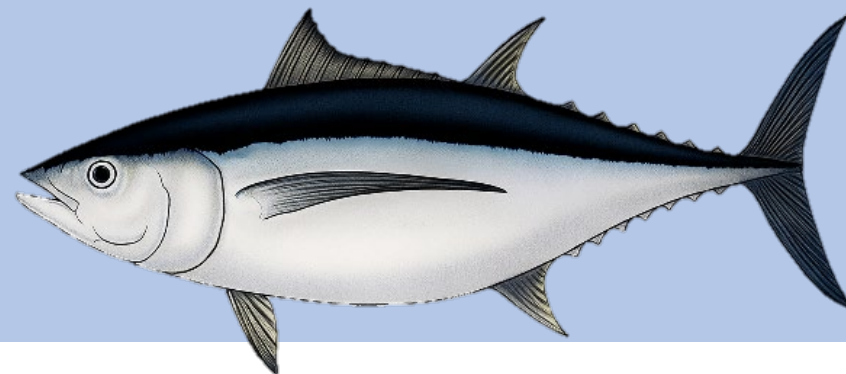


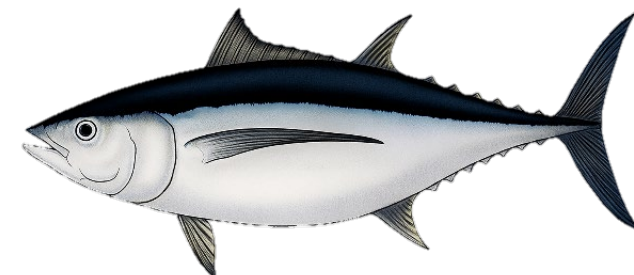


ALBACORE South



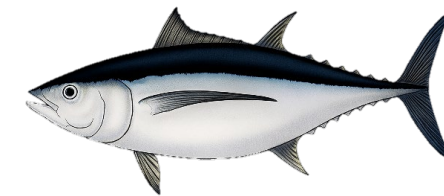
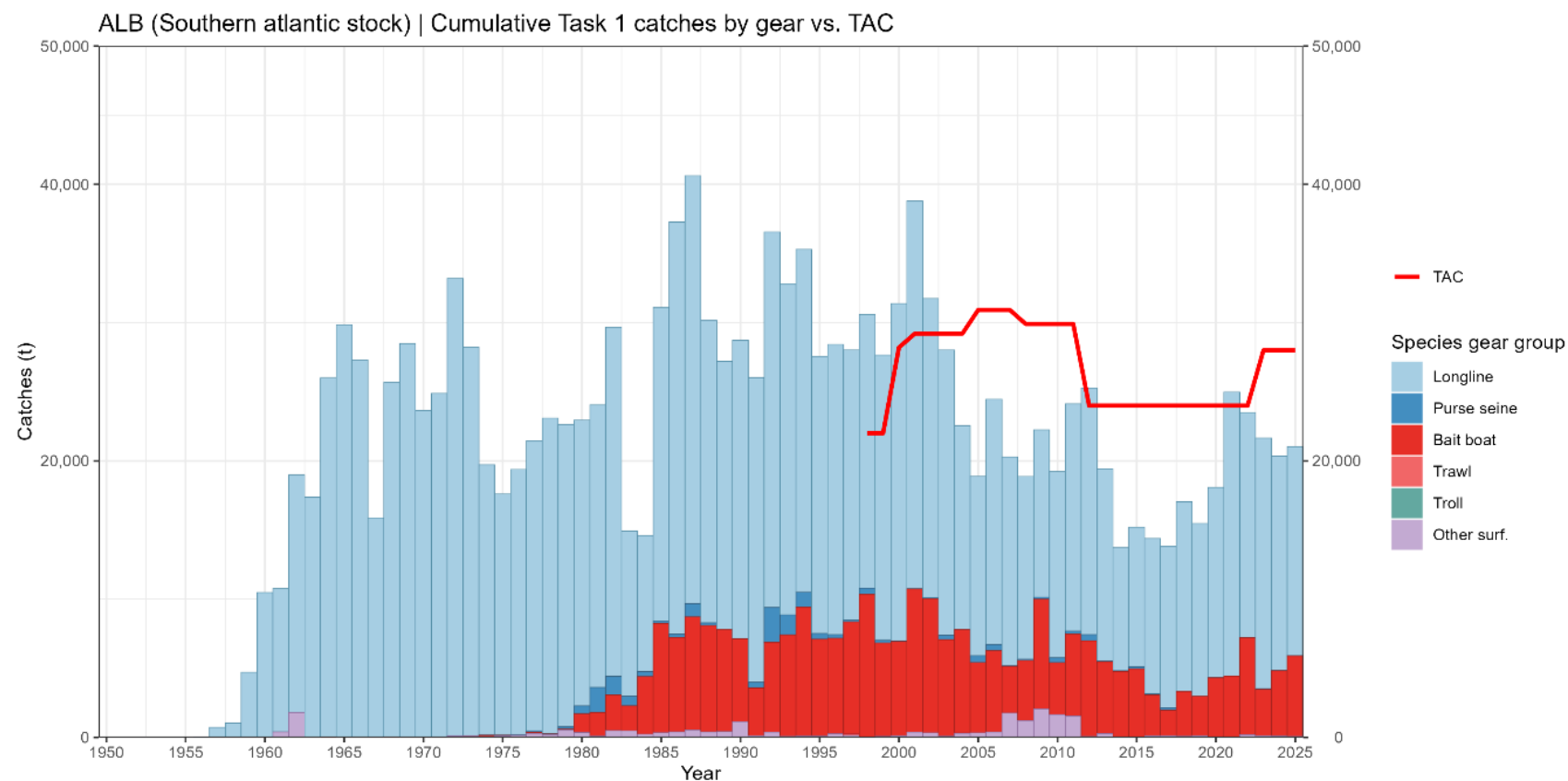
Presentation Index

