Friend of the Sea Standard

FOS - Wild
Sustainable Fishing Requirements

Friend of the Sea
www.friendofthesea.org

REV	DATE	REASON	VALIDATION	APPROVAL
1	18/01/2013	First issue	Paolo Bray	
2	01/07/2015	Update	Paolo Bray	
3	30/09/2016	Standard update	Paolo Bray	
3.1	18/10/2017	Definitions and guidance to standard	Paolo Bray	

REV	DATE	REASON	APPROVED	VALIDATED	RATIFIED
4	18/03/2020	Standard update	Friend of the Sea Technical Committee	Accredia	Friend of the Sea Board of Directors

Valid from: 18/03/2020

Compulsory from: 18/03/2023

Foreword

Friend of the Sea is a non-governmental organisation established in 2008. Its objective is to safeguard the marine environment and its resources, encouraging a sustainable market and implementing specific conservation projects.

The Friend of the Sea certification program allows for the assessment of fisheries and aquaculture products according to sustainability criteria and requirements. The certification, granted following an audit by independent certification bodies, ensures that a product complies with the sustainability requirements.

Requirements are classified as Essential, Important or Recommendations, according to their level of importance.

Essential Requirements: The unit of certification shall be 100% compliant with essential requirements to be recommended for certification by the Certification Body (CB). Failure to comply with essential requirements is a major non-conformity. To achieve certification, corrective actions shall be implemented within three months from the date of assessment of non-conformities. Exclusively for the correction of requirements 2.1, 2.2, 3.1.1, 5.1.1b and 5.10.2 due to their more complex nature, six months are allowed. The unit of certification shall provide the CB with satisfactory evidence of correction of all major non-conformities, if necessary, with additional audits.

Important Requirements: Failure to comply with important requirements is a minor non-conformity. To achieve certification, the unit of certification shall first propose a corrective action plan within maximum three weeks from the date of assessment of the non-conformities - to the satisfaction of the CB. In the proposal, the unit of certification shall include the timeframe for the implementation of each corrective action, considering that all minor non-conformities must be closed before the surveillance audit. The proposal shall be analysed by the CB regarding its consistency and feasibility. If accepted, the certificate can be granted. Then, in the surveillance audit, the unit of certification shall be able to demonstrate that all minor non-conformities reported in the approved proposal were solved. If the approved proposal has not been fully implemented, the certificate is suspended until the resolution of any remaining minor non-conformities.

Recommendations: It is not compulsory for the unit of certification to comply with recommendations to achieve certification. Nonetheless, compliance with recommendations shall be verified during the audit and any non-conformities shall be highlighted in the audit report as a "recommendation". The unit of certification shall inform the CB, during the following audit, regarding any corrective measures implemented.

Requirements that are not applicable to the audited unit of certification will be marked with "N.A."

Description of the unit of certification

This document shall only be filled out by personnel of the CB in charge of the audit. It shall be filled out in English, if spoken fluently.

a) NAME OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED: AL Wusta Fisheries Industries (AWF)
b) NAME OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION REQUESTING THE AUDIT: AL Wusta Fisheries Industries (AWF)
c) IS THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED PART OF A GROUP? IF SO, PLEASE SPECIFY THE NAME OF THE GROUP AND LIST ALL MEMBERS: It's part of Fisheries Development Oman (FDO) Group members: Al Wusta fisheries industries, Oceanic Shrimp, Blue Waters, and International Sea Food Company.
d) ADDRESS OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION TO BE AUDITED: Landmark Building, 23rd July Street, 2nd Floor. Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
e) NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS OF THE PERSON AT THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AUDIT AND CONTACTS WITH THE AUDITOR: Khadija Al Uwaisi - Quality Department Email: khadija.aluwaisi@awf.om

f) FLEET TO BE AUDITED:

Name of the fishing vessel	*Registration number*	*Vessel's flag*	*Fishing method*	*Capacity (MT)*	*Unloading harbour*	*Ship owner if different from a)*
JAWHART AL WUSTA	IMO 9256664	Oman	Mid Trawl Net	744 Ton	Duqm port in Oman	/
AL MASARA	IMO 86040548	Oman	Mid Trawl Net	1112 Ton	Duqm port in Oman	/
AL NAEMA	IMO 8509143	Oman	Mid Trawl Net	1314 Ton	Duqm port in Oman	/
ACILA	IMO 9957787	Oman	Purse seine	84.7 MT (744 Ton)	Port Sultan Qaboos	/
ADAMAS	IMO 9957799	Oman	Purse seine	84.7 MT (744 Ton)	Port Sultan Qaboos	/

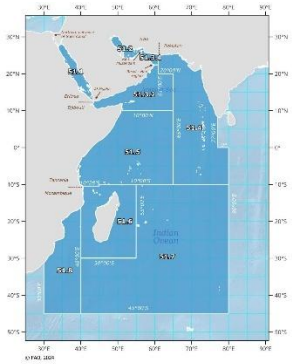
The auditor verified that the vessels are correctly registered:
IOTC RAV

g) VESSELS AUDITED ON SITE (the auditor shall list the vessels which have actually been audited on site as a sample representing the fleet)**:**

Name of the fishing vessel	**Registration number**	**Unloading harbour**
AL MASARA	IMO 86040548	Duqm port in Oman
ACILA	IMO 9957787	Port Sultan Qaboos
ADAMAS	IMO 9957799	Port Sultan Qaboos

h) FISHING ZONE *(Coordinates and/or FAO area and/or subarea and/or ICES area and/or EEZ. If available, please include a map.)***:**

Indian Ocean, Western (Major Fishing Area 51)



A description of the area and its subareas, divisions and subdivisions follows:

All marine waters of the Western Indian Ocean bounded by a line commencing on the southeast coast of India at 77°00'E longitude where the boundary between the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu meet at the sea; thence due south to the Equator; thence due east to 80°00'E longitude; thence due south to latitude 45°00'S; thence running due west along parallel 45°00'S from 80°00E longitude to 30°00'E longitude; thence due north to the coast of southern Africa; thence in a northeasterly direction along the east coast of the African continent to the northern entrance to the Suez Canal; thence running in a southeasterly direction along the east coast of the Red Sea; thence round the Arabian Peninsula and along the coast of Iran, Pakistan and India to the point of departure.

The Western Indian Ocean is divided into the following subareas:

Area 51 is divided as follows:

- Red Sea (Subarea 51.1)
- The Gulf (Subarea 51.2)
- Western Arabian Sea (Subarea 51.3)
- Eastern Arabian Sea, Laccadives (Subarea 51.4)
- Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania (Subarea 51.5)
- Madagascar and Mozambique Channel (Subarea 51.6)
- Oceanic (Subarea 51.7)
- Mozambique (Subarea 51.8)

website: Indian Ocean, Western (Major Fishing Area 51) - FAO Major Fishing Areas

i) COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME OF THE SPECIES TO BE AUDITED, WITH THE RESPECTIVE FISHING METHODS:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Fishing method
Horse mackerel or Arabian scad	*Trachurus indicus*	Mid trawl net
Chub mackerel	*Scomber japonious*	Mid trawl net
Yellowfin tuna	*Thunnus albacares*	Purse seine
Skipjack tuna	*Katsuwonus pelamis*	Purse seine

j) TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:

55

k) ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS:

The organization doesn't have any environmental certifications.

l) STAKEHOLDERS INPUT:

*Before or during the audit, the CB shall inform all the relevant stakeholders about the audit of the unit of certification and recommend their input. Please refer to paragraph "**2.4.4. Stakeholders consultation in fishery assessments**" (FOS-Audit Guidance v.2) and provide the list of all contacted stakeholders below:*

AL Muattasin AL Habsi, (muatasim4@hotmail.com): D.G. of Fisheries Resources Development in the MAFWR.

Khamis AL Falahi (khamis.alfalahi2@mafwr.gov.om): fish quality control center, food safety center.

