

Report of the Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2
(hybrid, Madrid (Spain) 3-5 March 2026)

1. Opening of the meeting and meeting arrangements

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Panel 2, Mr Shingo Ota (Japan).

The Executive Secretary welcomed the participants and explained the organisational aspects of the meeting.

2. Nomination of Rapporteur

Mr Alexander Meyer (Japan) was appointed as the rapporteur of the meeting.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Following slight amendments, the Agenda was adopted and is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Appendix 2 includes a list of delegates from each participating CPC as well as observers.

4. Consideration of annual fishing plans

4.1 Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean fishing and farming inspection and capacity management plans and farming management plans, as well as annual aquaculture plans, for 2026 submitted by CPCs

The Chair asked CPCs to present their 2026 fishing plans for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, primarily focusing on the differences from 2025.

The endorsed plans are included in **Appendix 3**.

A brief summary of the discussion on each CPC's fishing plan is as follows:

Albania

The 2026 quota is 457.37 t distributed as follows: Two purse seine vessels (456.37 t) and incidental bycatch (1 t). No carryover is requested for 2026.

In response to written comments received from the European Union (EU) on its fishing plan, Albania explained that it does not expect to receive live bluefin tuna (BFT) imports from other CPCs and that the primary objective of the farm is the fattening of BFT. Regarding the deployment of observers, Albania also explained that it will ensure the implementation of the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme (ROP) to guarantee 100% observer coverage, including during the release of BFT from farms.

The Chair requested Albania to specify the quota allocated to each individual vessel over 24 m as required under [Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean \(Rec. 25-04\)](#).

One CPC noted that Albania's stated farming input capacity exceeded its quota and asked for clarification. Albania explained that the figure was derived by combining its quota for 2026 with live BFT carried over in farms from 2025. Albania was requested to add such a clarification to its fishing plan.

Albania's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Algeria

Algeria requested a carryover of 4.64 t (0.23%) of its 2025 unused quota to 2026, for a total adjusted quota of 2,465.28 t. This quota is allocated mainly to a group of 41 purse seine vessels of 22 to 42 m in length. There is also 40 t allocated to small coastal vessels and 6 t allocated for bycatch.

In response to written comments received from the EU on its fishing plan, Algeria confirmed the presence of competent authorities for monitoring, control, and surveillance for all caging operations as required under [Rec. 25-04](#). It also provided additional information on the increases in the number of designated ports and small vessels, explaining that Algeria has newly designated a number of ports that are existing ports with installations in place and facilities for monitoring and control of fishing activities, including those of small vessels.

In response to a request for clarification, Algeria explained that the current plan initially lists 90 small-scale coastal vessels but this number may be reduced prior to the fishing season.

Algeria was also requested to correct some figures in its plan.

Algeria's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

China (Rep.)

China requested to carry over 22.4 t from 2025 for 2026, for a total adjusted quota of 308.55 t, to be distributed among three longliners. The vessels will fish from September until the end of the year or until the quota is exhausted. 0.5 t is allocated for bycatch.

China was requested to revise and clarify its description of its fisheries openings.

China's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Egypt

In 2026, Egypt's initial quota is 549 t. After accounting for bycatch, the available quota is 543.51 t, to be distributed to two purse seine vessels. Each will receive half of the available quota. All catch will be destined for fattening farm cages. No carryover is requested.

Egypt has an aquaculture farm for BFT that was supposed to begin operation in October 2025 and for which all infrastructure has been completed. It will utilise imported broodstock and artificial hatching technology. However, there have been some delays in the country from which the broodstock should be imported. It is now expected to open at the end of 2026, if the causes of the delay can be resolved.

In response to a request for clarification, Egypt explained that it has one authorised bluefin tuna farm but that no farming activities will take place in 2026.

Egypt's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

European Union

The fishing fleet and capacity have increased compared to 2025, reflecting the EU quota increase. The initial 2026 quota is 25,164.62 t. In 2025, the EU's underharvest was 1,344.34 t, which is above the maximum allowable carryover of 5% (1,075.15 t) provided in [Recommendation by ICCAT amending the recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean \(Rec. 24-05\)](#). [Rec. 24-05](#) has been superseded by [Rec. 25-04](#), which allows a maximum carryover of 20%, but the new recommendation has not yet been implemented in EU law. Therefore, the EU has currently requested a carryover of 1,075.15 t (5%) from 2025 for 2026, for an adjusted quota of 26,239.77 t. Once [Rec. 25-04](#) is implemented in EU law, the EU will submit a revised fishing plan with a larger carryover request that is based on the new limit.

27 farms will be operational in 2026, an increase from 2025 due to the diversification of companies, with a total input capacity of 28,106.90 t.

In 2026, the EU will conduct a minimum of 551 days of control and inspection activities at sea and 35 overall flights of air surveillance.

It was noted that the EU's fishing plan did not include information about the EU's proposed pilot project for farming bluefin and yellowfin tuna in waters of the Canary Islands. The EU explained that it had begun drafting plans but then realised that the project is not currently feasible. The EU explained that it may consider trying to start the pilot project next year and if so, it would present the relevant information to Panel 2.

The EU was requested to add a more detailed description of its plans to submit a revised fishing plan with a larger carryover request once [Rec. 25-04](#) is implemented in EU law. The EU was also requested to correct some figures.

The EU's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Iceland

Iceland requested to carry over 22.86 t (10.2%) from 2025 for 2026, for a total adjusted quota of 276 t, with 271 t allocated for commercial catch and 5 t reserved for bycatch. Iceland can authorise up to three longliners to conduct directed bluefin tuna fisheries, with each vessel being allocated an individual quota. The quota will be adjusted if needed between bycatches and longline catch and all adjustments will be reported to ICCAT. The fishing campaign will be from 1 August 2026 until 31 December 2026.

Iceland's fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Japan

The initial quota is 3,559.41 t, with a carryover request of 463.75 t (14.89%) from 2025 for 2026, for a total available quota of 4,008.16 t. A quota of 14 t is reserved for dead discard, and a bycatch quota of 1 t is reserved for vessels without individual bluefin tuna quotas, resulting in an adjusted quota of 4,023.16 t. The bluefin tuna fishery will be carried out by around 40 longliners.

Due to having a limited number of inspection vessels available, Japan does not intend to deploy its inspection vessels to the Convention area and will instead take additional alternative compliance measures. All products will be tagged and all products will be landed in Japan, where they will be subject to 100% landing inspections.

Japan's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Korea (Rep.)

The adjusted quota in 2026 is 440.323 t, comprising 368.93 t of initial quota + a transfer of 50 t from Chinese Taipei + a requested 21.393 t carryover from the 2025 quota. The available quota in 2026 is 439.823 t given that 0.5 t is set for possible bycatch. The quota will be allocated to six longline vessels. The open fishing season for the longline gear group will be from 1 September to 31 December 2026.

Korea's fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Libya

The initial 2026 quota is set at 2,950 t. Libya requested a carryover of 18 t from 2025 for 2026, for an adjusted quota of 2,968 t.

Libya's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Mauritania

Mauritania introduced its fishing plan. Mauritania's initial 2026 quota is 55 t, all of which it intends to transfer to Türkiye.

When asked about the possibility of bycatch, Mauritania explained that it has no vessels targeting tuna, that its artisanal vessels have sometimes caught tropical tuna incidentally, and that it does not expect to have any bluefin tuna bycatch.

Mauritania was requested to remove some incorrect information from its fishing plan.

Mauritania's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Morocco

The adjusted quota in 2026 is 4,633.09 t, comprising 4,379.47 t of initial quota + a transfer of 55 t from Namibia + a transfer of 55 t from Panama + a requested carryover from 2025 to 2026 of 143.62 t (3.88%). The adjusted quota is to be distributed among 18 traps, 7 purse seiners, 1 longliner, small coastal vessels, and artisanal boats, with a 30 t reserve for potential dead discards. Among Morocco's six authorised bluefin tuna fattening farms, four will be operational in 2026.

Morocco was requested to provide individual allocations for vessels over 24 m in length or to add a description of its plans to do so. Morocco was also requested to indicate that it has no aquaculture plan in 2026.

Morocco's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Namibia

Namibia's fishing plan was taken as read as Namibia was not present at the meeting. Namibia's initial 2026 quota is 55 t, all of which it intends to transfer to Morocco.

Namibia's fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Norway

The initial 2026 quota is 461.38 t. Norway requested to transfer 20% (73.6 t) of its unutilised 2025 quota to 2026, for an adjusted quota of 534.98 t. 440 t will be allocated for purse seiners and longline vessels, 40 t for small-scale coastal vessels, 8 t for the recreational fishery, and 2 t for catch and release. 34.98 t will be allocated for research activities, of which 30 t will be reserved for the continued pilot bluefin tuna short-term live storage project. The remaining 4.98 t will be reserved for the WelTuna project. 10 t is set as a reserve for bycatch.

Norway intends to authorise 10 purse seiners, of which four vessels have an overall length exceeding 40 metres, with maximum quotas, and 20 or fewer longline vessels with the same individually allocated quota as the purse seiners. The exact maximum quotas may be adjusted during the fishing season. The increase in the number of vessels is due to the need for flexibility to develop the Norwegian bluefin tuna fishery further given certain specific needs and conditions in Norwegian waters and due to Norway's increased quota.

Norway was requested to correct some figures in its plan.

Norway's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Panama

Panama introduced its fishing plan. Panama's initial 2026 quota is 55 t, all of which it intends to transfer to Morocco. Panama's transfer of the quota does not reflect a lack of interest in participating in this fishery. Rather, Panama believes that the amount of allocation is insufficient for it to conduct profitable fishing operations.

Panama was requested to remove some incorrect information in the section on the ROP, which concerns ROP activities related to bluefin tuna and is therefore not currently applicable to Panama while its quota has been transferred to another CPC.

Panama's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Senegal

Senegal introduced its fishing plan. Senegal's 2026 quota is 55 t. Senegal does not have any vessels active in the bluefin tuna fishery to exploit its quota in 2026 and does not plan to introduce any vessel into this fishery. The quota will be used to cover bycatch or accidental catches of bluefin tuna by its eight purse seiners and five baitboats targeting tropical tunas, and accidental catches of bluefin tuna by its recreational and artisanal tropical fisheries.

Senegal was requested to make an editorial amendment.

Senegal's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Syria

The 2026 quota is 238 t. 237 t will be distributed to purse seine vessels and 1 t is reserved for bycatch. 100% of catch will be landed.

Syria was requested to indicate that each purse seiner will receive an individual quota, provide missing information in the table on actions to comply with ICCAT requirements, revise the capacity table to ensure that it is not at overcapacity, and request that the fishing season for purse-seiners shall extend from 15 May to 1 July 2026.

The Chair of Panel 2 asked why only purse seiners would receive quotas despite the fact that Syria had requested more quotas for its coastal small-scale fishermen during the 2025 annual meeting. Syria responded that at present, no coastal fishing vessels are authorized to target bluefin tuna, but Syria will continue to assess the potential future participation of small-scale coastal fisheries. This point was included in the revised fishing plan.

Syria's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Tunisia

Tunisia requested a carryover of 19.7 t of the underharvest from 2025 to 2026, for an adjusted quota of 3,528.55 t. 3,493.26 t will be allocated to commercial harvest by purse seiners and 35.28 t will be reserved for bycatch. The catch will mainly be used for farming in Mediterranean fattening farms. However, some may be brought to 12 authorised Tunisian ports for landing or transshipment. Six farms are authorised to carry out fattening activities in 2026. Three control vessels will participate in the Scheme of Joint International Inspection during the 2026 bluefin tuna fishing season.

Tunisia was requested to make an editorial amendment and to correct its description of its fishing capacity in 2026.

In response to a written comment received from the EU, Tunisia confirmed that it will conduct random controls for at least 10% of the number of cages in each farm after completion of caging operations. Tunisia's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Türkiye

Türkiye's adjusted quota for bluefin tuna in 2026 is 3,149.45 t, comprising an initial quota of 3,094.45 t and 55 t transferred from Mauritania. No carryover of underharvest is requested. The majority of the quota will be allocated to 48 purse seine vessels. In addition, 3.5 t will be allocated for artisanal, coastal, recreational and sport fisheries, and 12 t for bycatch.

Türkiye was requested to correct some figures in its capacity table.

Türkiye's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

United Kingdom

The adjusted quota, including a requested 12.6 t (20%) carryover from 2025 to 2026, is 243.16 t. The UK will allocate 5 t for the scientific catch and release tagging programme (CHART), 10 t for bycatch, 20 t for incidental mortalities in its recreational fishery, and 120 t for its commercial fishery in 2026.

The UK explained that it will expand its commercial bluefin tuna fisheries in response to industry interest. The number of commercial licenses will double from 15 to 30 to help meet industry demand. The UK will also expand its recreational fishery and increase the maximum number of permits available to 230 compared to 185. Some Fisheries Administrations within the UK will continue to operate CHART. In addition, the UK has been observing an increasing presence of bluefin tuna in UK waters, which is why it has increased its allocation for accidental bycatch in 2026.