- Review of catches.
- 2026 stock assessment and stock status.
- Projections (Kobe II Strategy Matrix).
- ALBYP research activities in the South Atlantic.
- Progress on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE).
- 2027 Workplan.





South Atlantic albacore catches

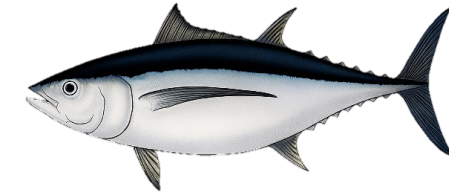


Cumulative Task 1 catches by gear vs. TAC (landings and dead discards). Data as of 18 September 2026.

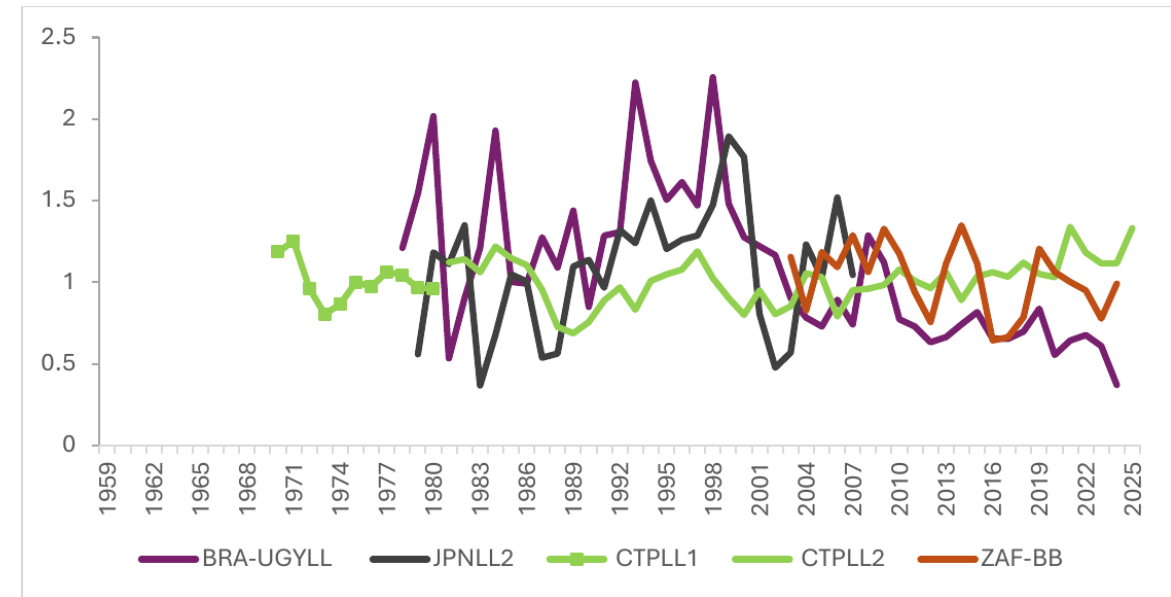
- Catch 2025: **21,034 t**.
- TAC: **28,000 t** for 2023–2026 (Rec. 22-06).
- Reported catches have remained below 28,000 t since 2004.



2026 Stock Assessment

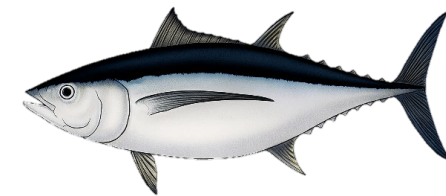
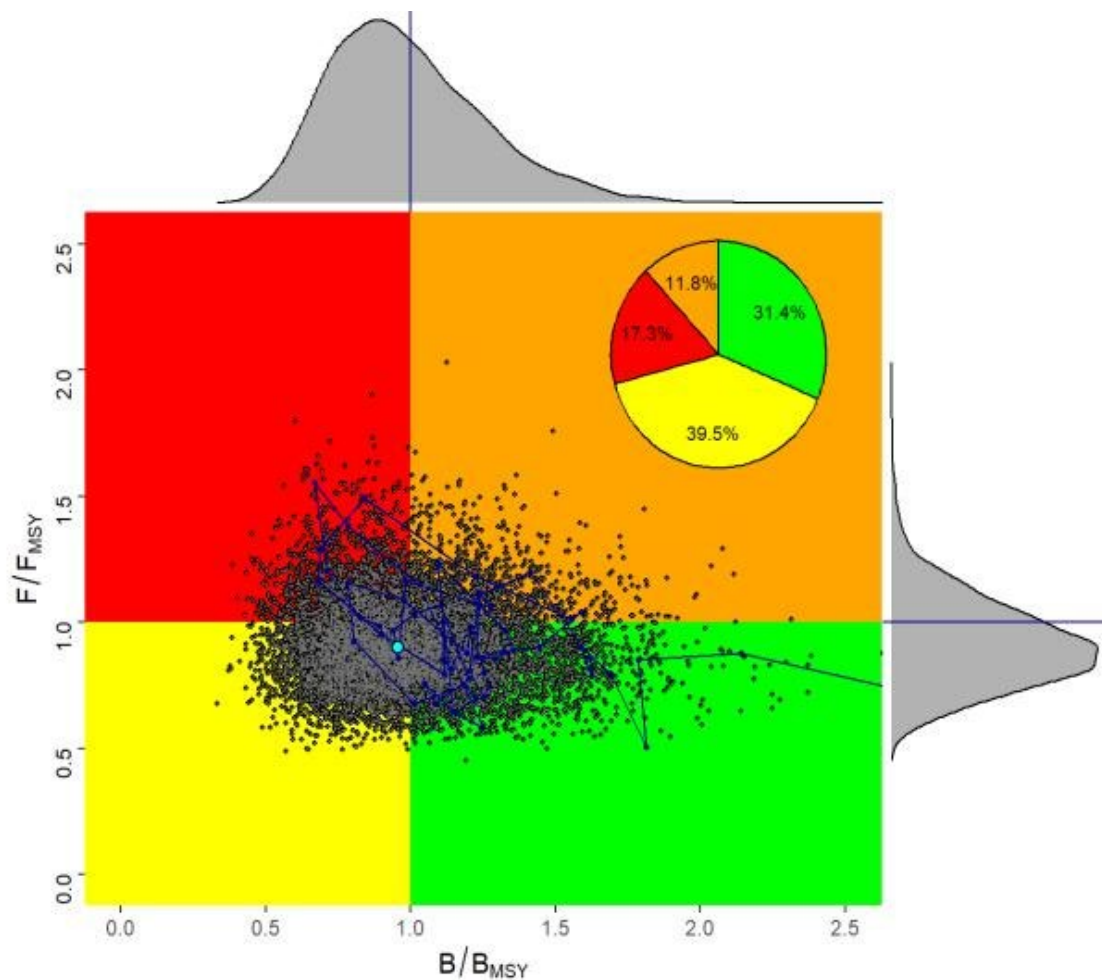