Al Duqm Port (info@portofduqm.om)

Atyab laboratory (microbiology.lab@ais-mea.com)

m) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please specify the type of audit (initial, surveillance, additional, unannounced or recertification). In the case of multi-site audits, please specify also the method for calculation of sites inspected.

Renewal audit FOS Wild for Horse mackerel (*Trachurus indicus*) and Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonious*).

ADD ON for the fish species: Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) and Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*).
ADD ON for vessels: Acila and Adamas

The organization is FOS CoC certified and is in the process of renewing.

The auditor viewed the following documents:

- Annual Metric Tons:
- Fishing licenses.
- List of audited vessels containing the necessary information.

These vessels are still operating, below are more details for Oman pelagic vessels and targeted species.

Fishing gear	**Vessels**	**Species**
Small pelagic trawler (already certified and we wish to renew)	- Al Naema - AL Masara - Jawhart Al Wusta	- Trachurus indicus - Scomber japonicus
Purse seiners (new certification) – ADD ON	- **Acila** - **Adamas**	- **Yellowfin tuna** - **Skipjack tuna**

Total catch in Mt for all vessels for the period from October 2024 to September 2025:

- Freezer Trawlers (Oman EEZ and Mauritania EEZ)

Species	**Al Naema**	**AL Masara**	**Jawhart AL Wusta**
Horse mackerel	2,271	6,201	3,242
Mackerel	7,709	2,330	11,285

- Purse Seiners (Indian Ocean)

Species	**Acila**	**Adamas**
Yellowfin tuna	2,274	3,196
Skipjack tuna	3,231	3,709

For documentary support, videos relating to the fishing activity, the release of the by-catch into the sea, the unloading of the catch at the port, and photos of the vessels and how the fish is stored on board have been attached.

☐ **X The Friend of the Sea project was introduced** *(If not, the auditor shall provide a short description).*

☐ **X The unit of certification and the ship owners were informed of the opportunity, in case of approval, of using the Friend of the Sea logo on the certified products.**

☐ **X The unit of certification has a document qualifying and confirming the roles of the staff carrying out the audit.**

☐ **X The duration of the audit was agreed upon.**

☐ **X The information included in the Preliminary Information Form (PIF) was confirmed** (in the case of changes to the PIF, an updated version has to be promptly provided).

<table>
<tr><td>CERTIFICATION BODY:

EkoVeritas S.r.l.</td><td>AUDIT TEAM:

Chiara Di Pietro (Lead Auditor)

Auditor in training: Ancy S. M. Kollamparambil</td><td>AUDIT START AND END DATE:

24/11/2025
09/12/2025</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">SIGNATURE OF AUDITOR:

Chiara Di Pietro</td><td rowspan="2">NAME OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE UNIT OF CERTIFICATION AND ACCOMPANYING THE AUDITOR DURING THE AUDIT:

Khadija Al
Quality Department</td><td>AUDIT CODE:

0109</td></tr>
<tr><td>TYPE OF AUDIT:

Renewal audit</td></tr>
</table>

NOTES TO THE AUDITOR

1) The auditor shall fill out all fields in the checklist.

2) Checklist compilation guidelines are highlighted in the blue boxes.

3) The Auditor shall provide an explanation when requirements are not applicable.

4) The Auditor shall write YES when the unit of certification complies with a requirement and NO when it does not.

5) The Auditor shall comment and explain the positive or negative answers. Simple "YES," "NO," or "N.A." are insufficient.

6) Each relevant document shall be added to the final audit report in a separate and numbered attachment.

7) Photographic evidence added to the checklist or attached are appreciated.

8) After a revised standard come into effect, a transitional period of three years is given to the certified companies to come into compliance. After this transitional period, the revised standard is considered compulsory.

9) The application process is NOT discriminatory on size, scale, management, minimum number of operators and number of vessels involved.

10) Enhanced fisheries and enhancement activities are not applicable to this standard. Friend of the Sea has excluded enhanced fisheries and enhancement activities from its Wild Standard because, among other reasons, these practices imply human intervention in the natural biological cycles of aquatic species. Due to the lack of knowledge on the consequences of these practices on the environment, Friend of the Sea has decided to adopt a responsible approach.

11) The FOS Audit Guidance Version 2 provides guidance on the content of this document. Please review the following definitions: "*best scientific evidence available", "legal framework", "management objectives", "precautionary approach", "irreversible or very slowly reversible", "enhanced fisheries", "enhancement activities" "essential habitat", "ecosystem (structure, processes and function)", "recruitment overfishing", "resilience", "fishery management plan", "participatory",* "data (information): adequate, reliable, current", *"stock under consideration" and "management system".*

1 – STOCK STATUS

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
1.1.1	The fisheries management organization or arrangement shall coordinate the collection and analysis of adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information necessary to assess the state and trends of the stock under consideration taking into account the structure and composition of that stock which contribute to its resilience. Management decisions made by the fisheries management organization or arrangement shall be based on this assessment. In data limited situations, with special regards to the deep-sea fisheries stocks in the high seas, a precautionary approach shall be applied. In these cases, it is required to the fishery to acknowledge and explain challenges in data collection and maintenance to cover all stages of fishery development, in accordance with applicable international standards and practices.	Essential	The fishery shall demonstrate it collects adequate, reliable and current data and /or information in accordance with applicable international standards (e.g. Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics, the FAO Guidelines for the routine collection of capture fishery data, FAO Fisheries Technical Paper No. 382).	Y	IOTC manages fisheries for yellowfin and skipjack tuna and develops management and conservation measures: Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, August 2025. Meanwhile, an assessment of small pelagic stocks in Oman's EEZ is underway: -FISH RESOURCES OF THE ARABIAN SEA COAST OF OMAN. -Summary of stock assessment for the Omani mackerel.

The fisheries management organization is an institution responsible for fisheries management, including the formulation of rules governing fishing activities. The fishery management organization may also be responsible for collection of information, its analysis stock assessment, monitoring, control and surveillance. ***FAO 1997: FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries.***					
1.1.2	The stock under consideration shall NOT be overexploited.	Essential	F ≤ Fmsy within probability range of available stock assessments or at least F ≤ Flim (limit reference point – or its proxy). If overfishing of a stock under consideration of a certified fishery occurs, the certification of this fishery is suspended or revoked.	Y	IOTC has developed reports (2024) on yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna: **YELLOWFIN TUNA** F_{2023} / F_{MSY}: 0.75 On the weight-of-evidence available in 2024, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be not-overfished and not-subject to overfishing. **SKIPJACK TUNA** F_{2022} / F_{MSY}: 0.49 On the weight-of-evidence available in 2023, the skipjack tuna stock is determined to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing. Assessments are underway for small pelagic stocks in Oman's EEZ. Summary of stock assessment for the Omani mackerel, reports the value for mackerel (page 7): F/ F_{MSY}: 0.625 The stock is not subject to overfishing (F<FMSY) (page 3).
1.1.3	The stock under consideration shall NOT be overfished.	Essential	B ≥ B_{msy} within probability range of available stock assessments or at least B>Blim (limit reference point – or its proxy). If the stock under consideration of a certified fishery becomes overfished, the certification of this fishery is suspended or revoked.	Y	IOTC has developed reports (2024) on yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna: **YELLOWFIN TUNA** SB_{2023} / $SB_{MSY\ recent}$: 1.32 On the weight-of-evidence available in 2024, the yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be not-overfished and not-subject to overfishing. **SKIPJACK TUNA** SB_{2022} / SB_{MSY}: 2.30 On the weight-of-evidence available in 2023, the skipjack tuna stock is determined to be not overfished and not subject to overfishing.