The UK informed Panel 2 that the UK's membership of ICCAT was extended to the Bailiwick of Jersey in 2025 and that Jersey intends to expand its recreational bluefin tuna fishery in 2026. In addition, the process of extending the UK's membership of ICCAT to include the Bailiwick of Guernsey is expected to conclude in 2026. The government of Guernsey has indicated that it intends to open a recreational fishery. Vessel operators in Jersey and Guernsey will also be eligible to apply for commercial bluefin tuna licences.

The UK pointed out that it could have distributed more licenses and more quota in 2026 given the high demand. However, it has instead chosen to take a stepped approach to growing the commercial and recreational fisheries by only gradually increasing the number of available licenses and permits in each year of the total allowable catch (TAC) cycle until the quota is fully allocated in 2028. In the meantime, unallocated quota will be treated as a top-up reserve pool for vessels that reach their 4 t per vessel limit.

The UK was requested to make an editorial amendment to distinguish between bluefin tuna farming and bluefin tuna aquaculture.

The UK's revised fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

Chinese Taipei

The initial quota is 101 t, with a 50 t transfer to Korea (Rep.) and a requested carryover of 20.2 t resulting in an adjusted quota of 71.2 t. 1 t of the adjusted quota is set aside for bycatch. Chinese Taipei has completed the legislative process to resume its bluefin tuna fishery and has authorised one large-scale tuna longliner from its existing Atlantic longliner fleet to catch and retain bluefin tuna in the 2026 fishing season (from 1 August 2026 to 31 January 2027).

In response to a question from the Chair, Chinese Taipei confirmed that, because it intends to operate one longliner, that longliner plans to only make one fishing trip, and there will be an observer onboard, the observer coverage is expected to be 100%.

Chinese Taipei's fishing plan was endorsed by Panel 2.

General Discussion

While reviewing the CPCs' fishing plans, the Panel 2 members also held general discussions on a number of points.

Farming capacity

The Panel 2 members discussed reporting obligations and definitions related to farming capacity. Japan noted that a number of CPCs had listed both "capacity" and "input capacity" in their farming capacity tables. Japan noted that [Rec. 25-04](#) did not provide a definition for either term and that it only provides a definition of "input farming capacity". Japan believed that "capacity" in the farming management plan template is intended to mean the maximum farming capacity and "input capacity" is intended to mean the intended amount of wild input during that fishing season.

The Chair and a number of CPCs shared Japan's understanding.

The Chair pointed out that while CPCs may report both "capacity" and "input capacity" in their farming management plans, the obligation under [Rec. 25-04](#) is only to provide the total wild input capacity, i.e., "input capacity". He explained that CPCs must make sure their total input capacity is commensurate with their available quota and that if a CPC's input capacity is larger than its quota, that is expected to mean that the CPC will import live fish from other CPCs.

The Chair noted that it may be necessary to provide clearer definitions of the two types of farming capacity when considering potential amendments to [Rec. 25-04](#).

Requirement to submit a fishing plan even when transferring entire quota

The Panel 2 members were initially unsure of whether a CPC that has received a quota is required to submit a fishing plan if it intends to transfer all of its quota and does not intend to fish the quota itself. Following discussions, the Panel 2 members agreed that all CPCs allocated a quota must submit a fishing plan, even if they will transfer all of their quota, noting this is clearly stipulated under paragraph 10 of [Rec. 25-04](#). It was noted that this was also important from the perspective of ensuring transparency.

Several CPCs noted that a situation in which a CPC seeks an allocation and then transfers its entire quota is unusual and was not envisaged when drafting [Rec. 25-04](#).

Exceptional catches of bluefin tuna by Senegal in 2024

When reviewing Senegal's fishing plan, the Panel 2 members recalled the exceptional catches of bluefin tuna by Senegal in 2024. Some CPCs requested that Senegal provide more information on its follow-up actions since the previous intersessional meeting of Panel 2.

In response, Senegal prepared and presented "Report on exceptional bluefin tuna catches by Senegal" outlining the actions it has taken. The maximum penalty provided for by Senegalese law was imposed on the vessel owner and it has been paid in full. The catches were seized and the vessel owner bore the costs of the storage and cutting up of these products for the entire period during which they were deposited, and the costs of the delivery to the Ministry of Family and Solidarity to be distributed as donations to charitable and public interest organisations. All of the caught bluefin tuna was donated, primarily to charity and some for research. Senegal also conducted biological sampling on the caught bluefin tuna and submitted a document on these samples to the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) Bluefin Tuna Species Group (BFTSG). The collection, scientific sampling and distribution of these products were carried out from January to October 2025.

Senegal considered that it has complied with all the guidance given to it and that the measures it has taken are sufficient to resolve this issue within Panel 2. Furthermore, Senegal believes that because, it did not benefit from an allocation under [Rec. 24-05](#), this being the reason why it was not required to submit a fishing plan in 2024, the provisions on payback for overharvest did not apply to this case. Senegal has concluded that there is no legal basis for payback in this specific case.

The EU and the United States thanked Senegal for providing the relevant follow-up information. However, they disagreed with the logic that because Senegal did not have an allocation, it did not have to pay back the overharvest. They cautioned that if the payback provisions did not apply to CPCs that did not have a quota, there would be no incentive for such CPCs to become members of Panel 2 and seek a quota as part of it.

The Panel 2 members did not have a consensus view on whether or not payback provisions apply to CPCs that do not have a quota.

The Chair suggested that if any CPCs felt that the payback provisions needed to be further refined and clarified, they could develop a concrete proposal for doing so. The Chair suggested that such a proposal should cover payback provisions broadly across ICCAT species, not just bluefin tuna, and that it should be submitted to a body other than Panel 2, such as the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG), the Compliance Committee (COC), or the Commission.

The EU welcomed the suggestion and stated that it would consider developing such a proposal.

4.2 Western Atlantic

Draft template for the western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing/management plan

The Chair presented a draft template for the western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing/management plan and explained the process by which it was prepared. In his presentation, the Chair confirmed that the Commission agreed at the 2025 Annual meeting that the BFTW fishing plans would be retrospective (i.e., a plan submitted in 2026 would be for the prior fishing year). The ICCAT Secretariat had created a draft template in consultation with the Chair and disseminated this to the Panel 2 members for further comment. The ICCAT Secretariat received submissions within the established deadline from Canada, Japan and the United States. The Chair then revised the draft template, trying to reflect these comments as much as possible. Nevertheless, there remained two points, on the inclusion of bycatch reserves and sports fisheries, that required further discussion.

The Chair explained that the section for bycatch reserve refers to any incidental bycatch of bluefin tuna by other fisheries, as is the case for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean fishing plans. He suggested that “if any” be added to indicate that the description of bycatch reserve is voluntary, not mandatory. The Panel 2 members endorsed the Chair’s suggested drafting.

The Chair explained that one CPC had suggested that bluefin tuna sports fisheries did not need to be included in the plan, as there were no such fisheries in the western Atlantic. The Chair suggested to retain sports fisheries in the template to avoid creating the misunderstanding that sports fisheries are exempted from being included in fishing plans. The Panel 2 members endorsed the Chair’s suggestion.

The Panel 2 members endorsed the revised template, which is attached as **Appendix 4**. This template will be published on the ICCAT website as CP62-WBFTPlan.

Letter from the US delegation regarding recreational catches of western Atlantic bluefin tuna

The Chair introduced “Letter from the United States Delegation regarding recreational catches of western Atlantic bluefin tuna and related comments”, a paper containing a letter from the US delegation expressing the view that western harvesters are not required to count their recreational bluefin tuna catch towards their quota, and comments received from Canada, the EU, Japan, and the UK in response to the US letter. Papers with written statements were also submitted by the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew), Sciaena, and the Ecology Action Centre (EAC).

The United States stated that whereas [Rec. 25-04](#), concerning the management of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, specifically states, in paragraph 42, that “dead catches from sport and recreational fisheries shall be counted against the quota allocated to the CPC in accordance with paragraph 4”, [Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 22-10 for a conservation and management plan for western Atlantic bluefin tuna \(Rec. 25-05\)](#), concerning the management of bluefin tuna in the western Atlantic, contains no such language requiring western harvesters to do the same. The United States stated that it would be legally incorrect to assume that western harvesters are required to count their recreational catch towards the quota in the absence of specific language to that effect. The United States also pointed out that it has devoted great efforts and resources to collecting, compiling and reporting data from its recreational fisheries to ICCAT, while suggesting that recreational reporting from other CPCs has been non-existent or sporadic at best. The United States stressed that CPCs cannot force new requirements on other CPCs that have not been discussed and agreed to by consensus. The United States suggested, however, that it might consider adding language to [Rec. 25-05](#) to require western harvesters to count their recreational catch towards the quota, but only with conditions that ensure greater equity, such as an increase to the western harvester quota that is commensurate with the sustainable biomass (B) in the western Atlantic and incorporating the best available science, including close-kin mark-recapture (CKMR).

The Chair suggested that if the United States believed that some other CPCs have not reported their recreational catch, it should present the relevant evidence and report this matter to the COC. The United States responded by referring to some figures in the SCRS catch table, emphasizing that eastern harvesters had seldom reported recreational catches when there are so many recreational fishing boats.

The EU stated that all catches and all mortality should be counted towards a CPC’s quota. The EU further pointed out that US recreational bluefin tuna catches account for a large share of catches in the western Atlantic. The EU also emphasised the importance of accounting for all mortalities and pointed out that any catches not accounted for would have a significant impact and would result in exceptional circumstances for the western stock, as the current TAC is at the limit of what is scientifically feasible.

Japan echoed the EU’s view that all mortality must be counted towards the TAC, pointing out that [Rec. 25-05](#) clearly states that the TAC is inclusive of dead discards. Japan acknowledged that [Rec. 25-05](#) does not specifically state that recreational catches count towards a CPC’s quota, as the United States mentioned, but pointed out that there is also no specific language excluding recreational catch from a CPC’s quota. Japan also pointed out that the current TAC is 20% higher than the TAC recommended by the Management Procedure (MP) and that any further increase in the amount of catch resulting from the United States not counting recreational catches towards its quota would constitute exceptional circumstances. Regarding the US assertion that some CPCs have not reported their recreational catches, Japan pointed out that such a situation would constitute a compliance issue and should be treated as such. It should not be treated as a justification for the United States to do the same or to not count its recreational catches against its quota.

The UK stated that in its interpretation of [Rec. 25-05](#), all fisheries-derived mortalities must be reported and counted against national quotas. Furthermore, any exclusion of any fisheries-derived mortalities or any specific fishing activities from the requirements of ICCAT and from ICCAT recommendations would have to be specifically stated in those recommendations. Moreover, all fisheries must be managed within national quotas and relevant information must be included in the fishing plans to be submitted by CPCs.

Canada stated that it has expressed its views in its written response to the United States and opted not to restate its position verbally.

WWF supported the written statements submitted by Canada, the EU, Japan, and the UK. WWF pointed out that the MP underpinning [Rec. 25-05](#) was developed through a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process that explicitly assumes that total fish mortality includes all sources of removals, including landed and discarded catch from commercial and recreational fisheries. Excluding recreational mortality from quota accounting would increase total fish mortality beyond the levels assumed under the MP, especially given the significant size of U.S. recreational catches relative to the overall western TAC, and result in a situation outside the scientific framework adopted by the Commission. This would risk triggering exceptional circumstances.

Pew agreed that [Rec. 25-05](#) applies to all catch, including recreational catch. Excluding recreational catch could lead to detrimental impacts to the overall fisheries and has implications to related regulations and markets. Pew stated that the MP-based TAC clearly includes US recreational catches, so any effort to exclude such catch would result in lowering the western TAC, which would also mean lowering allocations for other western harvesters. Pew urged CPCs to reaffirm that the TAC in [Rec. 25-05](#) applies to all BFT caught in the western Atlantic, including recreational catch for all parties including the United States.

In response to a request for clarification, the SCRS Chair, Dr Craig Brown, confirmed that the recommended TAC produced by applying the MP was based on catch levels that included US recreational catches.

The Chair of Panel 2 noted that the United States stated in its letter that it would not count its recreational catch towards its current quota beginning January 1, 2026. The Chair asked if the United States has already amended the relevant domestic regulation. The United States clarified that it is still in the process of considering any relevant changes.

The Panel 2 members held further discussions on the potential occurrence of exceptional circumstances in its discussions under agenda item 8 (bluefin tuna MP/MSE).

5. Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans under item 4

Actions to be taken with respect to CPCs' fishing plans were discussed as part of Panel 2's review of said plans under item 4.1.

6. Review of any updates relating to ongoing pilot schemes

6.1 Farming with artificially hatched fries

Egypt reported on its aquaculture plans as part of its overall fishing plan under agenda item 4. No other updates were presented. When asked about its plans to propose changes needed to update the eBCD system accordingly to address this activity, Egypt confirmed that it would make updates to its previous proposal and re-submit it for discussion at the 2026 IMM Working Group meeting.