- Data Preparatory Meeting: 13–17 April (Pasaia).
- Stock Assessment Meeting: 22–25 June (Madrid).
- Production model and **Stock Synthesis (SS3)** evaluated; SS3 retained for stock status, projections and management advice.
- Updated biology, new catch and size-composition data, and CPUE from the main fisheries.
- Main uncertainty: conflicting recent trends between the Brazil–Uruguay and Chinese Taipei CPUEs.



Standardized CPUE indices used in the 2026 assessment.

Stock status (2024)

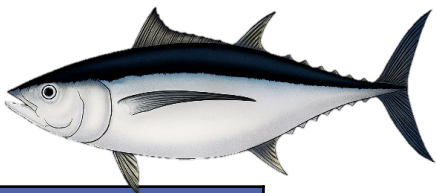


- $SSB_{2024}/SSB_{MSY} = \mathbf{0.95}$ (0.57–1.62)
- $F_{2024}/F_{MSY} = \mathbf{0.90}$ (0.62–1.31)
- **Overfished: YES** (56.8% probability $SSB < SSB_{MSY}$)
- **Overfishing: NO** (29.1% probability $F > F_{MSY}$)
- The change in stock perception reflects:
 - updated biological information;
 - transition to an age-structured model;
 - updated CPUE series

 **lower stock productivity.**



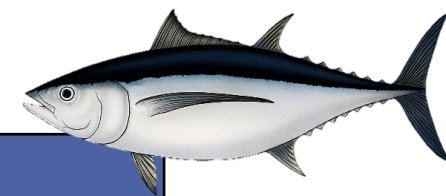
Executive summary



Indicator	Value	Stock Status
Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)	24,333 t (23,190 – 25,476)	2024
TAC (2025)	28,000 t	
Current (2025) Yield	21,034 t	
Relative Spawning Biomass (SSB2024/SSBMSY)	0.95 (0.57 – 1.62)	
Relative Fishing Mortality (F2024/FMSY)	0.90 (0.62 – 1.31)	
Overfished	YES (56.8% probability)	
Overfishing	NO (29.1% probability)	
Management measure in effect	Rec. 22-06 – TAC (2026) 28,000 t	

Median and 95% CI of the reference model (SS3, 2026 assessment).