					Assessments are underway for small pelagic stocks in Oman's EEZ. Summary of stock assessment for the Omani mackerel, reports the value for mackerel (page 7): B/ B_{MSY}: 1.56 the stock is not overfished (B>BMSY) (page 3).
The auditor shall take into account the best scientific evidence available and, in the case of data limited fisheries, shall consider the Precautionary Approach.					
1.1.4	The current status and management measures for the stock under consideration shall include data of bycatch, discards, unobserved mortality, incidental mortality, unreported catch, and catch of all the fisheries over the entire area of the distribution of the stock under consideration.	Essential	Documented evidence	Y	IOTC develops reports for YF and SKJ tuna that include stock status and total allowable catches, including the management of non-target species (bycatch and discard, as also reported in the document under point 1.1.1): -APPENDIX 4 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: YELLOWFIN TUNA (2024). -APPENDIX 3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SKIPJACK TUNA (2024). -Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, August 2025, RESOLUTION 25/03. The management of small pelagic fisheries in relation to the interaction with the marine ecosystem and other species is considered in the document FISH RESOURCES ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF THE ARABIAN SEA COAST OF OMAN, Chapter 3 - SMALL PELAGIC FISH SURVEY.
1.1.5	The methodology, the results and the trends of the stock status assessment under consideration shall be made publicly available in a timely manner and based on the best scientific evidence available, respecting confidentiality where	Essential	Documented evidence	Y	IOTC develops reports for YF and SKJ tuna, which include the stock status assessment, as detailed in the following documents: -APPENDIX 4 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: YELLOWFIN TUNA (2024). -APPENDIX 3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SKIPJACK

	appropriate.				TUNA (2024). The stock assessment of Omani mackerel is ongoing, as reported in the Summary of stock assessment for the Omani mackerel.

2 – ECOSYSTEM AND HABITAT IMPACT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
2.1	Adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information are collected and updated at the level of the Fishery Management System, taking into account the best scientific evidence available, in order to make an assessment of the effects of the unit of certification on the ecosystem structure, function, processes and essential habitats for the stock under consideration and for habitats that are vulnerable to damage by the fishing gear of the unit of certification (with special consideration to deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and vulnerable marine ecosystems). This includes knowledge of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat, not just that part of the spatial range that is potentially affected by fishing and an assessment on non-target stocks, Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species, habitats and ecosystem services. The methodology and results of the likelihood and magnitude of adverse impacts of the unit of certification on the ecosystem shall be made publicly available in a timely manner, respecting confidentiality where appropriate. In order to assess severe adverse impacts[1] on dependent predators, data and information shall be collected considering the role of the stock in the food web, including all sources of fishing.	Essential	Data collection shall be in accordance with international standards (e.g. CWP and DSF in the High Seas, FAO Programme). The data and analysis may include any traditional, fisher or community knowledge used within the management system. [1]Severe adverse impacts can be regarded as those that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.	Y	IOTC manages fisheries for yellowfin and skipjack tuna and develops management and conservation measures, including analyses and measurements relating to the ecosystem, habitats and protected species: Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, August 2025, RESOLUTION 25/01 ON CLIMATE CHANGE AS IT RELATES TO THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION. The management of small pelagic fisheries in relation to interactions with habitat and biodiversity is considered in the document FISH RESOURCES ASSESSMENT SURVEY OF THE ARABIAN SEA COAST OF OMAN, Chapter 6 HABITAT, BIODIVERSITY AND OCEANOGRAPHY.

2.2	The unit of certification complies with the Marine Protected Areas regulations.	Essential	Verify compliance also by use of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and plotters tracking and World database.	Y	The certification unit complies with the regulations on the Areas Protected Marines. The auditor has verified that the area is compliant (website: Oman Marine Protection | Marine Protection Atlas).

The auditor, through random sampling, using the Satellite Control System on the vessels or valid alternative evidence, shall verify that the fishing activity is not carried out in infringement of Marine Protected Areas (MPA). Alternatively, an official declaration from local Control Authorities shall be produced. The Auditor shall provide a list of Protected Marine Areas in the area (refer to http://www.mpatlas.org/map/mpas/, where applicable).

2.3	The unit of certification shall use fishing gears that do not affect the seabed, unless it is proved that such impact is negligible.	Essential	The auditor shall list all the gear types used by the applicant unit of certification and assess their impact on the specific type of seabed and its benthic communities.	Y	The small pelagic trawler is designed to not affect the seabed, also the purse seiner nets. The FAO states the following: PURSE SEINE: Because of its characteristics there is no impact on the bottom habitat (except when the water depth is less than the height of the seine during the fishing operations and that the lower edge of the gear wipes the sea bottom). Species The main negative impact is the incidental capture of dolphins in certain fishing areas. Special techniques have been developed to reduce bycatch of dolphins; the Medina panel and "back down" operation, which allow encircled dolphins to escape alive. When small pelagic purse seines are used with light attraction, there may be incidental catch/bycatch (including too small fish, juveniles or endangered species). The increasingly used practice of encircling floating objects, including man-made FADs increases the capture of small sized and immature aggregating around such devices. Purse seines - Fishing gear type TRAWLS: he major potential detrimental impact of trawling on species can be the capture and removal from the ecosystem of small sized organisms and non-target species, which frequently are discarded at sea. Such impact can be mitigated by using larger meshes in the codends and/or devices in the trawl that reduce

					capture of small and unwanted organisms. Trawls - Fishing gear type
The Auditor shall collect conformity evidence.					

3 - GEAR SELECTIVITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
3.1	Accidental catches (bycatch) coming from the unit of certification shall not include species listed in the IUCN red list of endangered species as Vulnerable or higher risk. The IUCN assessment shall have been carried out no more than 10 years before.	Essential	Bycatch studies shall have been carried out by the relevant bodies (FAO or RFMOs or National Authorities or Universities) and they shall provide information regarding level of bycatch and bycaught species. These studies shall not indicate the presence of species vulnerable or higher risk among the regularly caught (over 0.25% of total weight) species according to www.iucnredlist.org.	Y	The organization has compiled a list of species caught and any bycatch during its fishing activities. The auditor viewed the list of species caught in the Mauritania EEZ (pelagic trawler), Oman EEZ (pelagic trawler), and International Waters (purse seiner).
3.2	The unit of certification collects and maintains adequate, reliable and current data and/or other information about its effects on endangered species, non-target catches and	Essential	Evidence of conformity	Y	AWF keeps a database of all catch species, sizes and locations. The organization monitors and maintains records of the species caught during fishing operations, including any bycatch. The auditor viewed the following catch reports: -AL MASARA vessel from March 2025 reports the catch of the species Hake (Merluccius merluccius), which is not included in the Red List, Merluccius

	discards in accordance with applicable international standards and practices. It is required the monitoring and subsequent assessment of the extent to which non-target catches and discards by the unit of certification of stocks other than the stock under consideration threaten those non-target stocks with recruitment overfishing or other impacts that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.				merluccius (European Hake) and Sea Bream (Archosargus rhomboidalis), which is not included in the Red List, Archosargus rhomboidalis (Sea Bream). -ADAMAS vessel from April and May 2025, there are no bycatches recorded in the catch report. -ACILA vessel from January 2025, there are no bycatches recorded in the catch report.
The auditor shall obtain records kept by the unit of certification of the species that are caught accidentally, and an assessment of the effects of the fishery on non-target stocks. The information included in the list shall be compared with the accidental catches actually occurred on site at the time of unloading. The list shall also be compared with the database of the IUCN red list www.redlist.org. The Auditor shall provide a final document that shows if any of the accidentally caught species is included in the IUCN list.					
3.3	The level of discard shall not be over 8% of total catch (in weight).	Essential	Discards are bycaught species, which are not used for human consumption nor for fishmeal or fish oil production.	Y	The auditor viewed the 2025 catch report (until October 2025) which shows the bycatch %, confirming that they do not exceed 8%.
3.4.1	The unit of certification shall provide a census of the number of all fish aggregating devices (FADs) deployed per	Important	Auditor shall collect the data provided by the fleet or fishery and attach it to the audit report.	Y	The auditor viewed Verification of Resolution IOTC/19/02 - Report prepared by AZTI for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources- Oman, for the organization, which states that the FADs of the vessels ACILA and ADAMAS are regularly registered and controlled.

