



NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
Case Highlights

Northeast Enforcement Division

- Swordfish
- Bluefin Tuna
- Yellowfin Tuna
- Observers

HMS Swordfish Investigations

- 3 Subjects from Ogunquit, Maine
- 2 Atlantic Swordfish caught without an HMS Permit
- Prohibited barter or sale of loins to unpermitted dealer
- Jointly Investigated by OLE – Newcastle, NH & Maine Marine Patrol



HMS Swordfish...continued

- Tuna dealer
- Purchased swordfish without a valid Atlantic Swordfish Dealer Permit
- Failed to report purchase
- Investigated by OLE – Portland, ME



Undersized Atlantic Bluefin Tuna



- Tuna fisherman landed ABT in unauthorized form (fillets)
- ABT was undersized
- NOAA OLE Boston, MA office.

Undersized Atlantic Bluefin Tuna....continued



- Tuna fisherman landed undersized ABT
- Sold to MA dealer
- Detected by Maine Marine Patrol officers
- NOAA OLE – Portland, ME office

Yellowfin Tuna

- NOAA OLE-Bellport, NY office investigated a tuna fisherman for landing Atlantic Yellowfin Tuna in unauthorized form (fillets)



Undersized Yellowfin Tuna



- NJ Fish & Wildlife Officers conduct inspection of F/V
- Discovered 3 undersized Yellowfin Tuna
- Vessel owner misrepresented species to NJ state officers
- Accomplice removed two of the YFT from scene.
- Owner confesses to OLE

HMS Observer Refusal

- Pelagic longline vessel
- Refused to carry an observer
- Investigated by NOAA OLE Falmouth, MA office



Questions?