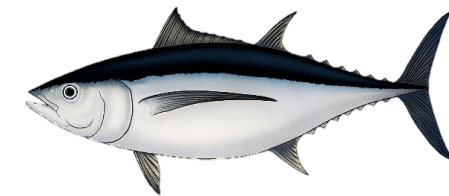
Projections – Kobe II Strategy Matrix



Catch (t)	2027	2029	2031	2033	2035	2037	2039	
16,000	58%	80%	89%	95%	98%	99%	100%	
18,000	54%	71%	80%	87%	92%	96%	97%	
20,000	49%	62%	69%	74%	80%	85%	88%	
21,000	46%	57%	62%	67%	72%	76%	79%	≈ 2025 catch (21,034 t)
22,000	43%	51%	55%	59%	63%	66%	69%	
22,500	41%	48%	52%	55%	58%	61%	63%	
23,000	39%	45%	48%	50%	53%	55%	57%	
24,000	35%	39%	41%	42%	44%	46%	47%	≈ MSY (24,333 t)
25,000	31%	33%	34%	35%	37%	39%	36%	
26,000	27%	28%	28%	29%	31%	27%	25%	
28,000	19%	19%	19%	20%	18%	18%	14%	Current TAC (Rec. 22-06)

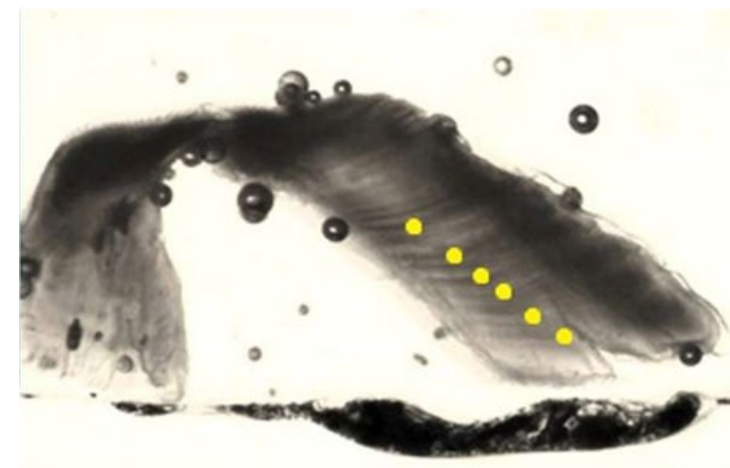
Probability that $F \leq F_{MSY}$ and $SSB \geq SSB_{MSY}$ (selected rows and years of Table 3c). Stochastic projections with the SS3 reference model (MVLN) through 2039. Lower productivity and slower SSB response to reductions in F lead to more pessimistic projections than in previous assessments.

ALBYP research activities – South Atlantic



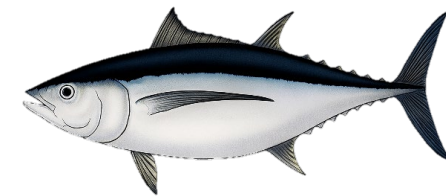
Consortium: Brazil, Uruguay, South Africa, Namibia and Chinese Taipei (sampling since July 2021).

- **Reproduction:** New information on spawning season, size at first maturity and fecundity;
- **Age and growth:** 352 specimens; otoliths retained as the reference structure;
- **Electronic tagging:** MiniPAT deployments off South Brazil (1 fish tagged, tag retained for 7 days); deployments continue until early 2027.