	vessel during the previous 12 months. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**				The report includes the activities of the vessels and their FADs for the year 2024.
3.4.2	The unit of certification shall use non-entangling FADs only, to avoid entanglement of sharks, turtles and other non-target species. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Auditor shall collect evidence including pictures of FADs, purchase invoices with technical specifications to prove compliance.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -FAD Management Policy, v. April 2025, which outlines the management and use of fish aggregating devices (FADs) in accordance with ISSF Conservation Measure 3.7. This policy incorporates the practices identified in ISSF Technical Report 2019-11 for FAD management, point 4 - Non-Entangling FADs. -Fleet development and management department Non-Entangling FADs Policy, v.01, which states that the fleet uses exclusively non-entrapping Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) on all vessels and strictly prohibits the use of FADs classified as high entanglement risk, as outlined in the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Guide for Non-Entrapping FADs. This policy applies to all new FAD installations in the fleet, regardless of vessel type or size.
3.4.3	Marking FADs and FAD components with ownership details, consistent with the Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear, adopted at the FAO's Committee on Fisheries (COFI 33). **Only applicable to fisheries and**	Important	More information about Voluntary Guidelines for the Marking of Fishing Gear at this link: https://www.wcpfc.int/system/files/WCPFC_Gear%20Marking_FAO.pdf The auditor shall attach to the report at least one picture of markers as example.	Y	The auditor viewed the FAD Management Policy, v. April 2025, which outlines the management and use of fish aggregating devices (FADs) in accordance with ISSF Conservation Measure 3.7. This policy incorporates the practices identified in ISSF Technical Report 2019-11 for FAD management.

	fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.				
3.4.4	Equipping all FADs with a tracking device and sharing real-time FAD location with relevant authorities. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Evidence of compliance, such as purchase invoices with technical specifications and maintenance records. If possible, the auditor can include pictures of tracking devices.	Y	The auditor viewed the report showing the position of FADs during fishing activities.
3.4.5	Recovering all deployed FADs and avoiding their deliberate abandonment. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Important	Evidence of recovering all deployed FADs, e.g. logbook.	Y	The auditor viewed the FAD Management Policy, v. April 2025, which reports in point 5 - Mitigating Environmental Impact through Biodegradable FADs, that biodegradable FADs are used and that measures for the recovery and recovery of FADs have been established.
3.4.6	Ensuring there is adequate storage space on boats/vessels for recovered FADs.	Essential	Verify that there is adequate storage space on boat/vessels for recovered FADs, collecting evidence through pictures that have to be attached	Y	The auditor viewed photos of the ACILA and ADAMAS vessels, which show that the FADs are stored in designated spaces on the vessels.

	Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.		to the audit report.		
3.4.7	Reporting of lost FADs with date, time and last known position to relevant authorities. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Essential	Verify the existence of a logbook where reported cases of loss and attach to the audit report at least one example.	Y	The auditor viewed the report showing the position of FADs during fishing activities.
3.5	Shark finning is prohibited.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity: site inspection and interview. The unit of certification shall declare that they do not practice shark finning.	Y	The auditor viewed the No Shark Finning Policy, v. October 2024, which states that shark finning is prohibited on vessels belonging to AL WUSTA: If sharks are retained, endangered species must be released. Other non-endangered sharks, if not released, must be stored and landed with fins naturally attached (FNA). This rule ensures that all landed sharks maintain an intact body-fin connection, promoting humane and sustainable fishing practices.
3.6	Turtle excluder devices (TEDs) are in place and subjected to periodic maintenance.	Important	The unit of certification shall have appointed at least one employee to monitor the functioning and maintenance of	N.A.	The requirement does not apply because the organization does not fish for shrimp.

	Only applicable to trawler fisheries and fleets targeting shrimps.		TEDs. The auditor shall collect evidence of compliance, such as purchase invoices with technical specifications and maintenance records. If possible, the auditor can include pictures of TEDs.		
3.7	The unit of certification shall use circle hooks. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet using pole and line and long line fishing methods.**	Recommendation	Evidence of conformity	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization does not use circle hooks.

4 - LEGAL CONFORMITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
4.1	All fishing vessels shall be officially registered.	Essential	Vessel registration and fishing license inspection.	Y	All fishing vessels shall be officially registered. The auditor viewed the following fishing licenses: -AL MASARA: license no.1098. -ACILA: license no.1259. -ADAMAS: license no.1398.
The Auditor shall request a list of all the fishing boats and the respective registration number. The Auditor shall collect on site all the documents concerning the registration of at least 10%of the audited boats (copies of photos of the documents).					
				Y	The fleet does not include

4.2	The fleet does not include vessels with a flag of convenience.	Essential	The auditor shall verify that each vessel is not registered to another Nation identified as Flag of Convenience. Please refer to: https://www.itfseafarers.org/foc-registries.cfm		flag of convenience vessels. Current Registries Listed as FOCs | ITF Seafarers
4.3	The fleet does not include illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing vessels.	Essential	The auditor shall verify that the vessels are not listed in EU IUU vessel list (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2015.199.01.0012.01.ENG), or in the IUU vessel list made available by the competent RFMO.	Y	The organization does not include illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing vessels (INN List), as per the website https://iuu-vessels.org/Home/Search
4.4	The fleet shall be "Dolphin Safe" approved by the Earth Island Institute. **Only applicable to fisheries and fleet targeting tuna. N/A to fisheries targeting any other species.**	Essential	The unit of certification shall be included in the Dolphin-Safe list of the Earth Island Institute: www.dolphinsafetuna.org	Y	The auditor viewed the DS Certificate, valid until November 2025. The auditor verified that the organization is DS certified. Al Wusta Fisheries Industries LLC - Company - Dolphin Safe Listings - International Marine Mammal Project
The Auditor shall verify conformity on the latest list of approved Dolphin Safe companies and/or importers, brokers, and retailers. A copy of the signed EII DS Policy shall be included in the audit report.					
4.5	The unit of certification complies with local, national and international fisheries regulations. In particular, based on the best scientific evidence available, compliance with the following	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/	Y	All AWF vessels are officially registered in the local ministry of fisheries and in the IOTC. The auditor viewed the following registration:

	regulations has to be confirmed and verified:		**The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**		-PVR registration of ACILA and ADAMAS (screenshot). -PVR certificate of ACILA of December 2024. -PVR certificate of ADAMAS of December 2024. -Quality control certificate no. 1300198, quality control no. QC92/103, AL MASARA vessels, valid until 18/05/2026. -Quality control certificate no. 1300198, quality control no. QC92/124, ADAMAS vessels, valid until 20/09/2026.
4.5.1	Total Allowable Catches (TAC).	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable limits.**	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents, which report the permitted TACs for the corresponding species and vessels: -Al Masara, the TAC in Oman is 20,000 (mackerel species). -APPENDIX 4 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: YELLOWFIN TUNA (2024): The 2021-2023 average catches (413,000 t) were within the estimated recent MSY level. -EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: SKIPJACK TUNA (2024): The catch limit calculated by applying the HCR specified in Resolution 21/03 is [628, 606t] for the period 2024-2026.

4.5.2	Use of a logbook.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The auditor viewed the following logbooks: -ACILA vessel: of 047/11/2025, YFT q.ty 285MT, SKJ q.ty 600MT. -ADAMAS vessel: from 11/10/2025 to 19/10/2025, YFT q.ty 142MT, SKJ q.ty 938MT. -AL MASARA vessel: of 10/11/2025, Horse mackerel q.ty 39.94.Kg, Mackere q.ty 20Kg and of 11/11/2025, Horse mackerel q.ty 10 tons.
4.5.3	Minimum net mesh size.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	IOTC hasn't minimum net mesh size. The auditor viewed the following documents: -Photos of the purse seine links of the ADAMAS (4,5mm) and ACILA (5,5mm) vessels. -OMAN SEA (GULF OF OMAN) - Catching fish by traditional sector in Oman Sea, which reports the following measurements for the bottom trawls: mesh size in trawl wings and belly to be 75 mm, cod end to be 60 mm, apron to be 60 to 70 mm. Note: The evidence provided by the client is deemed truthful and reliable for audit purposes.

