



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

NMFS Adjusts General Category Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Retention Limit

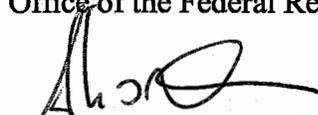
The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adjusts the daily Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) retention limit for vessel permitted in the commercial Atlantic tunas General category and the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Charter/Headboat category for the time period of September 1 through October 31, 2007, as described below. This action is being taken to enhance commercial BFT fishing opportunities. *All retention limits are per vessel per day/trip.*

Permit Category	Effective Dates	Areas	BFT Size Class Daily Limit
Atlantic tunas General and HMS Charter/Headboat (while fishing commercially)	June 1 through August 31, 2007, inclusive.	All	Three BFT per vessel per trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) curved fork length (CFL) or greater.
	September 1 through October 31, 2007, inclusive.	All	Three BFT per vessel per trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) CFL or greater.
	November 1 through December 31, 2007, inclusive.	All	One BFT per vessel per trip, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) CFL or greater.

These BFT retention limits are effective for all areas, except for the Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf of Mexico is designated as spawning grounds for BFT and therefore NMFS does not allow vessels to target BFT while fishing in this area.

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, will be announced through publication in the Federal Register. In addition, permit holders may visit the following 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 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

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Date