

BI-WEEKLY ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA DEALER REPORT INSTRUCTION SHEET

Dear Bluefin Tuna Dealer:

Pursuant to regulations governing recordkeeping and reporting for the Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) fishery [50 CFR §635.5 (b)(2)] Atlantic bluefin tuna dealers are required to submit bi-weekly* reports to the Regional Director on forms supplied by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Bi-weekly reports must be postmarked and mailed, at the dealer's expense, within 10 days after the end of each 2-week reporting period in which BFT were purchased, received or imported.

Please use this instruction sheet as a guideline to complete the bi-weekly report by entering the requested data in the appropriate column for each case in which BFT are purchased, received or imported.

- (1) **Two Week Reporting Period:** Indicate the two week period of the month for which you are reporting purchase, receipt or import of BFT. The biweekly reporting periods are defined as the first day through the 15th day of each month and the 16th day through the last day of the month.
- (2) **Dealer:** Indicate the name of the dealer reporting purchase, receipt or import of BFT.
- (3) **Permit Number:** Indicate the dealer's permit number issued by NMFS.
- (4) **Person Filling Out Report:** Indicate the name of the individual completing the bi-weekly report.
- (5) **Date of Landing:** Indicate the date the BFT was landed.
- (6) **Atlantic Tunas Vessel Permit Number:** Indicate the NMFS Atlantic tunas vessel permit number of the vessel that landed the BFT.
- (7) **Tail Tag Number:** Indicate the serial number of the plastic tail tag that was affixed to the BFT carcass.
- (8) **Weight:** Indicate the weight, in pounds, of the BFT according to the form, either **Round** or **Dressed**, in which the carcass was purchased. NOTE: Enter the weight of one BFT in one sub-column, only.

(9) Nature of Sale: Indicate whether the sale was **Consignment** or **Dockside**. NOTE: Choose one, only.

(10) Price Per Pound: Indicate the price per pound in the appropriate sub-column according to the form, either **Round** or **Dressed**, in which the BFT was purchased. (The price per pound should reflect the balance paid to the fisherman) NOTE: Enter the price per pound of the one BFT in one sub-column, only.

(11) Quality Rating:** BFT should receive grade from dealers according to four quality factors that include: Freshness, Fat Content, Color, and Shape of the BFT. Dealers should assign a grade of A, high quality; B, above average quality; or C, average quality to rate each of the four quality factors.

(12) Destination of Fish: Indicate the destination of the BFT by assigning a **U** to shipments bound for the United States domestic market, or an **X** to designate shipments exported from the United States.

(13) Page Number: Indicate the number of pages, if more than one bi-weekly report is used to record BFT purchased, received or imported during a two week reporting period. The page number and total pages should be noted, in sequence, at the bottom of the bi-weekly report.

Completed bi-weekly reporting forms should be mailed to the following address:
DOC/NOAA/NMFS, HMS Division, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298.

* Copies of each bi-weekly report should be maintained, by the dealer, for a period of two years from the date on which each report was required to be submitted to the Regional Director.

** Quality rating is subjective and will vary from dealer to dealer. Though quality rating is optional, dealers are encouraged to complete these columns as price and quality information may be used by NMFS in assessing the impacts of management regulations.