4.5.4	Net size.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -Dimensions of the fishing net of the ACILA vessel document, which correspond to 1686.90 m x 251.00 m. -Dimensions of the fishing net of the ADAMAS vessel document, which correspond to 64 m x 14 m.
4.5.5	Minimum legal size of the target species.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The auditor viewed: -Legislation in force on minimum sizes of catches kept on board (Appendix 7), which lists the minimum sizes for the following species: -Scads and horse mackerels (Trachurus spp.): 19cm. -Chub mackerel (Scomber japonicus): 25cm. -Photo with measurement taken by the organization: -Horse Mackerel: 23 -28 - 34 cm -Chub Mackerel: 27 – 34 – 39 cm -Skipjack tuna: 60cm. -Yellowfin tuna: 85cm. Note: The evidence provided by the client is deemed truthful and reliable for audit purposes.
4.5.6	Distance from the shore.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/	Y	The auditor viewed screenshots of the vessels AL MASARA, ACILA, ADAMAS, during fishing activity.
4.5.7	Measures that minimize unwanted catch	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws	Y	The auditor viewed the

	and discards, where appropriate.		are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable measures.**		following documentation, which includes the management of bycatches and discards on board vessels: -No shark finning policy, October 2024. -Full Retention of Tuna Policy for Al Wusta Fisheries Industries LLC (AWFI), October 2024. -FAD Management Policy, April 2025. -DOLPHIN-SAFE - FISHING COMPANY POLICY, October 2023.
4.5.8	No fishing in protected habitats.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The auditor viewed the 2024 Al Wusta Fisheries Industries Compliance Report, which details where fishing activity is conducted and the locations of vessels.
4.5.9	Use of forbidden gear, chemical substances and explosives.	Essential	Countries' fisheries laws are available on the FAO website: http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/ **The auditor shall specify applicable indicators.**	Y	The auditor viewed Royal Decree No. 20/2019 Promulgating the Marine Living Resources Law, issued by the Government of Oman, which prohibits the use of explosives and chemicals during fishing activities (art.13, page 8).
The auditor shall verify, according to fisheries national and international regulations, that the aforementioned legal requirements are met and provide an exhaustive report with reference to the law. Where possible, the auditor shall provide documents and photographs. A detailed description of the fishing regulation concerning each Country is available on FAO's website http://www.fao.org/faolex/en/**.**					

5 – FISHERY MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
5.1.1a	The fishery management system of which the unit of certification is a part is managed under an effective legal framework according to a regularly updated Fishery Management Plan (FMP), at the appropriate level, and complies with local, national and international laws and regulations.	Essential	The Unit of Certification shall provide a copy of the FMP according to the Fishery Management System (FMS). In addition, national fishery ministries and authorities can be considered, e.g. Fisheries Management Organisations (FMOs). A map of existing RFMOs is available at http://www.fao.org/figis/geoserver/factsheets/rfbs.html	Y	The organization follows the guidelines issued by the fisheries management organizations (IOTC and Omani Government). The auditor viewed the following documents: -Sustainable Management of the Fisheries Sector in Oman. -Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, August 2025. -Mauritania small pelagics - Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) Workplan, December 2020.
5.1.1b	If the stock under consideration is a transboundary fish stock, straddling fish stock, highly migratory fish stock or high seas fish stock, a bilateral, sub regional or regional fisheries organization or arrangement is in place. States and entities in the arrangement shall collaborate in the management of the whole stock unit and bycaught or discarded species, over their entire area of distribution, with clear roles and responsibilities. The arrangement	Essential	Evidence of conformity. In case this is not applicable, provide justification.	Y	The auditor viewed the document prepared by IOTC-2025-CoC22-sCR18_Rev1, relating to the state of Oman, published in April 2025, which reports the measures to be taken regarding migratory fish species (point 6).

	shall ensure the rights of the small-scale fishing communities are granted. In order to find out the potential effects of bycatch management and discard reduction measures, States shall also provide an assessment on livelihoods to ascertain the potential effects of their implementation and the support necessary to facilitate their uptake.				
5.1.1c	The fishery management organization or arrangement convenes to update its management advice according to the most updated data and in a timely manner, with special consideration to deep-sea fisheries, adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, bycatch management, reduction of discards and ecosystem structure, function and processes.	Essential	Evidence of meeting frequency.	Y	The organization will participate in the IOTC 21st Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS21) meeting on November 25, where measures related to fisheries management of the affected species, bycatch management, discard reduction, and ecosystem-related measures will be discussed. Based on data obtained from fishing organizations, the IOTC will issue appropriate measures. Link: https://iotc.org/meetings/21st-working-party-data-collection-and-statistics-wpdcs21

The Auditor shall verify and describe briefly the legal and administrative structure of the fishery management system in force and provide the evidence of compliance with local laws and regulations.

Small-scale fisheries are here intended as those using fishing craft with size < 24 m and engine <375 kW.

Large-scale fisheries are intended as those using fishing craft with size ≥ 24 m, engine ≥375 kW, vessels with freezing facilities and/or factory vessels (i.e. ocean-going vessels with on-board facilities for processing and freezing).

5.1.2	The fisheries management system (FMS) under which the fishery or fleet under audit is managed shall be **both** participatory and transparent, including consultation with "responsible" deep-sea fishers, to the extent permitted by national laws and regulations.	Essential	Information and advice used in FMS decision- making is publicly available. A consultation process regularly seeks and considers relevant information. Consultation with Deep Sea fishers shall be carried out when applicable.	Y	IOTC holds meetings to verify the fishing situations and update the regulation, all the meetings' outcomes are available in the IOTC website. On the other hand, the ministry of fisheries and water resources in Oman evaluate the fishing regulations and update them as per the needs (an example attached).
5.2.1	A precautionary approach shall be applied, through the FMS, taking into account the best scientific evidence available to protect the target stock and its habitat and preserve the marine environment, with special consideration for data limited fisheries.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	In Oman, there are some closing periods to protect and declined fish stock, the tuna example is attached.

5.2.2	Management measures specify the actions to be taken in the event that the status of the stock under consideration (with special consideration to deep-sea stocks) drops below a level consistent with achieving management objectives that allow for the restoration of the stock to such levels within a reasonable timeframe. These measures shall be based on the best scientific evidence available. This requirement also pertains to species introductions or translocations that have occurred historically and that have become established as part of the natural ecosystem.	Essential	Procedure indicating target reference points and timeframe.	Y	In Oman, there are some closing periods to protect and declined fish stock: -Yellowfin tuna example is attached for Oman EEz -IOTC regulations to preserve yellowfin tuna stock, attached is the list of the latest regulations.
5.2.3	Efficacy of management measures and their possible interactions are kept under continual review in order to evaluate and adjust the regulatory measures as necessary. The assessment shall take into account the multipurpose nature of the use patterns in inland and marine waters.	Essential	Evidence of periodical reviews of the management measures shall be provided.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -IOTC-2025-CoC22-sCR18_Rev1 - Oman 2025 Summary Compliance Report for: Oman. -Stock Status of Small Pelagic Fishery in Sultanate of Oman.
The auditor shall verify if the Country the flag of the unit of certification refers to has ratified the FAO Code of conduct. Otherwise, the unit of certification shall include a precautionary approach in their procedures, including a risk assessment procedure.					