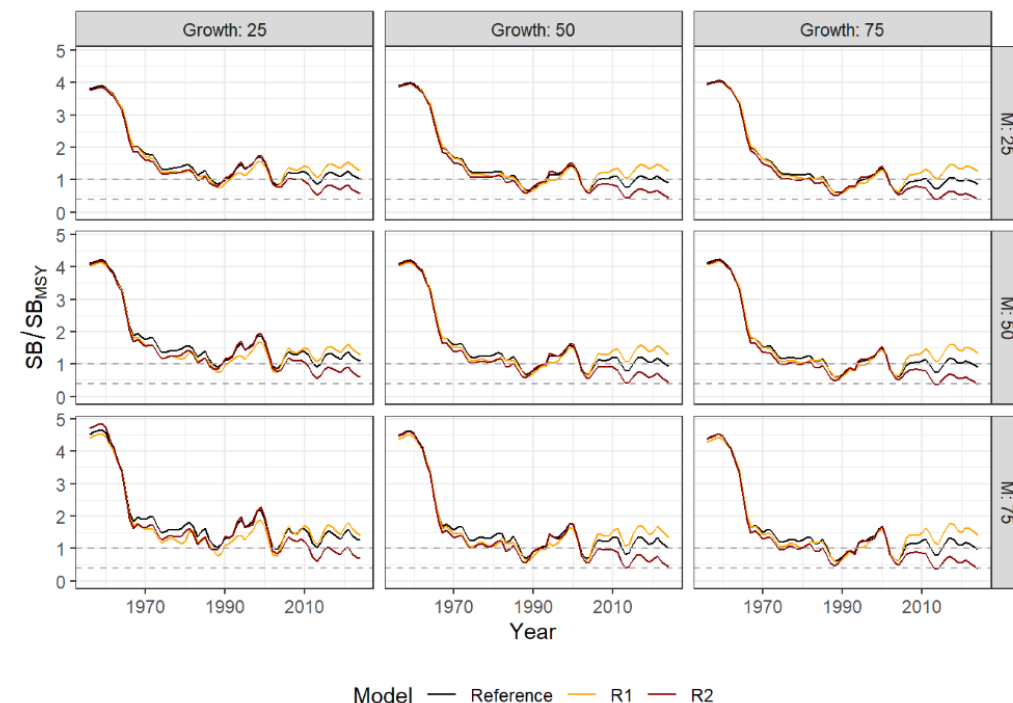


S-ALB Otolith image

Management Strategy Evaluation – progress in 2026



- MSE Technical Team met three times in 2026.
- OM sets reconditioned on the 2026 assessment, with a factorial grid on growth and natural mortality.
- Two robustness OM sets address the conflicting index trends (Main uncertainty).
- Five model-free CMPs evaluated and tuned (SCRS/2026/233); model-based CMPs under development.
- Final MSE results targeted for **2027**, for the Commission's scheduled adoption of an MP.

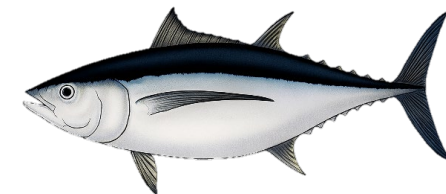


SSB/SSBMSY of the reference (growth $\times$ M) and robustness OM sets.

TSD: iccatsalb.bluematterscience.com/tsd

Results app (Slick): shiny.bluematterscience.com/app/slick

2027 Workplan



The Albacore Species Group will advance work on the ALB-S MSE. For that purpose, it proposes to hold **two 1-day online meetings** in 2027.



- The Group suggests meetings with Panel 3 in 2027.
- **ALBYP research:** continue reproductive biology and electronic tagging studies.

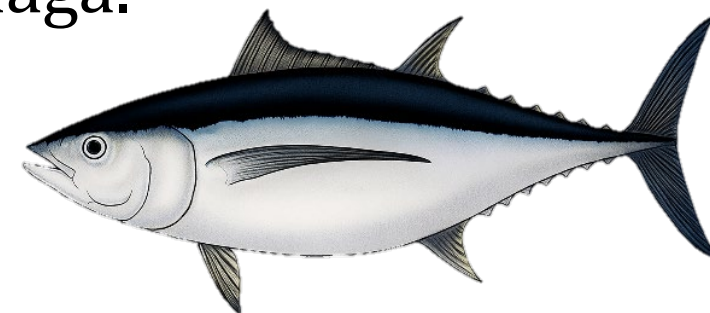


SCRS – ALBACORE SOUTH



I would like to express my gratitude for their work over the year and help for preparing this presentation to:

- The SCRS South Atlantic Albacore officer, Dr. Bruno Mourato, and
- Dr. Paulo Travassos, ALBYP coordinator for the Southern stock,
- The SCRS Albacore coordinator, Dr. Haritz Arrizabalaga.





Thank you, Merci, Gracias!