6.2 Growth ratios

Japan presented its actions and proposals on growth rates and monitoring based on the analysis and recommendations of the SCRS. Japan recalled that, in its 2025 plenary meeting, the SCRS reaffirmed that the upper 75% confidence interval (CI), corresponding to the 87.5th percentile, is more appropriate as a compliance benchmark and that a 95% CI contains unrealistic individual growth and should not be used. Furthermore, the SCRS reaffirmed that size measurement based on artificial intelligence (AI) is feasible for the first transfer and substantially reduces processing time and increases sample size, and that stereoscopic video cameras should be used in the first transfer as well. The SCRS therefore recommended moving towards 100% sampling with AI and using a 75% CI as a flag for outlier growth.

Japan stated that based on the SCRS analysis and recommendations, Japan will use a 75% CI growth table in import screening, enhance risk-based import scrutiny, and report significant discrepancies to the SCRS. Furthermore, Japan proposed developing automatic cage-level growth-rate calculation functions in the Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Programme (eBCD) and moving towards 100% stereoscopic -video monitoring with AI and stated that it is in the process of developing concrete proposals to that end.

Morocco welcomed the work done by Japan in relation to bluefin tuna growth rates, particularly the use of the 75% CI to identify examples of atypical growth. Morocco also noted that increased use of AI for automated size measurement based on video analysis could enhance controls on caging at farms, while also improving the quality of the scientific data. At the same time, Morocco cautioned against making such an approach universal within the eBCD as this could place considerable technical and financial constraints on CPCs. Instead, Morocco called for progressive implementation, taking into account CPC capacities.

The EU considered the growth rates presented by Japan to be consistent, realistic, and appropriate for preventing illegal bluefin tuna entering markets. The EU also supported advancing the use of AI with stereoscopic cameras, while calling for further refinements and adjustments.

The United States welcomed the findings by Japan and supported moving forward with more concrete proposals.

The Panel 2 members agreed to hold follow-up discussions at the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) or the Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG).

6.3 Others

Norway provided an update on its pilot project for short-term storage of bluefin tuna entitled “Report from the Norwegian pilot project for short-term live storage of bluefin tuna in 2025”. In 2025, the pilot project was conducted from 18 to 30 October, but no live bluefin tuna were successfully captured, transferred, or stored. Nevertheless, the trial provided essential operational experience and led to significant improvements in all key components required for future live storage under Norwegian conditions. The purse seine was modified to enhance suitability and regulatory compliance, and remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) were used to detect tuna and document operations, as divers were not permitted. The transfer channel was redesigned with improved visibility and control mechanisms in line with ICCAT standards. The project also finalised development of a lupara device adapted to Norwegian conditions and secured the necessary licenses to test humane slaughter methods that ensure both meat quality and fish welfare. Norway plans to continue the pilot project in 2026 and it intends to focus research efforts on the harvest phase, advance further technical developments, and explore potential remote electronic monitoring solutions.

7. Clarification requested on *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)*

Requests for clarification from the Regional Observer Programme for Bluefin Tuna (ROP-BFT)

Panel 2 reviewed the document “Requests for clarification of [Rec. 25-04](#) by the ICCAT ROP-BFT Consortium”.

Observer role in monitoring further transfers (Rec. 25-04: Paras 2k) and 2l); Para 101 – second bullet point; Annex 6 Paras viii–xvi)

The Panel 2 members noted that there are cases in which bluefin tuna are transferred from a purse seiner to two transport cages simultaneously. In such a case, two cages are attached to the purse seiner in a consecutive formation, and the gate between the first and second cages is kept open throughout the transfer operation. During the transfer operation, bluefin tuna enter the first cage from the purse seiner and can stay in the first cage or swim through to the second cage.

The Panel 2 members agreed that such a case is logistically different from a case in which a first transfer occurs between a purse seiner and a transport cage, and subsequently a second transfer is conducted from one transport cage to another. The Panel 2 members noted that CPCs had different views on whether such a case should be considered two simultaneous first transfers or a first transfer and a second transfer, and that CPCs have applied these different interpretations to date.

The Panel 2 members agreed that as a temporary solution, CPCs can continue to apply their own interpretation of whether such a case would constitute two simultaneous first transfers or a first and second transfer, indicate it in the issued authorisation by CPCs authorities and instruct the regional observer accordingly. If the two transfers are treated as simultaneous first transfers, the regional observer is to observe both transfers.

The Panel 2 members agreed to hold follow-up discussions at IMM.

Minimum standards for video recording procedures: Display of the cage number

(Rec. 25-04: Annex 8 Para 1a)

The Panel 2 members agreed that both the donor and recipient cage number should be displayed and identifiable from the video recording.

*Observer estimates of tuna caged and transferred during prior-to-release segregations
(Rec. 25-04: Annex 6, Para xx)*

The Panel 2 members agreed that the regional observer should not sign the caging declaration, eBCD, or release order if the difference between observer estimates and farm estimates for cagings and prior-to-release segregations is over 10%.

*Prior-to-release segregation operations
(Rec. 25-04: Annex 6 Para xxii; Annex 10 Para 3)*

The Panel 2 members agreed that the final estimate of bluefin tuna in the towing cage is the amount that should be compared with the amount recorded on the release report.

*Logbook recording requirements
(Rec. 25-04: Para 74; Annex 2 Para 2)*

The Panel 2 members agreed that the fishing master shall estimate and record the number and round weight of the bluefin tuna catch before midnight on the day of the fishing operation. The Panel 2 members agreed that these estimates can be subsequently amended based on the updated estimates conducted as part of the transfer operation.

*Reverse transfers from cage to trap
(Rec. 25-04: Para 2i) – second bullet point; Annex 4)*

The Panel 2 members noted that [Rec. 25-04](#) does not anticipate a reverse transfer of fish back from the connected cage to the trap.

The Panel 2 members agreed that for the coming fishing season, the regional observer should follow the past practice, which is to produce an individualized transfer declaration for such an operation and sign the declaration to confirm that the operation has taken place, without necessarily confirming that the operation was in conformance with ICCAT measures. They agreed that the observer should not report a potential non-compliance (PNC) for such an operation as there are no clear stipulations in [Rec. 25-04](#).

The Panel 2 members agreed to hold discussions on potentially amending [Rec. 25-04](#) to cover such reverse transfers from cage to trap at the Annual meeting.

*Farm releases
(Rec. 25-04: Annex 10 Para 9)*

The Panel 2 members agreed that releases must be conducted at the relevant minimum distance stipulated in [Rec. 25-04](#) and that any direct releases from the farm would be non-compliant.

*Seals in farms during harvest deployment
(Rec. 25-04: Para 159)*

The Panel 2 members agreed that CPCs' competent authorities should provide the seals to their farms and that seals do not need to be provided to the regional observers.

The summary of CPC responses and the final conclusion from Panel 2 regarding the requests for clarification of [Rec. 25-04](#) by the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for Bluefin Tuna (ROP-BFT) Consortium are attached as **Appendix 5**.

Requests for clarification from the ICCAT Secretariat

The Panel 2 members reviewed the document “Clarifications requested on Recommendations **24-05** and **25-04**” and produced a revised version that included the conclusion of Panel 2. The summary of responses is attached as **Appendix 6**.

8. Discussion on BFT Management Procedure (MP) / Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)***8.1 Updates on the SCRS work on BFT***

The SCRS Chair presented an update on the SCRS MSE work on BFT. According to the ICCAT MSE Roadmap, in 2026, the SCRS is to conduct a status check, begin the MP review, present its work to Panel 2, and check for exceptional circumstances. The Commission is to review the SCRS’s progress on the status check and MP review. In 2027, the SCRS is to continue its MP review, present its work to Panel 2 for feedback, and check for exceptional circumstances. The Commission is to review the SCRS’s progress on MP review. In 2028, the SCRS is to finalise any MP revisions, present its work to Panel 2 for final feedback, provide advice on TACs for 2029-2031 based on the current or an alternative MP, and check for exceptional circumstances. The Commission is to adopt 2029-2031 TACs based on the current or an updated/alternative MP.

The SCRS Chair explained that according to the SCRS Work Plan, the SCRS’s primary focuses for 2026 and beyond are to conduct a stock status assessment (“status check”), review and refine the MSE framework, and develop Candidate Management Procedures (CMPs). This work is intended to support TAC advice for 2029-2031. At the current Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2, the SCRS wishes to initiate dialogue on the SCRS Work Plan and to seek feedback from Panel 2, for example on management objectives, Operating Model (OM) structure/function, and MP structure.

The SCRS Chair explained that the 2026 BFT “status check” is a targeted status assessment to provide a point-in-time estimate of fishing mortality and, where possible, stock biomass. The key objectives are to conduct a continuity run, data validation, and integration of latest scientific understanding. The “status check” will support MSE revisions by identifying model improvements, developing an initial framework development, and enabling data scoping. Planned MSE revisions include model refinement, reconditioning of OMs, and MP development and “retuning”.

The SCRS Chair explained that in September 2026, the SCRS aims to finalise status check, approve MSE structural assumptions and the MSE data guillotine, complete the annual index provision through 2025, determine if exceptional circumstances, have occurred, and prepare responses to the Commission. To that end, continued support for the Atlantic-Wide Bluefin Tuna Research Programme (GBYP) is essential, particularly in the areas of stock assessment support, MSE review support, tagging and electronic tagging database, biological studies, and Balearic aerial survey. The SCRS Chair also outlined the SCRS’s planned activities for 2027 through 2029.

The SCRS Chair invited comments from Panel 2 and emphasised the importance of the SCRS receiving feedback and any guidance in the revision of the MSE at this meeting, as the MSE framework and OM development will be well advanced before the next intersessional meeting of Panel 2 in 2027.

The Chair of Panel 2 noted that the SCRS Chair had mentioned CMPs several times in his presentation. He stated that in his understanding, at this stage, the plan is for ICCAT to review the current MP for BFT and potentially amend or retune it, whereas the SCRS Chair’s presentation suggested that the SCRS intends to develop new CMPs from scratch to replace the current MP.

The SCRS Chair clarified that the plan has always been to conduct a status check, which would inform the SCRS about the performance of the MP and whether there may be a need to, for example, recondition or restructure the MSE and update the OMs. He pointed out that there are enough new data to clearly suggest that the original assumptions underlying the MSE and the range of OMs were based on historical practice, have little grounding in data, and need to be revised. Therefore, it will likely be necessary to not only review the MP but also the MSE. At the very least, the MP would likely need to be retuned, but even a retuned MP may not offer the best performance, so there is a potential need to develop multiple new CMPs.

Several CPCs expressed concerns in response to the SCRS Chair's explanation. They believed it would be premature to discuss changing the MP or even the MSE at this stage and pointed out that the first step should be to conduct a status check of the current MP. They also pointed out that one of the reasons for adopting an MP and MSE is the stability that they are supposed to provide, but having to renegotiate and redevise a new MP every few years would negate that benefit.

The SCRS Chair expressed understanding for CPCs' apprehension and provided further explanation. He first clarified that his presentation was based on the SCRS Work Plan, which had also been reviewed by the SCRS BFTSG. He then pointed out that the BFT MSE process was one of the earliest such processes in the SCRS, and explained that the structure was based on previous assumptions about the range of potential biomass of both the eastern and western stocks. However, there is now much more information, from genetics and other sources, regarding relative levels of population and movement between areas that suggests that the MP is potentially not the best-performing one. For example, last year, the SCRS accepted the results of the CKMR for the western stock as the best available science for the biomass and those results indicate that historical assumptions that the western stock was well below B_{MSY} were very unlikely and were not consistent with the new data. The SCRS acknowledged that the MP could simply be retuned by updating the data in the old OMs, but these OMs are not consistent with data, so it would not be the best scientific practice and would risk not obtaining the maximum yield and not optimising performance.

The West Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Rapporteur, Dr John Walter, added supplementary comments. He pointed out that the BFTSG did not wish for the review of the MP to be a difficult and time-consuming process either. However, new information has become available since the original MP was developed that suggest that it may be necessary to revise some of the indices, which the BFTSG has been working on, and to potentially alter some of the structure of the MP. The status check would be the first step towards elucidating any potential issues that need to be addressed. The West Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Rapporteur also stated that he did not expect that drastic alterations to the MP would be needed and explained that the aim of the BFTSG and the SCRS in presenting its plans to Panel 2 is to seek its feedback at an early stage.

The CPCs who had expressed concerns pointed out that they had yet to be presented with any clear indication that the current MP is inadequate and expressed their preference for a light retuning of the MP. They recognised the importance of utilising the best science available but pointed out that arguments can always be made for a better scientific framework or data, and that it would be undesirable and impractical to frequently revise or replace the MP. Moreover, this would risk making the process overly technical and preventing managers from being able to take ownership of decisions regarding the MP and MSE.

Other CPCs believed that the SCRS's plan is standard practice and that there are new data to justify the need to reconsider the current MP and potentially develop new CMPs. They suggested that it would be reasonable to at least give the SCRS room to explore other CMPs and to compare their performance with that of the current MP.

The West Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Rapporteur assured the Panel 2 members that the BFTSG would continue to work with transparency and support managers in understanding the implications of the work it presents. He urged them not to be apprehensive of incorporating the new data and to view this as an opportunity to utilise the latest scientific knowledge.

The Chair of Panel 2 pointed out that the frustrations expressed by CPCs are likely because they feel that the BFTSG and SCRS are looking too far ahead and prejudging the outcomes of the process, rather than going step by step according to the agreed schedule. He cautioned that doing so could create distrust among managers towards the MSE.