5.3	The compliance with fishery regulations is ensured by the fishery management organization or arrangement through an effective and suitable monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement.	Essential	This requirement refers to the wider fishery of which the unit of certification is a part. Procedure and evidence of monitoring and control by the fishery management authority.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -IOTC-2025-CoC22-sCR18_Rev1 - Oman 2025 Summary Compliance Report for: Oman. -Catch report AL NAEMA, no. AWF/072/2025. -Fisheries statical book (MAFWR)- Oman.
The Auditor shall describe briefly the monitoring, surveillance, control, and application methods and provide the evidence of the activities undertaken by the wider fishery of which the unit of certification is a part and its enforcement system to ensure compliance.					
5.4	The unit of certification shall record bycatch and discards during every fishing trip.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -Catch report no. AWF/088/2025 for the vessel Jawharat Al-Wasat — 06/2025, referring to the Maritime Fisheries Law, the Law for the Protection of Living Aquatic Resources, and related implementing regulations, and regarding the

					submission of data on the quantity of fish caught. The commercial fishing report for the vessel Jawharat Al-Wasat covers the sixth fishing trip of 2025, from March 31 to April 23, 2025, species caught (Small pelagic - Horse mackerel and Mackerel species), q.ty 1.044,220tons + others species 1.880tons. -IOTC Transhipment declaration: ACILA vessel, fishing period from 24/07/2025 to 10/08/2025, q.ty SKJ 367,145MT and q.ty YFT 176,672MT. -IOTC TRANSHIPMENT DECLARATION: ADAMAS vessel, fishing period from 06/08/2025 to 03/09/2025, q.ty SKJ 209.000Kg and q.ty YFT 237.000Kg.
5.5	Bycatch and discard data shall be made publicly available by the fisheries management system.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -REVIEW OF THE STATISTICAL DATA AVAILABLE FOR IOTC BYCATCH SPECIES, no. IOTC-2023-WPEB19-07_Rev2, which reports on bycatch and discard management. Furthermore, the catch reports provided in section 3.2 confirm that the audited fleets do not exceed the number of bycatches and discards. -Fisheries Statistics 2023 by Oman

The auditor shall attach copies of the bycatch and discard reports to the audit report.					
5.6	A management system to prevent possible accidental catch, reduction of discards and significant negative impacts of endangered species shall be in place and in compliance with national policies, legal and institutional frameworks. This shall consider international fisheries management plans and include objectives, strategies, standards and directed measures.	Essential	Procedure, performance indicators and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the Full Retention of Tuna Policy for Al Wusta Fisheries Industries LLC, v. October 2024, which outlines the management measures for bycatch and discards, aimed at ensuring the sustainability and responsible management of marine ecosystems, ensuring the long-term health of yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna populations, and minimizing discards.
5.7	The unit of certification implements a management program with an effective and suitable monitoring, surveillance, control and enforcement to manage bycatch and reduce discards. The management of bycatch shall be consistent with achieving management objectives and include procedures for the release of live animals under conditions that guarantee high chances of survival. This shall consider the "FAO International Guidelines on Bycatch	Essential	Procedure, performance indicators, and evidence of conformity. Refer to: http://www.fao.org/docrep/015/ba0022t/ba0022t00.pdf , Para 4.1.4.	Y	The auditor viewed Bycatch management in IOTC Fisheries, regarding the management of bycatch during fishing activities.

	Management and Reduction of Discards", where applicable.				
The auditor shall provide documented evidence that the unit of certification collects data to assess the impact of the fishing activities on non-target species and endangered fauna (i.e. IUCN listed). The data collection shall address specific outcome indicator(s) consistent with achieving management objectives.					
5.8	The fleet is equipped with measures that guarantee a quick retrieval of lost fishing gear to avoid "*ghost fishing"*.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The organization implements measures for the recovery of gear lost at sea (see points 5.8.1 to 5.8.4).
5.8.1	Vessels shall have appropriate equipment on board to assist in the safe recovery of lost fishing gear.	Important	Evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed Procedure: Recovery of Lost Trawl or Door Using Hook (Veil), which reports the measures to be taken for the recovery of fishing gear lost at sea.
5.8.2	When retrieval is not possible, the vessel must record the last known position of lost gear and report to the relevant authorities. If fishing authorities do not have the means to collect information on lost fishing gear, an alternative option is to report the details to the Global Ghost Gear Initiative via the Ghost Gear Reporter App.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity. Further information about the Ghost Gear Reporter App: https://www.ghostgear.org/news/2018/7/6/ggi-ghost-gear-reporter-app	N.A.	The requirement is not applicable because the organization has implemented measures for the recovery of gear lost at sea (see point 5.8.1).
5.8.3	Vessels shall be prepared and commit to the recovery and salvage of fishing gear lost by other vessel operators and to recycle damaged or found fishing gear, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed photos of the audited vessels (ACILA, ADAMAS, and AL MASARA), which show that there are areas for storing fishing gear recovered at sea and/or damaged.

5.8.4	The unit of certification undertakes an annual assessment of the lost gear records (amount and reasons for loss) and, in high-risk areas or during high-risk times, implement mitigation measures to address, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity. Such measures could include: reducing soak times, implementing gear use limits in high-risk areas or during high-risk times (e.g. inclement weather), implementing other spatial or temporal measures as needed (e.g., to avoid severe weather or crowded fishing areas) and measures to reduce gear conflict that could result in gear loss.	Y	Garbage Record Book, used to record any losses of fishing gear at sea, is available for the vessel ALMASARA, issued by the Maritime & Coastguard Agency.
The auditor shall obtain a copy of the procedures.					
5.9	The unit of certification has an independent observer on board, from the fisheries management organizations or States. In alternative, a CCTVs system has been deployed and it is accessible by the auditor to verify compliance with Friend of the Sea requirements. **Only applicable to large-scale vessels and fleets. Not applicable to small-scale artisanal fisheries.**	Important	Documented evidence of employment. At least one monthly report of the on-board inspector.	Y	ACILA and ADAMAS have CCTV system on board, while small pelagic fleet have observers on board. All the communications between AWF and the ministry are in Arabic but the observers names are only mentioned in English in the final catch reports. The auditor viewed the following catch reports: -Catch report no. AWF/040/2025, AL NAEMA dated 23/01/2025, Abdullah AL Shuraiqi observer (page 2).

					-Catch report no. AWF/072/2025, AL NAEMA dated 23/03/2025, Tariq AL Balushi observer (page 2). -Catch report no. AWF/041/2025, Jawhart Al Wusta vessel, dated 26/01/2025, Omar Al Badi observer (page 2). -Catch report no. AWF/073/2025, Jawhart Al Wusta vessel, dated 16/03/2025, Saleem AL Zahibi observer (page 2).
The auditor shall verify the presence of the observer(s) and obtain their CV and contacts. See definition for large-scale fisheries in section 1.					
5.10	Outcome indicator(s), including target and limit reference points, shall be consistent with all management objectives related to the unit of certification and the conservation of stock under consideration. Management objectives shall take into account the best scientific evidence available and, where applicable, take into account a Precautionary Approach regarding:	Essential	Documented evidence.	Y	MSY indicator is considered (see point 5.10.1).

