

Ocean Disclosure Project - Improved Methodology

Advancing Transparency and Consistency in Global Seafood Sourcing

New Methodology Overview

The Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP) has introduced a new methodology to its sustainability rating using FishSource scores to bring greater consistency and alignment across fisheries assessments. Wild fisheries are now rated based solely on their FishSource scores, ensuring that all ratings reflect clear, science-based management performance.

Fisheries continue to be scored out of 10 across multiple criteria:

Rating	Score Range	Definition
Needs Improvement	Below 6 or data deficient	Key management or data gaps exist
Managed	Above 6	Basic management measures are in place
Well Managed	8 or higher	Strong management and science-based controls

Key Change

In the past, wild fisheries with a GSSI-benchmarked certification were automatically considered “Well managed”. Under the new approach, a fishery’s FishSource scores alone determine its sustainability rating—it must score 8 or higher across the FishSource scores for Management Quality and Stock Health to be considered “Well Managed,” regardless of certification status. This ensures consistent evaluation across all fisheries.

Why This Matters

- This shift reflects the growing philosophy that certification is just one approach in the journey toward sustainability, oftentimes with conditions still needed to be met. The real goal is ensuring lasting, measurable improvements within the fishery itself.
- It also reinforces the need for improvements to be fishery-wide and not enacted by a segment of the fishery only. FishSource scores provide a comprehensive view as they assess the entire stock and highlight management and sustainability issues at a fishery-wide scale.
- Encourages continuous improvement across global seafood supply chains.
- Advances the shared goal of achieving 100% sustainable seafood.



Additional Insights

- Implementation of this change will begin for ODP profiles created or updated for 2026 and on.
- This change will reflect only in wild fisheries. Aquaculture sources will still consider GSSI benchmarked certifications toward a “Managed” rating. This is due to the already stringent guidelines and availability of information for aquaculture sources.
- Profiles will continue to display the certification or improving status to provide context for your supply chain

About the Ocean Disclosure Project

The Ocean Disclosure Project (ODP) works toward the goal of 100% sustainably produced seafood by promoting greater transparency in seafood sourcing. By sharing this information openly, companies demonstrate responsibility, support improvements in fisheries and aquaculture, and build trust with consumers and partners.

The ODP helps companies to disclose their seafood sourcing through public profiles that identify:

- The **origin** of their seafood
- The **production method**
- The **sustainability status** based on recognized ratings and certifications
- **Environmental performance** details, such as impacts on bycatch, habitats, and water quality.

In addition, companies can use their ODP profile to share information such as seafood sourcing policies, sustainability commitments and targets, support for improvement projects, and participation in other seafood sustainability initiatives, as well as vessel data and bycatch audits.

Learn more and visit oceandisclosureproject.org