The Chair of Panel 2 agreed that according to the agreed schedule in the MSE Roadmap, the SCRS is to conduct a status check of the MP in 2026. In that process, the SCRS might wish to explore the use of new data and scientific information, if it considers these to be more appropriate. The SCRS might find that the MP does not necessarily perform as well as it could and wish to recommend a revision to the current MP or the development of new CMPs. The SCRS has a mandate to do such work and to make such recommendations, but it should present its findings and recommendations to the Commission, without prejudging any future actions. The Commission will consider the findings and make a decision about what next steps to take.

The Panel 2 members also requested the SCRS to assess the following with regard to the MP: 1. the impact of the Commission’s adoption of a TAC 20% higher than the one recommended by the MP, and 2. the impact of the United States’ recreational catches not being counted towards its quota and the potential occurrence of exceptional circumstances.

8.2 Review of BFT management objectives

US discussion document

The United States presented the “Discussion Document on Agenda Item 8: “Discussion on Bluefin Tuna Management Procedure (MP) / Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)” with its recommendations for the SCRS’s review of the MSE, starting in 2026, with a view towards better achieving the MP yield objectives. The United States explained that the MP lags the current state of scientific understanding and does not fully achieve yield objectives, particularly in the western management area, and can be improved by incorporation of recent scientific advances to better estimate sustainable yields. The current state of BFT science is fundamentally improved relative to the years leading up to the 2022 adoption of the MP, including the estimation of natural mortality from long-term acoustic tagging data, the study of BFT spawning and age at maturity from longline and larval surveys in the Slope Sea, and further developments in western Atlantic BFT CKMR research. In light of these advancements, the United States presented four recommendations:

1. The SCRS should utilise the latest mixing and movement data to assess the distribution of BFT across the Atlantic and inform advice for sustainable yields based on the total BFT biomass availability in each management area.
2. The SCRS should estimate sustainable yields for the eastern and western stock management areas rather than anchoring projected TAC levels to previous TACs for the eastern and western stocks.
3. The SCRS should consider an MP that utilises spatial management of fishing mortality to ensure that the necessary fraction of each population can achieve their full migratory pathways.
4. The SCRS should design the MSE revisions to explicitly support incorporation of genomic-based information given its importance in estimating abundance.

The Panel 2 members reviewed each of the US recommendations one by one.

US recommendation 1

The Panel 2 members endorsed the first US recommendation.

US recommendation 2

Several CPCs stated that they did not support the second US recommendation, pointing out that it would pre-empt the MSE process and be overly prescriptive towards the SCRS and that the adopted MP does not allow ad hoc modifications to the TAC.

The UK pointed out that the second US recommendation would entail a shift towards the objective of maximising yield, but there is a trade-off between such an objective and another objective of ensuring the stability of the yield. The UK cautioned that such a trade-off must first be carefully tested within the MSE process.

The United States stated that the current MP assumes that the western stock is stressed, when in fact, CKMR studies show that the stock has recovered substantially and may even be fully recovered. The United States pointed out that the western TAC has undergone major reductions in the past and has had almost negligible increases since then, despite strong western management, and believed that this was because of unrestrained and unmanaged ramp-up of eastern fisheries, cutting off the supply of eastern fish to the West. The United States emphasised that its recommendation is simply to request the SCRS to closely examine the East-West catch ratios to address the inequity in the starting TAC positions of the previous MP.

There was no consensus among Panel 2 members to support the second US recommendation.

US recommendation 3

Japan did not oppose the third US recommendation but questioned the feasibility of the proposed work.

The EU did not support the third US recommendation, pointing out that recommending such drastic changes would again pre-empt the MSE process and that this was therefore not the right timing for such discussions. The EU also suggested that the concept of full migratory pathways mentioned by the United States was not clear and wondered if this is possible to assess or even useful to assess. In addition, the EU noted that the current measures protect juveniles, which have proven to be an effective approach.

The United States pointed out that the Commission has agreed to review the BFT MSE under the adopted MSE Roadmap and stated that it is therefore the right timing and appropriate for Panel 2 to hold such discussions. The United States also explained that it is not proposing drastic changes to the MP, as some CPCs have suggested, but rather recommending that the SCRS take into consideration new scientific information.

The Chair of Panel 2 explained that the SCRS can consider using new and updated information as it sees fit and observed that other CPCs' concern with the second and third recommendations is that they would pre-empt the SCRS's review of such information. He pointed out that Panel 2 should only discuss making such recommendations if the SCRS has conducted any relevant analyses and made related recommendations.

There was no consensus among Panel 2 members to support the third US recommendation.

US recommendation 4

Canada expressed its support for the fourth US recommendation.

The EU recognised that CKMR and other genetic work could potentially contribute to significant improvements in the scientific understanding and management of BFT stocks. At the same time, the EU pointed out that some CPCs, especially those who were not involved in the CKMR studies, may not yet have detailed knowledge of the key underlying concepts of such approaches and can therefore not fully assess aspects such as their pros and cons, their feasibility in the context of ICCAT fisheries, and the resource requirements. In light of this, the EU considered the proposed US recommendation to be premature and advocated moving forward in a more step-by-step manner, with the SCRS helping managers to better understand such approaches and building managers' confidence in them.

The Chair observed that all Panel 2 members are probably supportive of the underlying intention of the fourth US recommendation, which is that the SCRS should incorporate new scientific information, including CKMR. However, some might feel that the current wording pre-empts the discussions of the SCRS and is too prescriptive.

The Panel 2 members endorsed a revised recommendation that supports the SCRS's consideration of genetics-based information in the BFT MSE process and calls for the SCRS to assist the Commission to better understand such approaches and build confidence in the inclusion of their outputs in ICCAT scientific processes.

Conclusions of Panel 2

In conclusion, the Panel 2 members recommended the following:

1. The SCRS should utilise the latest mixing and movement data to assess the distribution of BFT across the Atlantic and inform advice for sustainable yields based on the total BFT biomass availability in each management area.

2. The SCRS should consider the opportunity and feasibility of including genetics-based information in the Atlantic bluefin tuna (ABFT) MSE framework and assist the Commission to better understand the key underlying concepts, their pros and cons, to inform and thereby build confidence in the inclusion of outputs from genetics-based approaches in the ICCAT scientific processes.

8.3 Update on the new ALB-N MSE

The SCRS Chair presented an update on the development of a new MSE for North Atlantic albacore and candidate MPs. According to the ICCAT MSE Roadmap, in 2026, the SCRS is to present progress to Panel 2 at this intersessional meeting and to run the current and alternative MPs to provide TAC advice for 2027-2029. Panel 2 is to provide feedback at this meeting on how to finalise the MSE (objectives, performance indicators, MPs, tuning) and the Commission is to adopt the 2027-2029 TAC at the Annual Meeting based on the current or alternative MP. In 2027, the SCRS is to check for exceptional circumstances and conduct any pending analyses as requested by the Commission or the SCRS. In 2028, the SCRS is to check for exceptional circumstances and test integration using joint juvenile index in MP. In 2029, the SCRS is to conduct a benchmark assessment (status check) and run the MP to provide TAC advice for 2030-2032. The Commission is to adopt the 2030-2032 TAC at the Annual Meeting based on the MP. The mandate for the SCRS to conduct such work is provided in paragraph 18 of [Recommendation by ICCAT on conservation and management measures, including a management procedure and exceptional circumstances protocol, for North Atlantic albacore \(Rec. 21-04\)](#).

The SCRS Chair outlined the key features and outcomes of the current MP. The current MP is model-based and uses catch and catch per unit effort (CPUE) to determine status and a harvest control rule (HCR) to set TAC. As safeguards, maximum TAC is restricted to 50,000 t, and maximum change is restricted to +25% / -20%. The MP has produced three consecutive TAC increases and the current TAC of 47,251 t is well above recent catch levels.

The SCRS Chair explained that the new MSE framework is based on the 2023 Atlantic albacore stock assessment (including MSE) ([Anon., 2023](#)) (previous MSE used the 2013 assessment), and the new model platform is aligned with current SCRS MSE practices for other stocks. OMs now include over 10 additional years of fishery and biological data and expanded uncertainty axes reflecting alternative stock and fishery dynamics. A number of candidate MPs are being explored. For model-based candidates, alternative HCRs, alternative stability clauses, and biological limits maintained at $B_{LIM} = 0.4 \times B_{MSY}$ and $F_{LIM} = 0.1 \times F_{MSY}$ are being explored. For empirical candidates, CPUE-based MPs, different options for limits on TAC change between management cycles, and pseudo-constant catch approaches are being explored.

The SCRS Chair outlined the next steps towards a 2026 decision. Alternative MPs will be tested using the same performance statistics as in the first MSE (outlined in Annex 4 of [Rec. 21-04](#)). MPs will not be tuned to 60% probability of being in the green part of the Kobe plot (PGK) as in the first MSE. Results will be communicated in a similar way as in the first MSE, but with an improved visualisation tool. If Panel 2 wishes, additional intersessional meetings on the new MSE could be held to help take a decision in November (e.g. a 1-day online meeting after the SCRS annual meeting, or others).

The Chair of Panel 2 noted that the SCRS Chair's presentation said that the MP will not be tuned to achieve 60% PGK. He asked the reason for this, as this is one of the management objectives in [Rec. 21-04](#).

The SCRS Chair clarified that he meant that the MP would be tuned to 60% or greater, as the management objective calls for "at least a 60% probability", and explained that, with a model-based approach, it is difficult to tune the MP to exactly 60%. The SCRS Chair further explained that his presentation contained a matrix of different HCRs and how these perform against different B thresholds and F targets, which illustrates how, although it may not be possible to conduct a precise tuning, it is possible to look at the changing shape of each HCR to improve performance. The SCRS Chair added that the SCRS is also exploring empirical MPs, which could be based on indices.

The SCRS Albacore Species Group Coordinator, Dr Haritz Arrizabalaga, provided supplementary comments. He clarified that, while it is true that model-based MPs are harder to tune, it is possible to find some combination that provides 60%. He explained that the management objective calls for 60% or higher, so the Albacore Species Group treated PGK as part of the trade-off, but the Albacore Species Group could also tune for anything else that Panel 2 wishes.

The Chair of Panel 2 explained that from a manager's standpoint, when the Commission discusses management objectives, for example for sustainability, it will spend a lot of time discussing different PGK (e.g. 60, 65 or 70%), and it is doing so with the potential impact on the TAC level in mind. He recognised the difficulty of tuning to exactly 60% but pointed out that if the result of the simulation were, for example, 65%, this 5% difference would be disappointingly large from the perspectives of managers and stakeholders, as it would result in a lower TAC level. He advised the SCRS to keep this in mind.

The SCRS Chair recognised the Chair of Panel 2's point, while pointing out that there are multiple management objectives that need to be achieved and trade-offs that need to be considered. He explained that the SCRS would take a general approach of striving to meet the minimum PGK target of 60%, while also achieving the minimum acceptable level of avoiding B_{Lim} and trying to maximise the catch.

The EU noted that the SCRS Chair had mentioned plans to develop and test CMPs, with the aim of potentially adopting a new MP. The EU asked the SCRS Chair to explain the reason for this, including whether or not there are any issues with the current MP.

The SCRS Chair explained that this was the first MSE conducted within ICCAT that led to a tested MP. It was based on an underlying model that had been used previously for stock assessments and that does not have the capabilities of the models currently used for other ICCAT MSEs. The model also did not follow the best practices that have evolved over time and are now in place at ICCAT. The SCRS Chair explained that early on, the SCRS scientists did not expect any risks to the stock from using the model in the near term, but they did recommend that an alternative MSE be developed based on a different underlying model structure. He also pointed out that 10 or more years of new data are now available. Therefore, the SCRS Chair believed that there could potentially be some risk from continuing to use the old model, and that a new model could perform better. He also added that this work is included in the SCRS Work Plan and that the Commission has been informed of it for some time.

The EU noted the SCRS Chair's explanation but pointed out that while there is always room for improvement, the current MP could still be fit for purpose. The EU called for a more step-by-step approach and suggested that the first step of reviewing the current MP should be to conduct a status check and that the second step would be to develop new CMPs, if the status check shows any issues with the current MP.

The Panel 2 Chair, indicated that paragraph 18 of [Rec. 21-04](#) requires that *"the SCRS shall continue the development of a new MSE framework to support the possible adoption of a new MP by the Commission not later than 2026 and the setting of the TAC for the management period of 2027-2030"* and that was the main driver for the SCRS workplan.

The Panel 2 Chair acknowledged that there is no common understanding among Panel 2 members regarding the definition of "review" in this context but pointed out that the SCRS does intend to follow the kind of approach that the EU suggested of checking the performance of the current MP and then working on potential improvements. However, Japan explained that this year, the SCRS is scheduled not only to review the MP, but also calculate a recommended TAC by applying the MP, which is why the SCRS needs to advance work on checking the status of the current MP and work on potential improvements somewhat in parallel.

The SCRS Chair explained that the SCRS intends to both check the status of the current MP and also test its performance against other CMPs. If the current MP does not perform as well as expected or less well than the alternatives, the SCRS can present the Commission with potential options for improvements.