5.10.1	Clear target reference points consistent with achieving Maximum Sustainable Yield, MSY (or a suitable proxy) on average and limit reference points (or proxies) consistent with avoiding recruitment overfishing or other impacts that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.	Essential	A proxy is a surrogate or substitute approach that results in acceptable outcomes consistent with the primary approach.	Y	IOTC has developed reports (2024) on yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna: **YELLOWFIN TUNA** MSY: 421 (the value falls within these parameters:416-430) **SKIPJACK TUNA** MSY: 584 774 (the value falls within these parameters: 512 228 and 686 071) Assessments are underway for small pelagic stocks in Oman's EEZ. Summary of stock assessment for the Omani mackerel, reports the value for mackerel (page 7): 30.504MT.
5.10.2	Marine resources exploited in deep-sea fisheries in the high seas that have low productivity. Biological reference points shall be set, in a precautionary manner and determined on a case-by-case basis, to ensure long-term sustainability. **Only applicable to deep-sea fisheries.**	Essential	Documented evidence that deep-sea stocks are harvested at levels that are sustainable in the long term.	N.A.	The requirement does not apply because the organization does not conduct deep-sea fishing.
5.11	There are clear management objectives[1] based on the best scientific evidence available, applicable to the unit of certification and the stock under consideration, as well as consistent with the outcome indicators and measures defined and periodically reviewed by means of risk assessment, including knowledge of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat[2], to ensure protection and/or avoid significant/severe[3] adverse impacts[4] on:	Essential	[1]Management objectives consider all the economic, social and environmental aspects for the fishery of which the unit of certification is part. In addition, it includes recruitment overfishing or other impacts likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible.	Y	The auditor viewed BUILDING RESILIENCE IN OMAN'S SMALL PELAGIC FISHERIES: The project successfully developed and implemented the Small Pelagic Fisheries Development and Management Plan (DMP), laying a strong foundation for sustainable fisheries management in Oman. It delivered a

			[2]Consideration of the full spatial range of the relevant habitat, not just that part of the spatial range that is potentially affected by fishing. [3]Severe adverse impacts can be regarded as those that are likely to be irreversible or very slowly reversible and are applicable only in relation to dependent predators. Thus, the auditor shall consider the term "severe adverse impacts" only in relation to the requirement 5.11.4 and the term "significant adverse impacts" in relation to the requirements 5.11.1, 5.11.2, 5.11.3 and 5.11.5. [4]Adverse impacts are from the interaction with the unit of certification.		comprehensive baseline report, consolidating data on stock status, fishing practices and value chain inefficiencies while identifying opportunities for resource expansion. The DMP, finalized in December 2024, provided a strategic roadmap centered on sustainable exploitation, economic maximization and competitiveness enhancement, aligning with the EAF. To support implementation, the project strengthened stakeholder capacity through training programs on ecosystem-based management, stock monitoring and value chain optimization. Additionally, technical and advisory committees ensured inclusive decision-making, strengthening collaboration between fishers, processors, policymakers and researchers.
5.11.1	Essential habitats and vulnerable marine ecosystems (with special consideration to high seas), that are specifically those of the unit of the certification, and on habitats that are highly vulnerable to damage by the fishing gear of the unit of certification.			Y	The auditor viewed RESOLUTION 24/02 ON MANAGEMENT OF DRIFTING FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADS) IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE, management resolution focused on reducing the bycatch and the impact

					on the ecosystem.
5.11.2	Endangered species.			Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures for endangered species. In addition, in Oman, the fishing season is established to allow stocks to recover and prevent overfishing.
5.11.3	Non-target stocks represented by non-target catches and discards coming from the unit of certification. Additional research shall be conducted where information is insufficient to conduct a risk assessment.			Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures for non-target species and bycatch.
5.11.4	Dependent predators resulting from fishing on the stock under consideration and/or key prey species.			Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures for predatory species.
5.11.5	Ecosystem (structure, processes and function).			Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures related to the marine ecosystem (RECOMMENDATION

					25/13; RECOMMENDATION 24/11).
5.12	A yearly reviewed Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) that considers the interdependencies and functioning of the ecosystem, minimizing cumulative negative impacts and, as far as possible, enhancing ecosystem health and integrity is in place.	Recommendation	Documented evidence Refer to the EAF: http://www.fao.org/fishery/topic/16034/en	Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures related to the marine ecosystem, aimed at minimizing the negative impacts of fishing activity (RECOMMENDATION 25/13).
5.13	Fisheries management approaches, plans and strategies are an integral part of integrated coastal management, and/or ocean management for oceanic fisheries. Safeguards are in place to protect the fisheries ecosystems from adverse effects coming from other sectors.	Recommendation	Documented evidence	Y	The auditor viewed the Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2025, which includes management measures related to safeguards to protect fisheries ecosystems from adverse impacts. Furthermore, as reported in documents provided by the organization, the fleet is being appropriately monitored by the State of Oman, in accordance with the country's regulations.
5.14	Any traditional, fisher or community knowledge[1] used within the management system can be objectively verified.	Essential	[1]Uncertainties can be assessed using a risk assessment/risk management approach.	Y	Artisanal fisheries are included in the Omani aquatic living resources. The auditor viewed the ROYAL DECREE 20/2019 ISSUING THE AQUATIC LIVING RESOURCES LAW.

The auditor shall provide evidence of the reference values targeted and implemented. In some cases, these can be threshold reference limits and precaution limits set by regional bodies. Therefore, the auditor shall verify if such limits were measured or estimated with acceptable certainty.

6 – WASTE MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
6.1	The unit of certification recycles, re-uses or re-processes all materials used during fishing, conservation and transport of the fish up to the selling point, including packaging.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -AWFI QHSE MANUAL, procedure no. AWFI/QHSE/001, rev. 02, which outlines how waste is managed on board, also in accordance with MARPOL conditions. -Photos of the containers on the vessels AL MASARA, ACILA, and ADAMAS, which are in port for waste collection.
6.2	The unit of certification implements measures to prevent dispersion of waste at sea (including fuels, lubricants and plastic materials).	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -INTERNATIONAL SEWAGE POLLUTION PREVENTION CERTIFICATE of AL MASARA vessel, no. 30266, dated 28/03/2025. -SUPPLEMENT TO THE INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION PREVENTION CERTIFICATE (IOPP CERTIFICATE) of AL MASARA vessel, no. nN2657321-dqm, dated 28/03/2025. -INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION PREVENTION CERTIFICATE of AL MASARA vessel, no. nN2657321-bzj, dated 28/03/2025.
6.3	The unit of certification utilizes all the chemical non-toxic alternatives available in order to reduce the use of toxic, persistent or bio-accumulating substances.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The vessels use low-sulfur fuel to minimize pollution. The auditor viewed SGS Analytical Report No. LPA25-00544.002, dated 24/10/2025, which analyzed the fuel oil used by the vessels.
6.4	The unit of certification does not use CFC, HCFC, HFC or other refrigerants that cause ozone depletion.	Essential	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The auditor viewed the AIR POLLUTION PREVENTION certificate of conformity, no. nN2657321-ygv, issued on 03/28/2025 for the vessel ALMASARA, regarding the use of substances on the vessels.
6.5	Fishing vessels must be equipped with storage facilities for damaged or end-of-life fishing gear, where appropriate and practically possible.	Important	Evidence of conformity	Y	The auditor viewed photo on board the vessels ACILA and ADAMS, which show the presence of space on board for storing damaged and/or end-of-life fishing gear.

6.6	Gear shall be properly disposed of at port. If appropriate disposal facilities are not available, the unit of certification shall endeavour to work with port operators to provide adequate, low-cost and accessible disposal facilities.	Important	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The company owns a storage in the port to store all gear parts in order to be disposed. The auditor viewed the photos provided by the organization of the areas present in the port for the storage of fishing gear.
6.7	Where applicable, the unit of certification shall work with ports to implement gear collection and/or recycling programs for end-of-life gear.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The company owns a storage in the port to store all gear parts in order to be disposed (see point 6.6).
The auditor shall provide procedures complete with photographic evidence. See definition of large-scale fisheries in section 5.					

7 - ENERGY MANAGEMENT

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
7.1	The unit of certification shall keep a register of all energy sources and their use, updated at least once a year.	Essential	Energy consumption records, which shall be created at least once a year shall be included in the procedure. As a minimum, the register shall include the following parameters: 1. incoming energy sources (renewable or not); 2. energy consumption per process line (fishing, processing, transport).	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -Consumption data for 2025 for all vessels (from January to November). -Detailed consumption figures for the ALMASARA vessel, from January to December 6, 2025.
7.2	The unit of certification should calculate its carbon footprint per product unit and commit to reducing it every year.	Recommendation	Procedure and evidence of conformity.	Y	The company calculated its carbon footprint. The auditor viewed the AWF-Carbon Footprint report issued by Three Pillars Consulting.
The Auditor shall request copies of the registers.					

