

# ASIAPACIFIC-FISHWATCH: THE EXPERIENCE OF PREPARING SKIPJACK, THE FIRST FULL SPECIES PRESENTATION

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The Asian Fisheries Society is developing an online information base of the major Asia-Pacific aquaculture and fisheries species. The basic structure of information has been based on early planning meetings and a user (consumers, the public) questionnaire, using as test case the wolf herrings (*Chironcentrus* spp). Now, the first full species are being prepared. Four species are finalized or in near final form, namely skipjack (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowfin (*Thunnus albacores*), bigeye tuna (*T. obesus*), and albacore (*T. alalunga*). All four species are major commercial species in the Asia-Pacific region and on global markets where they supply a majority of tuna product. This presentation will describe how preparing the material for these four species for public presentation has helped develop the concepts and presentation styles for AsiaPacific-FishWatch. It will also enable the opportunity for feedback to help further develop the online project. Critical lessons from preparing the first detailed presentations include: the importance of information from the mainstream actors as well as from other interested (e.g., environmentalists and social welfare activists), and the imbalance of information available on biological versus social and economic topics. In addition, species of high political interest carry additional responsibility for accurate reporting.