The Panel 2 members requested the SCRS to continue its work to review and test the current MP and other CMPs, and to present to Panel 2 its results and recommendations, which could include the current MP, amendments to the current MP, or a possible new MP.

The Panel 2 members requested the SCRS to explore the following if it considers amendments to the current MP or new CMPs: various options for the inclusion of a safety limit, such as no greater than 5-15% probability of breaching B_{Lim} ; various options for a smaller stability limit, such as $\pm 10-15\%$ interannual change; exclusion of HCRs in model-based CMPs that include a B threshold that is below B_{MSY} ; testing of the MP's robustness against the effects of climate change; testing of the MP's robustness against a scenario where the TAC is fully utilised; and use of additional visualisation tools such as box plots for presenting the results.

The Panel 2 members requested the SCRS to strive to limit the number of model-based CMPs that it recommends, based of the feedback provided above, and to present no more than six CMPs for each of the empirical CMPs types to Panel 2. Nevertheless, the EU recalled that it is ultimately the role of the managers to narrow down the number of CMPs.

The Panel 2 members agreed to review the SCRS's work and recommendations intersessionally in a one-day online meeting.

9. Discussion on the allocation for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna

9.1 Review of the discussion at the 2025 Annual Meeting by the Chair of Panel 2

Chair's paper

Chair's discussion paper

The Chair presented his paper "Review of the discussion on allocation at the 2025 Annual Meeting". The Chair reminded the Panel 2 members that the 2025 Annual Meeting agreed to the TAC as well as CPC allocations for BFT in the eastern area and that during the Panel 2 and plenary sessions, various points were made by CPCs. He explained that his paper reviews some of the points that were not fully discussed due to time constraints and verifies some of the facts referred to during the sessions, specifically contribution to enforcement, contribution to science (other than MP indices), past sacrifice, utilisation of allocation (under and over), socio-economic contribution, and difficulty to start fishing with 50 or 55 t.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, several CPCs advocated that contribution of CPCs to joint enforcement should be considered in allocation and the contribution can be quantified, for example, by the number of dispatched inspection vessels. The Chair agreed to the possibility of such quantification but pointed out that under the requirements of paragraph 234 of [Rec. 25-04](#), CPCs having more than 15 vessels must dispatch inspection vessels, which means that large quota holders must, in principle, dispatch inspection vessels, whereas small quota holders have no obligation to do so. Moreover, small quota holders may not want to bear the financial burden of dispatching an enforcement vessel for utilising a small amount of quota. The Chair suggested that if the number of dispatched inspection vessels is a criterion to make additional allocation, the disparity between large quota holders and small ones would increase. Even among large quota holders, the disparity will likely increase. Thus, it would be unfair if the contribution to joint enforcement were to become an additional criterion to be considered in allocation negotiation.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, several CPCs also advocated that CPCs' contribution to science other than the provision of MP indices should be considered in allocation. The Chair clarified that the Chair's intention in including "provision of MP indices" as a criterion to make additional allocations was not to reward the efforts of CPCs providing such indices. Rather, it was to stabilise the implementation of the MP. One example of significant scientific contribution is the GBYP. The financial contribution of the EU (80%) to GBYP is disproportionately higher than its quota share (52%). This means that additional allocation should go to the EU, which may not be acceptable to other Panel 2 members. Secondly, if the number of participants to the BFTSG and documents submitted thereto are considered, developed CPCs would probably be in an advantageous position, which may not be acceptable to developing CPCs. The Chair suggested that if the contribution to science is considered in allocation, the disparity between large quota holders and small quota holders is likely to increase, and that Panel 2 needs to find a fair and equitable way of quantifying such contribution.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, many CPCs stated that they had made great sacrifices in the past and should be rewarded when the TAC increases. He suggested that such sacrifice could be probably categorised into (1) reduction of allocation when TAC was reduced between 2007 and 2012; (2) reduction of share; and (3) reduction of catch when a CPC becomes a Panel 2 member. Regarding (1), large quota holders made greater sacrifices than small quota holders when TAC was reduced between 2007 and 2012, and the Commission has taken note of the position of Algeria regarding its historical situation and may consider this when setting the TAC in 2029. Regarding (2), among large quota holders, Japan and the EU made the greatest sacrifices when comparing the initial/maximum share with the current share, while among small quota holders, Chinese Taipei and Korea (Rep.) made the greatest sacrifices. Regarding (3), when the initial quota of each CPC was compared with the average catch in the previous five years, Morocco made the greatest sacrifice followed by Türkiye, while if the initial quota is compared with the catches of 1993 and 1994, whichever is higher, the greatest sacrifice was made by Türkiye followed by Morocco.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, several CPCs argued that under-utilisation should not be punished. He pointed out that under-utilisation should be appreciated when the stock status is unhealthy but the status of the eastern stock has already recovered. The Chair also explained that some CPCs stated that over-utilisation (initial quota plus carry-over and/or transfer from others) should be a criterion to make additional allocation since it indicates the wish and capacity of that CPC to utilise more than the current quota. He pointed out that there are other CPCs that want to receive transfers but cannot and suggested that if over-utilisation is used as a factor to make additional allocation, it would be unfair. The Chair also noted that under the current regulations, CPCs may transfer but shall not sell quotas.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, several CPCs advocated that socio-economic contribution should be considered in allocation. He noted that the Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 in March 2024 discussed this point and that III.C.11 of *Resolution by ICCAT on criteria for the allocation of fishing possibilities (Res. 15-13)* stipulates that one of the criteria is the socio-economic contribution of the fisheries for stocks regulated by ICCAT to the developing States, especially small island developing States and developing territories from the region. The Chair shared the view that such contribution is an important factor to be considered, but if CPCs want to consider it, they should explain how to quantify it.

The Chair explained that at the 2025 Annual Meeting, some CPCs stated that it is difficult to fish with a quota of only 50 or 55 t. He pointed out that several CPCs have made catches under similar quotas. Furthermore, CPCs can use the number of fishing vessels whose total capacity is commensurate with the quota. There is also an exemption for a CPC with a few vessels to participate in joint fishing operations with another CPC. The Chair explained that another point made during the 2025 Annual Meeting was whether chartering arrangements, which were phased out in 2006, should be permitted. The Chair suggested that the Commission could consider reintroducing a chartering arrangement if a strict phase-out requirement is established with submission of a fishery development schedule.

The Panel 2 members discussed the Chair's paper. The Chair proposed to proceed by having CPCs provide general comments and then comment on each of the main elements in his paper.

General comments

Türkiye expressed its support for holding discussions towards finding fair and equitable solutions for allocation. Türkiye maintained its position and arguments with regard to respecting its historical fishing rights and its historical catch from the 1993–1994 reference period. Türkiye also highlighted the importance of voluntary contributions to science and compliance for the long-term success of the Commission and requested allocation proposals that provide meaningful incentives for substantial voluntary contributions in these areas.

Japan stated that the Chair's paper reaffirmed how difficult it is to develop allocation criteria that will satisfy all CPCs.

Iceland believed that some progress was made on allocation discussions at the 2025 Annual Meeting but believed that there was ultimately no agreement on allocation proposals largely due to the introduction of punitive measures against under-utilization. Iceland considered punitive measures to be the wrong direction and urged Panel 2 members to instead focus on enabling measures for CPCs that need support. This could facilitate progress in line with the principles of cooperation and ensure that the interests of Panel 2 members are appropriately considered. Iceland also noted and welcomed the discussions on the possible reintroduction of some kind of chartering arrangement, which would be particularly relevant for CPCs with small quotas seeking to develop and fully utilise their fisheries resources.

The EU pointed out that Panel 2 has held extensive discussions on allocation criteria for several years now, while making little progress, and questioned the need to hold such discussions again. The EU also noted that many important elements from past discussions had not been included in the paper. Furthermore, the EU believed that even if Panel 2 could agree on allocation criteria, it would have great difficulty agreeing on how to weight each one. The EU stated that it would refrain from restating the arguments and bases that underpin and justify the EU's initial share, pointing out that it has done so on several occasions in the past, in many papers and interventions. However, it criticised the idea raised in the paper that certain criteria should not or cannot be used because they would somehow benefit the EU. The EU considered it intellectually dishonest and politically unacceptable to ignore these good reasons underpinning the EU's share and the reality of the EU's important role in the BFT fishery. In addition, the EU questioned the practice of automatically granting quotas to new entrants, pointing out that many CPCs have emphasised their need for a quota or more quota only to then transfer their entire quota to another CPC. The EU stated that such theoretical claims for quota lack credibility and that the EU will focus on actual fishing activity and whether CPCs utilise the quotas they have requested in future allocation discussions.

The Chair explained that the discussion on allocation had been included on the agenda at the request of several CPCs. He also reiterated that his paper was intended to only cover points that were not fully discussed at the Annual Meeting, and that the other points had been excluded to avoid repetition and redundancy.

Egypt clarified that it was one of the CPCs that had wished to discuss allocation at this meeting. Egypt explained that its aims are to ensure greater transparency and streamline future deliberations so as to avoid a similar situation to the 2025 Annual Meeting, in which a significant amount of time was required to reach consensus.

Senegal suggested that the points of discussion raised in the Chair's paper focused on existing harvesters and disadvantaged new entrants. Senegal also believed that it should receive special consideration compared to other new entrants, as its quota is allocated to BFT bycatch.

The Chair pointed out that whether BFT are taken as commercial catch or bycatch, it still results in BFT mortality. The Chair suggested that if Senegal felt its situation warranted special consideration, Senegal should prepare a paper with a proposal and supporting data.

Algeria noted that Panel 2 has previously held extensive discussions on allocation criteria and pointed out that the aims of those discussions and the present discussion are to try to find a mechanism to share out the TAC appropriately. That does not necessarily mean returning to the previous system of allocation. Rather, Panel 2 could make adjustments or corrections and to perhaps quantify some new criteria, and these criteria could be applied when allocating an increased TAC.

The Chair agreed that Panel 2 did not necessarily need to maintain [Res. 15-13](#) as it is and could certainly create new criteria, if there is consensus to do so.

Contribution to enforcement

The Chair shared his view that it would be difficult to achieve consensus on including contribution to enforcement as a criterion for allocation. He believed that progress could only be made on the basis of concrete proposals that quantify such contributions.

Tunisia highlighted the importance of considering contributions to enforcement in allocations, pointing out the cost and logistical complexity of joint enforcement operations, as well as their benefits to the management of the BFT stock.

Algeria highlighted the importance of CPCs' contributions to enforcement, pointing out the significant financial cost of deploying inspection vessels during the fishing season. Algeria encouraged other CPCs to also make greater contributions to enforcement.

Egypt pointed out that the obligations in [Rec. 25-04](#) relating to enforcement apply only to harvesters of a certain size. If contribution to enforcement were rewarded in allocation, it would create a negative feedback loop that would reward quota holders for fulfilling their legal responsibility, while structurally disadvantaging small quota holders.

Norway echoed Egypt's point and agreed with the conclusion in the Chair's paper.

The EU acknowledged that rewarding certain CPCs for following obligations that apply only to them could create a structural imbalance and understood why this may not be attractive to other CPCs. However, the EU pointed out that there are also examples of CPCs going beyond what is legally required of them, which could be quantified and taken into account in allocations.

The UK expressed broad agreement with the conclusions on contribution to enforcement in the Chair's paper. The UK agreed on the need to develop quantitative metrics, while recognising the difficulty of doing so, and expressed its willingness to consider any proposals other CPCs might put forward. The UK agreed that there are risks of increasing inequity by rewarding CPCs who have made particular contributions to enforcement historically and to date. The UK clarified that achieving complete equity should not necessarily be the overarching objective but increasing inequity should certainly be avoided.

Morocco pointed out that it has a number of vessels that cannot participate in inspections and suggested that consideration should also be given to the fact that most of its quota is allocated to traps.

Egypt noted that some CPCs have encouraged other CPCs to take part in joint enforcement operations, despite not being required to by [Rec. 25-04](#). Egypt questioned the rationale behind such a suggestion and the feasibility of acting on it.

The Chair observed that there is less incentive for CPCs with small quotas to engage in joint enforcement operations given that the large burden of doing so is very disproportionate to the benefit they receive from their small allocation.

Contribution to science (other than MP indices)

Similar to contribution to enforcement, the Chair believed it would be difficult to achieve consensus on including contribution to science as a criterion for allocation. Again, he believed that progress could only be made on the basis of concrete proposals that quantify such contributions.

Morocco pointed out the importance of contributions to science, particularly in the cases of contributions by developing CPCs and contributions to the stock assessment when the stock was in an unhealthy condition.

Egypt shared the view expressed in the Chair's paper that quantifying contribution to science by metrics such as number of SCRS participants or documents submitted would create disparity between developed and developing CPCs. It would be inherently biased against developing CPCs, who may lack capacity but nevertheless contribute valuable data.

The EU pointed out that it has made major investments in the BFT-related scientific work of ICCAT. In particular, the EU pointed out that it has funded 80% of the research programme underpinning the management of the stock, for the benefit of all. The EU believed that it would be unfair not to recognise such contributions.

Norway agreed with the conclusions on contribution to science in the Chair's paper. At the same time, Norway pointed out that it is making scientific contributions in a range of areas, not only to the MP but also to the GBYP, to which it contributes six times more than it should compared to its quota.

