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

NMFS EXTENDS THREE-FISH GENERAL CATEGORY ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA DAILY RETENTION LIMIT THROUGH OCTOBER

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	September 1, 2006, through September 30, 2006, inclusive	All	Three BFT per vessel per day/trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) curved fork length (CFL) or larger
	October 1, 2006, through October 31, 2006, inclusive	**All**	**Three BFT per vessel per day/trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) CFL or larger**
	November 1, 2006, through January 31, 2007, inclusive	All	One BFT per vessel per day/trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) CFL or larger

Note: On November 1, 2006, the retention limit will be one BFT per vessel. However, NMFS may determine that additional actions are necessary to ensure available quota is not exceeded or, to enhance scientific data collection from, and fishing opportunities in, all geographic areas. Subsequent adjustments to the daily retention limits, if any, shall be announced through publication in the Federal Register. In addition, permit holders may visit our website, www.hmspermits.gov or call the Atlantic Tunas Information Line at (888) 872-8862 or (978) 281-9260 for updates on quota monitoring and retention limit adjustments.

This FAX 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 Mark Murray-Brown, 978-281-9260.

Alan Rishenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

SEP 27 2006
Date

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-- An electronic newsletter informing you of the latest HMS-related actions --
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/
For those who receive email notifications, you will continue to receive fax notices until October 31, 2006, at which time the fax network will be discontinued.