



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

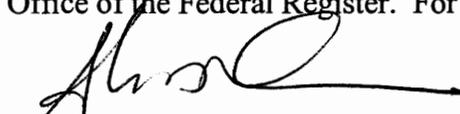
## NMFS EXTENDS THREE-FISH GENERAL CATEGORY ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA DAILY RETENTION LIMIT THROUGH JANUARY AND WAIVES JANUARY RESTRICTED FISHING DAYS

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adjusts the daily Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) retention limit for vessels fishing under the General category quota for the 2006 fishing year as described below. *All retention limits are per vessel per day/trip.* This action is being taken to enhance commercial General category BFT fishing opportunities for all geographic areas.

Quota Category	Effective Dates	Areas	BFT Size Class Limit
GENERAL	December 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006, inclusive	All	Three BFT per vessel per day/trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) curved fork length (CFL) or larger
	<b>January 1, 2007, through January 31, 2007, inclusive</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>Three BFT per vessel per day/trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) CFL or larger</b>
	February 1, 2007, through May 31, 2007, inclusive	All	CLOSED

Note: All previously scheduled Restricted Fishing Days (RFDs) scheduled for the month of January have been waived. On February 1, 2007, the General category will CLOSE for the remainder of the season. Vessels may catch and/or tag and release BFT of all sizes during this closure. The General category will reopen for the 2007 Fishing Year on June 1, 2007. Permit holders may visit our website, [www.hmspermits.gov](http://www.hmspermits.gov) or call the Atlantic Tunas Information Line at (888) 872-8862 or (978) 281-9260 for updates.

This notice is a courtesy to BFT fishery permit holders to help keep you informed about your fishery. Official notice of Federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register. For further information, contact Brad McHale, 978-281-9260.

  
Alan Risenhoover  
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

DEC 20 2006

Date