Past sacrifice

The Chair emphasised the complexity of defining and quantifying past sacrifice. He pointed out that all CPCs believe they have been making important sacrifices in the past and that they could probably all make different arguments to support their positions by looking at certain figures, certain time periods, and so on. He encouraged any CPCs with ideas about how to potentially quantify past sacrifices to develop proposals for doing so.

Norway pointed out that in 2007-2014, it had a quota but refrained from fishing because of the state of the stock. As a result, Norway lost valuable time and experience for developing its BFT fishery. Norway asked if the Chair had included such sacrifices when considering sacrifices from small quota holders.

The Chair clarified that he had not included such cases, as they were voluntary and not mandated, but believed that other CPCs should nevertheless value such efforts.

Algeria pointed out that in 2007-2014, it suffered a 92% reduction in its quota, the largest among CPCs in this period, and that it has had to endure this situation for 14 years.

The Chair explained that this figure is included in Table 1 of the paper but that the purpose of Table 1 is to compare the average reduction among large quota holders and that among small quota holders during the period in which the TAC was reduced. The Chair agreed that Algeria had experienced the largest quota reduction during that period and pointed out that he had included several sentences regarding such a sacrifice in the paper, including that “the Commission takes note of the position of Algeria regarding its historical situation and may consider this when setting the TAC for 2029, 2030 and 2031”, as stated in [Rec. 25-04](#).

Panama commented on Table 7, which quantified past sacrifice as the reduction in each CPC’s catch when becoming a Panel 2 member and compared each CPC’s initial quota with its 1993 or 1994 catch. Panama pointed out that its initial quota was only 4% of its 1994 catch, whereas other CPCs received much higher initial quotas as a percentage of their 1993 or 1994 catch, including some above 80%. Panama also disagreed with the footnote under the table, which states “The legitimacy of Panama’s catch figure (1994) has not been confirmed”. Panama pointed out that it had prepared a paper that reconstructed its historical catch series, including 1994 and successive years, and that this paper had been reviewed by the SCRS, which made some conservative adjustments to avoid overestimation.

The Chair explained that he had included the footnote because at the Annual Meeting, a number of CPCs did in fact disagree with the legitimacy of Panama’s 1994 catch figures. Furthermore, the Chair reminded Panama that he had requested Panama to provide that paper documenting its catches to the Annual Meeting to facilitate further discussion but Panama did not do so.

In response to the Chair’s comments, Panama stated that only one CPC had expressed disagreement regarding the legitimacy of Panama’s 1994 catch figures during the Commission’s meeting, and that its intention to present the aforementioned SCRS document to the 2026 annual meeting and to hold a discussion on the legitimacy of its 1994 catches.

At the request of a CPC, the Secretariat made said document available as a Panel 2 meeting paper (“Response to the Commission’s 1997 Recommendation concerning unreported and nei catches”) so that CPCs could understand its contents and the background of the disagreement.

Tunisia pointed out that its quota was reduced by more than 61% between 2007 and 2011 and that this is a particularly sizable amount given that it is a large harvester. Furthermore, Tunisia pointed out that its fishing industry continues to endure much suffering as a result of this reduction and that the fishing industry is of great socio-economic importance to Tunisia as a coastal developing CPC.

Morocco thanked the Chair for recognising its sacrifices as a large harvester in his paper, pointing out that its quota share has been reduced from 11.9% historically to 9.07% currently. Morocco pointed out that as a result, it has had to reduce its fishing capacity significantly, cutting the number of traps almost by half, which has had a direct economic impact on fisheries operators and also social impacts, such as job losses.

Egypt acknowledged the significant percentage reductions taken by some larger quota holders during the recovery period of the stock but pointed out that recent sacrifices should not be ignored either. Egypt pointed out that it was penalised during the most recent allocations by not only being deprived from increasing its share, but also accepting a reduction of its share for the sake of consensus.

The EU shared the Chair's view that each CPC will have its own perspectives on what constitutes "sacrifice" and would be able to construct its own narrative based on different data and time periods. The EU therefore did not think it would be possible to find agreement on this point.

Korea (Rep.) agreed with the Chair's view that the degree of sacrifice made by each CPC varies depending on how the issue is examined, such as what reference point in time is used. Korea (Rep.) therefore believed it would be difficult to regard past sacrifices as an objective criterion.

Japan noted that Panel 2's discussions about past sacrifice have often been framed around the idea of these sacrifices being paid back when the TAC is increased. However, Japan pointed out that in the SCRS's simulations, the TAC may be decreased in 2028.

The Chair recalled that Panel 2 had previously discussed how to respond to a TAC reduction but could not reach any agreement. He explained that there were two views: applying a pro rata reduction or applying a disproportionate reduction, whereby large quota holders would bear a greater reduction. The Chair suggested that it may be prudent for Panel 2 to also hold preparatory discussions for the possibility of a TAC reduction in 2028.

Utilisation of allocation (under and over)

The Chair noted that some CPCs have stated that non-utilisation should not be punished, whereas other CPCs have stated that for the next TAC and allocation discussions, they will review actual utilisation during the preceding three-year period.

Egypt reiterated the point it made at the 2025 Annual Meeting that utilisation should not be assessed on a single year basis, or even a two- or three-year basis; rather, it should be assessed on a multi-year or rolling-average basis. Egypt also called for the concept of "use it or lose it" to be avoided.

The EU reiterated that actual utilisation should be a key consideration, particularly in a scenario where the TAC is reduced. The EU pointed out that when a CPC does not utilise its quota or transfers it, that means the quota is not contributing to its fishing industry or to developing its BFT fishery. The EU further noted that under [Rec. 25-04](#), the allowable interannual carryover of unused quota has been increased to 20%, providing CPCs with more flexibility than in the past. The EU also acknowledged that assessment of underutilisation need not be rigidly numerical, as there can be special circumstances or reasons behind a CPC not being able to utilise more of its quota. Nevertheless, the EU emphasised that quotas are allocated to be utilised.

Algeria agreed that in principle, quota is allocated to CPCs so that they will use it for their own fishing activities, not so that they will transfer it to others. Algeria also suggested that it is difficult to differentiate between transferring a quota and selling it.

The UK believed that quotas need to be optimised to ensure the best use of available fishing opportunities. The UK suggested that when a CPC has a large quota, perhaps over an agreed threshold level, but is consistently not using its quota year on year, and there is a demonstrable need elsewhere, it may be worthwhile considering some careful redistribution, based on engagement with that CPC and a fair consideration of its specific case. The UK reminded Panel 2 that it had presented a proposal on a way to redistribute unused quota to the 2024 Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2. With regard to small harvesters, the UK called for special care to be taken. The UK explained that many small harvesters are working to build their fisheries and for some, this may take time. The UK suggested that it may not prove practically possible or appropriate for those CPCs to move to 100% quota utilisation immediately, but that does not mean they do not intend to use all of their quota. The UK believed that penalising such careful and cautious expansion would be unfair.

The Chair noted the UK's point regarding small harvesters and observed that there is a need to distinguish between two types of small harvesters: those that are making efforts to utilise their quotas but have difficulty consuming all of it due to technical difficulties and other reasons, and those that give up on utilising their quotas from the beginning and transfer everything to others.

Japan stated its position that the TAC should be allocated to CPCs that will use it, while recognising the UK's point regarding small harvesters. Japan also reminded Panel 2 that paragraph 27 of [Res. 15-13](#) states, "no qualifying participant shall trade or sell its quota allocation or a part thereof" and emphasised the importance of this provision.

Socio-economic contribution

The Chair noted that many CPCs have emphasised the importance of socio-economic contribution, but he reiterated the need for concrete proposals on how to quantify this criterion.

Algeria suggested that the number of purse seiners targeting small pelagic stocks could be a way to quantify this criterion, pointing out that operators of these vessels are experiencing a decline in such stocks, particularly in coastal waters that BFT pass through, and are suffering as a result.

The Chair pointed out that Algeria needed to propose a more specific metric, such as a reduction in the catch by these vessels or a reduction in the number of vessels targeting small pelagic fish over a certain period of time.

Morocco suggested that one way to quantify socio-economic factors would be to consider the sizes of the fleets of developing CPCs.

The Chair observed that this may not be agreeable to Panel 2 as it would predominantly benefit large harvesters.

The Chair reiterated the need for CPCs to present concrete, written proposals on how to quantify socio-economic contribution, if they wish for it to be an allocation criterion. He emphasised that it would not be possible to make progress based on oral explanations.

The EU agreed with the Chair that the onus is on CPCs to develop concrete proposals that are practical and workable for all Panel 2 members. At the same time, the EU pointed out that it would be unfair to automatically exclude certain elements or criteria simply because it would benefit a certain category of CPCs. With respect to socio-economic contribution, the EU pointed out that while it is a large quota holder, it also has the largest coastline among CPCs and therefore has many dependent coastal communities.

The Chair explained that the Panel 2 members may make proposals as they wish, and he has no authority to prevent them from doing so. However, he explained that as Chair, his role is to try to find consensus, and he will therefore share his assessment when he believes that a proposal is unlikely to produce a consensus.

Difficulty to start fishing with 50 or 55 t

The Chair reiterated that some CPCs have stated that it is difficult to start fishing with just 50 t or 55 t of allocation, while some other CPCs have actually started fishing with a similar amount.

Iceland expressed its intention to develop a proposal to reintroduce chartering arrangements.

Japan looked forward to seeing concrete proposals regarding the reintroduction of chartering arrangements, but reminded CPCs to take into consideration paragraph 1 of [Recommendation by ICCAT on vessel chartering \(Rec. 13-14\)](#), which states, "Charter arrangements may be allowed, predominantly as an initial step in the fishery development of the chartering nation", when developing such proposals.

9.2 Presentation by CPCs on allocation

No presentations were made by CPCs.

10. Other matters

Review of Commission's requests to the SCRS

The Chair presented the document "Review of Commission's requests to the SCRS". He explained that at the Annual Meeting, the Commission agreed to try to reduce the number of the Commission's requests to the SCRS, and he had therefore reviewed the requests from Panel 2 to the SCRS and made suggestions about which requests should be maintained and which could be removed.

The Panel 2 members reviewed and endorsed the Chair's paper, which is attached as **Appendix 7**.

Potential pilot project on the use of an electronic monitoring system (EMS) in the Norwegian purse seine fishery

Norway presented a "Discussion paper on a Pilot project on the use of Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) in the Norwegian purse seine fishery". Norway explained that the requirement for 100% observer coverage from the ROP on all purse seine vessels authorised to fish for BFT under paragraph 101 of [Rec. 25-04](#) was designed for the Mediterranean fishery, which is predictable, highly concentrated, and supported by specialised vessels and farming operations. However, Norway's purse seine fishery operates very differently; it has a late season, short weather windows, dispersed fish and unpredictable availability, non-specialised pelagic vessels balancing multiple fisheries, direct landing, no farming, low overall effort and low quota utilisation. Therefore, the requirement for a physical observer on every trip has disproportionate operational and financial impacts in the Norwegian fishery, particularly when trips result in no catch.

In light of this, Norway wished to discuss the possibility of a pilot project for the use of EMS in the purse seine fishery in the Norwegian exclusive economic zone. Norway pointed out that an EMS could provide continuous and verifiable documentation of fishing activity, ensure full traceability of catch handling, reduce the need for an onboard observer on unpredictable short notice trips, and offer a cost-effective and reliable alternative for a low effort, low impact fishery.

Norway suggested that the initial stage of such a pilot project could be incorporated into its pilot project for short-term live storage of BFT, where there is already a regional observer onboard. The second phase would be to use the experience from the first phase and potentially provide a proposal for alternative measures for observers to be included in [Rec. 25-04](#). Norway expressed its intention to present a proposal for such a pilot project to the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS WG) for feedback. Depending on the discussions at the EMS WG, Norway may also submit an updated proposal to Panel 2 at the 2026 Annual Meeting.

Japan noted that one issue with the introduction of EMS, albeit in the Mediterranean, has been the need for the regional observer to sign the eBCD, and suggested that Norway take this point into consideration.

Algeria suggested that, because purse seine operations in Norwegian waters are very different to those in the Mediterranean, where fish are often transferred to cages rather than landed, the way forward may be to build an exception into [Rec. 25-04](#) for purse seiners that land catches or to run the proposed pilot project and then roll out the use of EMS instead of regional observers in other similar situations where purse seiners are engaged in landing activities.

Norway thanked the Panel 2 members for their comments and pointed out that this discussion demonstrates the different situations and difficulties that different CPCs face when trying to develop their fisheries. In the case of Norway, it has been complying with existing measures and through that experience, it has discovered that many of these measures are not suitable for the Norwegian fishery and are very inefficient and costly.

Other

The Secretariat explained that a paper entitled “List of updated PNC codes and references from the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for Bluefin Tuna (ROP-BFT) Consortium” had been submitted to the meeting for Panel 2’s information.

11. Adoption of the report and closure

The Chair confirmed that the draft report would be circulated after the meeting and adopted via correspondence.