8 - SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

No.	Requirement	Level	Parameters and information	Y/N/ N.A.	Comments
8.1	The unit of certification shall respect human rights, complying with the following requirements:			Y	The Organization is in compliance with the national regulation and ILO on child labor. https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/child-labour/lang-en/index.htm Refer to ILO: http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/lang--en/index.htm
8.1.1	Compliance with national regulations and ILO on child labour.	Essential	The Minimum Age Convention 1973 (No. 138) sets "the general minimum age for admission to employment or work at 15 years (13 for light work) and the minimum age for hazardous work at 18 (16 under certain strict conditions). It provides for the possibility of initially setting the general minimum age at 14 (12 for light work) where the economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed".	Y	Oman has signed the MLC 2006 and all the companies with Omani flag are obliged to commit to MLC terms by the attached royal decree. The auditor viewed the following documents: -Employee list, which confirms that all workers are adults (ACILA and ALMASARA vessels). -Royal Decree 62/2021 - Approving the Accession of the Sultanate of Oman to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006. -MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006, which includes the abolition of child labor in Article III and mandatory worker rights. -AWF Crew Policy, No. POL-CRW-001, Rev. 005, which states in point 11 - AGE LIMIT that in accordance with Omani immigration law, seafarers must be at least 20 years old and paragraph 13 - Recommended Age for Crew Positions, which reports that recommended age ranges are provided to ensure a balance of experience, physical

					fitness, and effectiveness in each crew position.
8.1.2	Pay the employees adequate salaries compliant at least with the minimum legal wages according to the international legal framework.	Essential	The minimum wages vary depending on the country. The Auditor shall verify that the unit of certification is aware of the minimum wages of the countries in which it operates.	Y	The auditor viewed the Salary Register for September 2025, which includes the list of employees and reports the minimum wage (last column), confirming that it is respected by the organization. The auditor verified that the minimum wage in Oman is 325 OMR/month (Oman Minimum Wages), which corresponds to approximately 840-850 USD per month (approximately 730€/month). During the videocall, the organization explained that workers on small pelagic fishing vessels are paid on a per-day basis and have short contracts. Meanwhile, employees on the ACILA and ADAMAS vessels (used in tuna fishing) are paid by an external agency; therefore, AL WUSTA pays the external agency, which in turn pays the employees. Furthermore, the organization stated that, given the work performed, the minimum wage in Oman is USD 1.100 (€944) per month. The following documents were viewed during the videocall: -Invoice from PELICAN Marine Services SA (external agency) for the month of September 2025, ADAMAS vessel, no. 2025-1103-AW, which lists the total salary (last column) and monthly commissions for each employee (Monthly Fee). Three employees were sampled (highlighted in yellow in the file) and it is confirmed that they meet the minimum wage requirements. -Invoice from PELICAN Marine Services SA (external agency) for the month of September 2025, ACILA vessel, no. 2025-1102-AW, which lists the total salary (last column) and monthly commissions for each employee (Monthly Fee). Three employees were sampled (highlighted in yellow in the file) and it is confirmed that they meet the minimum wage requirements. -Invoice from PELICAN Marine Services SA (external agency) for the month of October 2025, ACILA vessel, no. 2025-1030-

					AWU, which lists the total salary (last column) and monthly commissions for each employee (Monthly Fee). Three employees were sampled (highlighted in yellow in the file) and it is confirmed that they meet the minimum wage requirements. -Invoice from PELICAN Marine Services SA (external agency) for the month of October 2025, ADAMAS vessel, no. 2025-1031-AWU, which lists the total salary (last column) and monthly commissions for each employee (Monthly Fee). Three employees were sampled (highlighted in yellow in the file) and it is confirmed that they meet the minimum wage requirements.
8.1.3	Grant employees access to health care.	Essential	The unit of certification shall have workers' compensation insurance to cover their employees when an illness or injury happens at work. The auditor shall verify that the unit of certification provides, where necessary, measures to deal with emergencies and accidents, including adequate first-aid arrangements.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -AWF Crew Policy, No. POL-CRW-001, Rev. 005, which states at point K that Onboard Medical Care is provided: Providing medical care on board the vessels by facilities doctors on board and clinic to ensure the well binge of the seafarers and in paragraph 11 – AGE LIMIT, which all crew members must be in good health and fitness for marine work, as established by a medical report issued by a competent medical authority and in paragraph 20 - INSURANCE, which guarantees medical assistance to the crew on board. -Invoice no. DQ AWF/09-25/005 from KIMS Health Medical Center, which includes services related to the nursing contract for the month of September 2025. -Invoice no. DQ AWF/09-25/005A from KIMS Health Medical Center, which includes services related medicine supplied to ship AL NAEMA for the month of October 2025.
8.1.4	Apply safety measures required by the law. Nonetheless, compliance with the minimum safety requirements are mandatory, even if not required by local law.	Essential	To assess the minimum safety requirements, the auditor shall verify and collect evidence of hazards and risks	Y	The auditor viewed AWF Crew Policy, No. POL-CRW-001, Rev. 005, which states in paragraph 5 - Vessel Clothing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), that in accordance with MLC 2006 and

			in the work environment, dangers to life, safe drinking water, health and safety training and use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).		STCW regulations, the company is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all seafarers. The company will ensure that an adequate supply of workwear, safety clothing, and PPE is maintained both on board and in stock to ensure continuous availability of these items (safety shoes and safety clothing). Also, in paragraph 24 - Onboard Training, training is provided to the crew on board.
8.1.5	Keep records of accidents or injuries.	Important	These records shall be used to take corrective measures and identify the causes of the incidents, preventing future occurrences.	Y	The auditor viewed Accident Report No. 4/2025 dated 25/03/2025, which includes the recording of an accident on board the vessels JAWHART AL WUSTA.
8.1.6	Freedom of association and collective bargaining.	Essential	The auditor shall verify if workers are free to form organizations to bargain collectively, advocate for and protect their rights.	Y	AWF is complying with MLC, as Oman has signed the convention. The auditor viewed the following documents: -Royal Decree 62/2021 Approving the Accession of the Sultanate of Oman to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006. -MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006, which reports in art. III, letter A, guideline B2.2.2 and B4.4.5, that workers can take part in collective associations.

8.1.7	No forced or compulsory labour.	Essential	All work, including overtime, must be voluntary. The hours worked in excess of the normal working hours must be remunerated at the rates prevailing in the case of overtime for voluntary labour.	Y	The auditor viewed AWF Crew Policy, No. POL-CRW-001, Rev. 005, which states in point 17 - Working Hours, that in accordance with the MLC 2006 and the ILO Maritime Convention, the standard hours of work and rest correspond to 8 hours per day under normal conditions. The captain and officers will be responsible for determining the specific length of working hours.
8.1.8	No discrimination.	Essential	Opportunities for recruitment, access to training, promotion, compensation, termination and retirement shall not be made based on race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin. Physical, verbal or sexual abuse, bullying or harassment are prohibited.	Y	The auditor viewed the following documents: -Royal Decree 62/2021 Approving the Accession of the Sultanate of Oman to the Maritime Labour Convention 2006. -MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, 2006, which reports in art. III, letter D, guideline B1.4, B2.2.2 and Title 5, that no form of discrimination is permitted.
8.1.9	Rights on board.	Essential	The auditor shall verify if the vessels are maintained in a clean and habitable condition and check if regular periods of rest of sufficient length are given to fishers.	Y	The auditor viewed photos of the vessels ACILA, ADAMAS, and AL MASARA, showing the restrooms, common areas, and dormitories on board.

Further comments:

CONCLUSIONS:

The Auditor shall fill out the following fields

X The unit of certification COMPLIES with Friend of the Sea requirements

☐ The unit of certification DOES NOT COMPLY with Friend of the Sea requirements

MAJOR NON-CONFORMITIES (to be corrected within 3 months)

List major Non-conformities: None

MINOR NON-CONFORMITIES (corrective plan to be produced within 3 weeks and correction within 1 year)

List minor Non-conformities: None

RECOMMENDATIONS (to be communicated within the next inspection)

List recommendations