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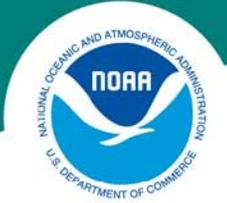


Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Proposed 2010 Quota Specifications

Highly Migratory Species Management Division
December 2009

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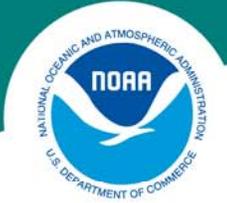
Proposed Rule

- Would implement 2010 baseline quotas per the 2008 ICCAT WBFT Recommendation (Rec. 08-04)
- Would apply 2009 underharvest consistent with the ICCAT Recommendation and the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP
- Would apply the same approach NMFS took with the 2009 Quota Specifications



ICCAT WBFT Recommendation -- Quotas

	Rec. 08-04 (applied to 2009)	Rec. 08-04 (applies for 2010)
W. Atl. TAC	1,900 mt	1,800 mt
U.S. baseline quota	1,009.9 mt	952.4 mt
Total U.S. quota (including 25 mt for bycatch in NED)	1,034.9 mt	977.4 mt

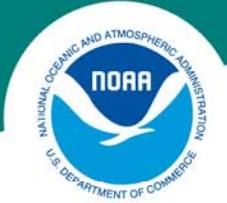


ICCAT WBFT Recommendation (Rec. 08-04) -- Other Provisions

- Limit carryforward of underharvest to 50% of a contracting party's (CPC's) quota
 - 50% of 2009 U.S. total quota (1,034.9) = 517.5 mt
 - After 2010, underharvest carried over not to exceed 10%

- Limit the harvest of BFT < 115 cm (school BFT) to no more than 10% of a CPC's quota, on average, over 2009-2010 period
 - Changed from 4-year (2007-2010) balancing period in 2006 Rec.
 - 10% of 977.4 is 97.7 mt

- *Allows a one-time transfer within a fishing year of up to 15% of a CPC's quota (i.e., up to 146.6 mt for United States) to other CPCs with WBFT quotas, consistent with domestic obligations & conservation considerations.*



2010 Domestic Implications – Accounting for Dead Discards

- U.S. quota is inclusive of dead discards
- Best available estimate (2008) of dead discards is 172.8 mt from pelagic longline (PLL) vessels
- Dead discard estimate must be subtracted from available TAC for 2010 fishing year
- In anticipation of similar level of landings and projected discards, NMFS proposes to apply 170.7 mt of underharvest to the Longline category

Base Longline Quota	Dead Discard Deduction	Adjustment from Underharvest	Adjusted LL Quota
77.1 mt	-172.8 mt	+170.7 mt	=75 mt

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Category (% share of baseline quota)	Baseline Allocation	Dead Discard Deduction	Proposed Adjustment to Baseline Quota ¹	Proposed 2010 Fishing Year Quota
Angling (19.7)	187.6 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> School 97.7 Reserve 18.1 North 37.6 South 42.1 Lg. Sch/Sm. Med 85.6 North 40.4 South 45.2 Trophy 4.3 North 1.4 South 2.9		37.8	225.4 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> School 97.7 Reserve 18.1 North 37.6 South 42.1 Lg. Sch/Sm. Med 122.5 North 57.8 South 64.7 Trophy 5.2 North 1.7 South 3.5
General (47.1)	Total: 448.6 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> Jan 23.8 Jun-Aug 224.3 Sept 118.9 Oct-Nov 58.3 Dec 23.3		90.3	538.9 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> Jan 28.6 Jun-Aug 269.4 Sept 142.8 Oct-Nov 70.1 Dec 28.0
Harpoon (3.9)	37.1		7.5	44.6
Purse Seine (18.6)	177.2		35.6	212.8
Longline (8.1)	77.1 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> North (-NED) 30.9 NED 25.0 ³ South 46.2	-172.8	170.7 ²	75.0 <u>SUBQUOTAS:</u> North (-NED) 30.0 NED 25.0 ³ South 45.0
Trap (0.1)	1.0		0.2	1.1
Reserve (2.5)	23.8		146.6 ⁴	170.4
Total (100) ⁵	952.4	-172.8	488.7	1,268.3



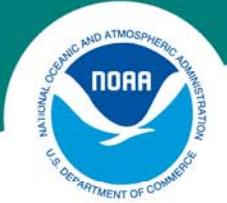
General and Angling Category Daily Retention Limits

- NMFS plans to make daily retention limit adjustments, if and as needed, for the 2010 fishing year via Federal Register notices separate from the final specifications.



Timeline for Rulemaking

- Proposed rule published December 2, 2009
- Comment period ends January 4, 2010
- Public Hearings: Silver Spring, MD December 14
 Gloucester, MA December 15
- Intend to publish final rule in February



Public Comments due January 4, 2010

- You may submit comments, identified by “0648-XQ38,” by any one of the following methods:
- Federal Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>
(Preferred method)
- Mail: Sarah McLaughlin
HMS Management Division
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
- Fax: (978) 281-9340



Comments? Questions?

- For further information on this rulemaking or Atlantic tunas management, contact Sarah McLaughlin at (978) 281-9260
- For information on other HMS issues, contact the HMS Management Division at (301) 713-2347