The Chair thanked the Panel 2 members and observers for their cooperation and active engagement, the ICCAT Secretariat for organising the meeting, the EU for co-sponsoring the meeting, and the interpreters and technicians for facilitating the discussion.

Looking ahead to the Annual Meeting, the Chair noted that there are a number of pending issues that require further discussion, including several points that may require amendments to [Rec. 25-04](#). The Chair encouraged the Panel 2 members to prepare concrete proposals and to submit them by the required deadline. He also indicated that if there are multiple proposals for amending [Rec. 25-04](#), he may integrate them into a combined paper.

The Chair closed the meeting.

Reference

Anonymous. 2023. Report of the 2023 ICCAT Atlantic Albacore Stock Assessment Meeting (including MSE). 2023. Collect. Vol. Sci. Pap. ICCAT, 80(3): 175-278.

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and meeting arrangements
2. Nomination of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Consideration of annual fishing plans
 - 4.1 Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean fishing and farming inspection and capacity management plans and farming management plans, as well as annual aquaculture plans, for 2026 submitted by CPCs
 - 4.2 Western Atlantic
5. Determination of actions to be taken with respect to the plans under item 4
6. Review of any updates relating to ongoing pilot schemes
 - 6.1 Farming with artificially hatched fries
 - 6.2 Growth ratios
 - 6.3 Others
7. Clarification requested on *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)*
8. Discussion on BFT Management Procedure (MP) / Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)
 - 8.1 Updates on the SCRS work on BFT
 - 8.2 Review of BFT management objectives
 - 8.3 Update on the new ALB-N MSE
9. Discussion on the allocation for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna
 - 9.1 Review of the discussion at the 2025 annual meeting by the Chair of Panel 2
 - 9.2 Presentation by CPCs on allocation (if any)
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of report and closure

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Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing, farming, inspection and capacity management plans

Albania

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

CPC Albania hereby presents its fishing, inspection and capacity management plan for Mediterranean bluefin tuna.

In accordance with the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04) adopted by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, fishing allocations, Albania’s quota for 2026 is established at 457.37 t.

Albania’s bluefin tuna fishing quota is allocated to two purse seiner vessels (456.37 t) and to incidental bycatch (1 t). The quota for purse seiners will be distributed between the two vessels as follows: 297,76 t for one vessel and 158.61 t for the other.

Two purse seiner vessels (41 meters and 28 meters) are authorized to fish the Albanian bluefin tuna quota and these vessels are provided with Bluefin Tuna Fishing Authorization. The name of the vessels as well as the respective quotas will be reported to ICCAT in a timely manner.

The method used to allocate and manage the quotas is based on: Minister order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the *Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 24 05)”, Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean” and the national regulation, especially, Law No. 64/2012 “On fisheries”, amended, article 69, Paragraph 1/point b and c, Paragraph 3 and 5.

In the Albanian fishing fleet register, there are no baitboats, longliners, handliners or traps. The fishing activity with baitboats, longliners, and handliners is not developed and no permissions are issued. Albania reports annually the fishing gear groups and fleet segments (DCRF - GFCM and DG MARE).

During the year 2025, there were no bycatch of BFT caught by other fisheries in the Albanian fishing fleet.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

No carry over is requested.

1 c) Destination of catch

All the fish caught by the Albanian purse seiners vessels (100%) will be destined for farming at the Albanian BFT farm.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|---|---|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <p>The Electronic logbook is functional. During this year, the Masters of authorized vessels are obliged to use a bound fishing logbook for their operations in accordance with the requirements set out in Section A of Annex 2 of Rec. 25-04.</p> <p>The masters of towing vessels shall record their activities in accordance with the requirements set out in Section B, Annex 2 of Rec. 25-04.</p> <p>The Master of catching vessel shall transmit every day to the Albanian authorities, during the whole period in which he is authorized to fish bluefin tuna, the daily information from logbooks, including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), the weight and number of bluefin tuna caught including releases and discards of dead fish under the minimum size, referred to in paragraph 33.</p> <p>Fish that are discarded dead shall be counted against the Albania quota.</p> | <p>Annex 4 of DCM No. 407 dated 8/05/2013 “Establishing a control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of fisheries policy”, implementation of the EU Regulation 1224/2009 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 404/2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 “Establishing a community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy”.</p> <p>Article 40 of DCM No. 756 dated 1/12/2022 “On the method of establishing and operation of the electronic registration and reporting system of fishing activity and determining the time for its implementation”.</p> <p>Minister order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual <i>Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean</i> (Rec. 24-05).</p> <p>Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.</p> | <p>During 2024, Albania started implementation of the ERS in a pilot phase in the three vessels in close collaboration with GFCM. Based on the results of the pilot project, the ToRs for the necessary equipment for all the Albanian fishing vessels with a length equal to or greater than 12m are prepared.</p> <p>During 2025 the system became fully functional and all the vessels with a length equal to or greater than 12m were equipped.</p> <p>The DCM determine that the system should be ready in 2025.</p> |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | Masters of purse seine vessels shall produce reports including operations where the catch was zero. The reports shall be transmitted by the operator to the Albanian authorities by 9.00 GMT for the preceding day. | | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | Purse seine fishing for bluefin tuna shall be permitted in the Mediterranean Sea during the period from 19 May to 1 July 2026. If the fishing operations are prevented due to weather conditions, the Albanian authorities may decide that the fishing seasons be expanded by an equivalent number of lost days up to 10 days. The fishing period will be extended in the case of wind speeds reaching 4 or more on the Beaufort scale. Assessment of the length of the bad weather conditions for the purpose of the extension is based on VMS reports evidencing that all vessels are halted, including all vessels involved in joint fishing operations. | Fishing authorization Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|--|--|--|
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | It is prohibited to catch, retain on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, transporting, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115 cm. Albania does not catch bluefin tuna in the Adriatic Sea for farming purposes (para 34, point c). If any bluefin tuna below the minimum size are caught and retained or discarded dead, they will be confiscated and will be counted against Albania's quota. | Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 "For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 "Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean". | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Catching of bluefin tuna as bycatch is not permitted although Albania allocates 1 (one) t as a specific quota for bycatch of bluefin tuna, considering that its purse seiner fleet of small pelagic exercise activity in the Adriatic Sea. By paragraph 37 of Rec. 24-05 and 25-04, all CPCs shall allocate a specific quota for bycatch of bluefin tuna and Albania allocate 1 (one) t as specific bycatch quota for bluefin tuna. | Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 "For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24 05). Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 "Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean". | Albania notified the ICCAT Secretariat on January 8, 2020 (para 57, Rec. 19-04) regarding the 252 kg of BFT caught in September 2019, out of the authorization period by one of small pelagic purse seiner vessels in the Adriatic Sea and deducted this amount from the Albanian quota in Fishing Plan 2020. Instead of 170000 kg, in the Fishing Plan 2020 Albania had a reduced quota 169748 kg, due to 252 kg caught as bycatch out of the authorization period. During the year 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 there were no bycatches of BFT caught in other fisheries by the Albanian fishing fleet. |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|---|-------------|
| | | <p>By Albanian legislation, all catches of fishing vessels over 10 meters must be registered and landed, Art. 75 and 82 of Albanian fishing Law No. 64/2012 (landing obligation) and catching of bluefin tuna as bycatch is not permitted, all dead fish are confiscated.</p> <p>If the specific quota for bycatch is exhausted all bycatches of dead bluefin tuna, whether retained or discarded, shall be deducted from the quota of Albania and reported to ICCAT. All bycatches which are alive shall immediately be released back to the sea.</p> <p>Albania shall report information on such quantities (landed dead or released live) on an annual basis to the ICCAT Secretariat.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No quota is allocated for the purpose of sport and recreational fisheries and this fishing activity is not permitted. | Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|--|--|----------------|
| | | | Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean”. | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | The landing and transshipment operations of bluefin tuna shall be allowed only at the designated port of Shengjin and Saranda. Prior to entry into port, the receiving fishing vessel, or its representative, shall provide the Albanian authorities at least 72 h before the estimated time of arrival, with the information listed in Annex 3, according to the port State’s domestic law. Any transshipment requires the prior authorization from the flag CPC of the transshipping fishing vessel concerned. | Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean”. | CP24 Attached. |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | VMS implemented in catching & towing vessels and the polling rate is at least once every hour. Transmission of positions of catching, & towing vessels starts 5 days before the authorisation period of each vessel and continues until 5 | Law No. 64/2012, “On Fisheries”, amended, Article 72: The vessel monitoring system 1. Fishing vessels with a length equal to or greater than 12 meters shall install on their board the relevant equipment enabling their automatic identification and localization, at an appropriate interval, at specified intervals, through the transmission | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | days after the end of the authorisation. The transmission of VMS data to the ICCAT Secretariat by each authorized vessel must not be interrupted when the vessel is in port, for control purposes. | of data on the relevant location on the satellite system. "1/1. The Ministry shall establish a satellite-based vessel monitoring system for the effective monitoring of the fishing activities of Albanian-flagged fishing vessels wherever those vessels may be and of the fishing activities of these vessels in international waters." | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | Albanian authorities will provide national observer coverage, carrying official identification documents, on board of all towing vessels i.e. 100%, in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 24-05 and 25-04. The Albanian observers were trained by EU experts in the frame of EU-IPA project "Support to fishery". | Minister order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 "For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 "Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean". | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | The Albanian administration will ensure implementation of the ICCAT regional observers programme to guarantee observer coverage of all the purse seiners authorised to fish for bluefin tuna, during all bluefin tuna transfers from purse seiners, during all bluefin tuna caging in | Minister Order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 "For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05). | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|
| | | farming facilities, throughout harvesting of bluefin tuna in farming facilities and during release of bluefin tuna from farming cages in accordance with the provisions of Rec. 24-05 and 25-04. | Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean” | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | <p>Minister order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24-05).</p> <p>Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean”</p> <p>Albania has approved the Electronic logbook ERS system.</p> | <p>DCM No. 756 dated 1/12/2022 “On the method of establishing and operation of the electronic registration and reporting system of fishing activity and determining the time for its implementation”.</p> <p>Minister order No. 140 dated 13/02/2025 “For the implementation of the Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a Multi annual Management Plan for Bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 24 05).</p> <p>Ministerial Order No. 131/2026 “Implementing ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 replacing recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean</p> | <p>https://qbz.gov.al/eli/urdher/2026/02/09/131/2d0e5246-64b4-41cc-90ad-9a3062bd3fcd</p> |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|--|-------------|
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of designated ports for landing and transshipment is attached in form CP24.

- Shengjin
- Sarandë

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Albania's quota for 2026 will be 457.37 t. As Albania allocates 1 t for bycatch, the total quota available for the purse seiners will be 456.37 t.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

The 2026 farming management plan for Albania is detailed below.

| <i>Country</i> | <i>FFB</i> | <i>Active/Inactive</i> | <i>Capacity (t)</i> | <i>Input Capacity (t)</i> | <i>FFB Coordinates</i> |
|----------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---|
| ALBANIA | ROZAFI | Active | 1,200 | 456,37 | 39°57'59.57"N 19°52'0.19"E 39°58'16.25"N 19°52'49.27"E 39°56'20.97"N 19°53'47.91"E 39°56'02.59"N 19°52'59.32"E |

We have nominated as farm CPC competent authority the branch of the fisheries inspectorate in Saranda (para 140).

In accordance with the measures laid down in para 200-207 of ICCAT [Rec. 25-04](#), the following procedures shall be followed for the implementation of carryover assessments:

Prior to the beginning of the next purse seiner season, all fish remaining in cages shall be transferred to other empty farm cages in order that they can be counted and estimates of weight be taken by way of stereoscopic cameras.

The live bluefin tuna carried over will be placed in a separate cage in the farm, on the basis of the catch and JFO.

Differences between the number of BFT individuals resulting from the carryover assessment and the expected number after harvest will be duly investigated and recorded in the eBCD system. In the case of excess number, the Albanian authority will issue the release order of the corresponding number of fish.

Albania will transmit to the ICCAT Secretariat the annual carryover declaration in accordance with para 207 of [Rec. 25-04](#).

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Albania does not intend to develop bluefin tuna aquaculture activities.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

In accordance with the domestic legislation in force (Order, No. 5, dated 28/01/2019), issued by the Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture Services, a Task Force will be deployed at the Shengjini and Saranda fishing port, during the fishing and harvesting season, to carry out duties based on ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, Albanian legislation and Minister Order Nr. 131/2026.

The Albanian control competent authority or the Task Force is composed by:

| <i>Name and duties</i> | <i>E-mail</i> | <i>Phone number</i> |
|--|--|---------------------|
| Aleksander Luli, Fisheries Inspector | Aleksander.Luli@dshpa.gov.al | +355693995558 |
| Ilirjan Cepe, Fisheries Inspector | Ilirjan.Cepe@dshpa.gov.al | +355696310355 |
| Lefter Kocillari Fisheries Inspector | Lefter.Kocillari@dshpa.gov.al | +355672277713 |
| Endri Hoxhaj, Fisheries Inspector | Endri.Hoxhaj@dshpa.gov.al | +355692455993 |
| Orien Miraku, Fisheries Inspector | Orien.Miraku@dshpa.gov.al | +355695203342 |
| Ermal Pishtari, Fisheries Inspector | Ermal.Pishtari@dshpa.gov.al | +355693300911 |
| Xhesian Abedin, Specialist in the Department of Fisheries | Xhesian.Abedin@bujqesia.gov.al | +355699320239 |

Requests for entry and use of Albanian ports by foreign-flagged vessels will be granted, if appropriate, by the relevant port and maritime authorities. In case of authorisation for port entry and use, in-port inspections will be carried out by fishery Inspectors of the relevant authority.

The Fishery Inspector should prioritize implementation as follow:

- The Authorized Fishing Vessel should land the fished bluefin tuna only in the designated place and in due time;
- The Master of the Authorized Fishing Vessel should notify the port authority (including fisheries inspector) four hours before entering the port, about the estimated time of arrival into the port, estimate of quantity of bluefin tuna retained on board, the information on the geographic area where the catch was taken.

Fishery Inspectors take measures to be present at the fishing port on arrival and landing time and obtain from the master the landing declaration which reflects the above data already specified (through weighing) and not in a random way.

The Master of the authorized catching vessel shall be responsible and certify the completeness and accuracy of the declaration, which shall indicate, as a minimum requirement, the quantities of bluefin tuna landed and the area where they were caught. All landed catches shall be weighed and not only estimated. The Albanian authority shall send a record of the landing to the flag CPC authority of the fishing vessel, within 48 hours after the landing has ended.

- The Fishery Inspector also keeps a record of all notifications made by the authorized fishing vessel, the data communicated, the landing declarations in the fishing port, as well as other details that are seen as reasonable. The Fishery Inspector shall communicate this data to the Fishery Directorate within 48 hours of the landing of the fish products by the authorized fishing vessel.
- Ensure that the Master of fishing vessel fills correctly the logbooks and after each arrival (landing) to take delivery of them.

- Not allow the bluefin tuna fisheries under 30 kg or under 115 cm (measurement made from the snout to the bifurcation of the tail). The Inspector makes measurements of each tuna caught, just landed and verifies implementation of the foregoing obligation to weigh/minimum size of fish caught.
- Check the functionality of the VMS system of the vessel, with a non-stop signal, which is not interrupted even when in port.
- Send to the Fishery Authorities at the Ministry any document dealing with catches and transfers of tuna fish products.
- Observe, identify and monitor any quantity of bluefin tuna caught by the fishing vessel (outside of authorized fishing season).

In addition, control measures are provided for in [Rec. 25-04](#) (paras 95 and 96) for regional and national observers programmes which ensure coverage of:

- 100% of purse seiners authorised to actively fish for bluefin tuna,
- 100% of authorised towing vessels,
- 100% of bluefin tuna transfer operations from purse seiners to towing cages and from caging on farms
- 100% of harvesting operations.

All monitoring, control and surveillance operations will be ensured in accordance with [Rec. 25-04](#).

Monitoring, control and inspection of BFT-E caging operations

Fishery inspectors of the Task Force, nominated in this case as Farm competent authority shall:

1. Coordinate the collection and verification of information on national caging activities, for the control of farm activities and for reporting to Albanian competent authorities.
2. Ensure that farm operators maintain at all times an accurate schematic plan of their farms, indicating the unique number of all cages and their individual position on the farm.
3. Assign a unique and identifiable number to each cage associated to farms, including those cages used to transport the fish to the farm.
4. Issue a caging authorization for each caging operation.
5. Ensure that the towing vessel concerned is maintained at a distance of minimum 1 nautical mile from the farm until they are physically present.
6. Ensure that farm cages containing bluefin tuna are sealed at all times.
7. Ensure that each bluefin tuna caging operation in the farm is recorded by the farm operator using both conventional and stereoscopic cameras.
8. Ensure that the ICCAT regional observer has immediate access to all stereoscopic and conventional camera video footage.
9. Determine the number and weight of bluefin tuna being caged, by analyzing the video footage of each caging operation provided by the farm operator, following the procedures set out in point 1 of Annex 9.
10. Submit the procedures and results related to the stereoscopic camera programme to the SCRS by 31 October annually.
11. Issue a caging report for each single caging operation.
12. Issue the harvesting operation authorization.
13. Inspect all harvesting operations of bluefin tuna destined for processing vessels.

Random control operations using conventional cameras will be carried out in the farm by the Fishery Inspectorate between the end of caging and the first caging of the following year.

Considering the size of the farm and the number of cages, farm competent authority will cover 100% of the number of cages in its random control.

In accordance with para 119-123 of Rec. 25-04, the transfers from cages to farm shall be monitored by video cameras and the records of each transfer shall be provided to Albanian competent authorities.

Covering 100% of all caging operations with stereoscopic cameras shall be used to estimate the number and weight of bluefin tuna to be caged. Farm operator shall communicate the results of this program to competent authorities and to the Regional Observer.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

N/A

6. Others

N/A

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------------------|------|------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 70.7 | 70.7 | 70.7 | 70.7 | 70.7 | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 49.78 | 49.78 | 49.78 | 49.78 | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat ³ | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | | | | | | | | | 120.48 | 120.48 | 120.48 | 120.48 | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | 70.7 | 264 | 264 | 264 | 457.37 | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | 100 | NA | NA | NA | NA | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.56% | 0.38% | 0.38% | 0.22% | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | 177,5 | 263 | 263 | 456.37 | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | | -29.3 | -57,02 | -142.52 | -142.52 | -335.89 |

Algeria

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

Algeria presents its annual eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean fishing, farming, inspection and capacity management plans for 2026, in accordance with *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04) as well as the national regulation in force.

In accordance with paragraph 4 of Rec. 25-04, the bluefin tuna quota allocated to Algeria in 2026 is established at 2,460.64 t.

This quota is allocated mainly to the group of purse seine gear. Individual quotas are allocated to the authorised tuna purse seine vessels (22 to 42 m length overall), in accordance with the criteria defined by national regulation.

Compliance with individual quotas is ensured by a reinforced monitoring, control and inspection system, mainly including departure inspections, daily logbook controls, VMS monitoring, control of fishing and transfer operations, analysis of transfer videos, and inspections on board and on land.

The list of vessels authorised to actively fish for bluefin tuna will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat by the deadlines set, in accordance with paragraph 52 of Recommendation 25-04.

The bluefin tuna fishing season for purse seiners starts from 19 May to 1 July 2026, with the possibility of an extension equivalent to the days lost due to weather conditions, up to a maximum of ten (10) days.

Forty (40) tonnes are allocated to small coastal vessels, and six (6) tonnes reserved to bycatch.

All bluefin tuna caught as bycatch are deducted from the quota.

The vessels that are not authorised to target bluefin tuna and do not hold a permit specifically for bluefin tuna, are not authorised to catch this species. Specimens taken as bycatch, alive or dead, will be recorded in logbooks.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with paragraph 6 of Rec. 25-04, Algeria requests a transfer of 4.64 t (0.23%) of its 2025 unused quota to 2026.

Therefore, the total adjusted national quota will be 2,465.28 t including bycatch.

1 c) Destination of catch

Catches by purse seine vessels are destined mainly for farming in the authorised farms. Part of these catches can, however, be landed dead at authorized Algerian ports. The quantities of dead landed bluefin tuna will result, if applicable, in an update to the fishing plan within the required deadline.

For small-scale coastal vessels, the quantities that are caught will be landed dead at the authorised Algerian ports.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT Requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <p>A. The logbook is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bound and maintained onboard the vessel, in accordance with national regulation and requirements applicable to ICCAT. <p>B. Recording of catches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All fishing operations are recorded in the fishing logbook and nil catches are duly reported. - Data are recorded on a daily basis. <p>C. Mandatory recorded information (paras 76-77, Rec. 25-04):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date, time, location (latitude and longitude), the weight and number of bluefin tuna caught. <p>D. Data transmission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily information is transmitted to the fisheries administration. - The deadlines and methods for transmission comply with paras 76-77 of Rec. 25-04. <p>E. Management of dead fish: All dead bluefin tuna, whether retained or discarded, are recorded in the fishing logbook. The dead fish are deducted from the applicable quota.</p> <p>F. Control and verification: -The national controller onboard oversees the control and verification of these measures.</p> | Articles 32-34-36 and Annex 8 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag. | |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | Non-compliance is reported in accordance with domestic procedures. | | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (para 28-32) | <p>- Bluefin tuna fishing is open for purse seine tuna vessels from 19 May to 1 July.</p> <p>Fishing will be conducted in national and international areas of the Mediterranean.</p> | <p>1. Article 62 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag.</p> <p>2. However, the fishing period can be extended, if necessary, in accordance with the applicable provisions.</p> <p>-Legal basis: para 29 of Rec. 24-05.</p> <p>-Reason: Bad weather conditions during the authorised period.</p> <p>-Meteorological threshold: Wind \geq force 4 (Beaufort scale);</p> <p>- Maximum duration of the extension: 10 days.</p> <p>- Principle: extension equivalent to the days actually lost;</p> <p>- Assessment method: Analysis of VMS reports; Identification of days of concerned vessel inactivity.</p> | |
| 3 | Minimum size (para 33-35) | <p>115 cm - 30 kg. However, bluefin tuna bycatch can be authorised. Dead fish (8-30kg/75-115cm) will be declared and deducted from the quota, and live fish are released.</p> | <p>-Executive Decree No. 20-266 of 22 September 2020 which amends and supplements Executive Decree No. 04-86 of 18 March 2004 which fixes the minimum trade sizes of biological resources.</p> <p>-Article 66 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag.</p> | |

| | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|--|
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | <p>-A quota of 5 t allocated to bycatch.</p> <p>-Dead bluefin tuna are deducted from bycatch or from national quota.</p> <p>-Bycatch are recorded in logbooks and counted.</p> <p>-The control of catches is ensured at port accesses and at landing sites.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sport fisheries (para 38-46) | <p>There are no authorised recreational and sport fisheries targeting bluefin tuna in Algeria. No quota is allocated to these activities.</p> | <p>Executive Decree No. 03-481, dated 13 December 2003, establishing the conditions for fishing (amended and supplemented).</p> | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | <p>Transshipment of bluefin tuna at sea is prohibited, in accordance with current domestic regulations.</p> | <p>Article 58 of Law 01-11 on fisheries and aquaculture, as amended and supplemented, the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag.</p> | |
| 7. | VMS (paras 222-228) | <p>In accordance with national legislative and regulatory obligations all tuna purse seiners are equipped with a positioning beacon (VMS), operational five (5) days before the start of the fishing campaign and five (5) days after its closure.</p> | <p>-Article 20 bis of Law 15-08, which amends and supplements the Law 01-11 on fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p>-Article 3 of Executive Decree of 22-58 of 2 February 2022 establishes the conditions and methods to implement positioning beacons on vessels fitted and equipped for fishing.</p> <p>-Articles 14-15 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag.</p> <p>“Hourly VMS messages are transmitted by the tuna purse seine vessels, in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Recs. 25-04 and 18-10.”</p> | |

| | | | | |
|----|--|---|---|--|
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | Boarding of one controller / national observers onboard each of the bluefin tuna purse seine vessels actively targeting bluefin tuna and onboard each towing vessel throughout the fishing season. There is a 100% coverage for purse seine vessels and towing vessels. | Article 17 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag. | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (para 101-107) | Regulatory requirement enforcing purse seine tuna vessel owners to take onboard ICCAT regional observers. | Article 25 of the Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag. | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Yes. ICCAT Recommendations are transposed to national legislation. | <p>-Law 01-11 on fisheries and aquaculture, as amended and supplemented.</p> <p>-Executive Decree 03-481 of 13 December 2003 establishing the conditions for fishing (amended and supplemented).</p> <p>-Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag.</p> | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44) etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The ports designated for bluefin tuna landings in 2026 are:

| <i>No</i> | <i>Landing port</i> |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 1 | Alger Port |
| 2 | Annaba |
| 3 | Azeffoun |
| 4 | Béjaia |
| 5 | Béni-Saf |
| 6 | Boudi |
| 7 | Bouharoun |
| 8 | Bousedjar |
| 9 | Cherchell |
| 10 | Collo |
| 11 | Dellys |

| | |
|----|-----------------|
| 12 | Djinet |
| 13 | El Marsa |
| 14 | El Djamila |
| 15 | El Kala |
| 16 | Ghazaouet |
| 17 | Gouraya |
| 18 | Honaine |
| 19 | Khemisti |
| 20 | La Marsa |
| 21 | Mostaganem |
| 22 | Oran |
| 23 | Sidi Lakhdar |
| 24 | Stora |
| 25 | Ténes |
| 26 | Tigzirt |
| 27 | Zemmouri |
| 28 | Ziama Mansouria |
| 29 | Salamandre |
| 30 | Beni-Haoua |
| 31 | Sidna Youchaa |

(The table / form CP24_AuthPort has been transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat).

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The fishing capacity dedicated to bluefin tuna included a fleet of 41 tuna purse seine vessels. This capacity is adapted to the quota allocated to Algeria and complies with the estimations recommended by the SCRS.

No significant increase of the fishing capacity has been registered compared with the previous year. Thus, Algeria does not show a status of overcapacity.

The final number of vessels authorised to catch bluefin tuna will be enacted in accordance with the criteria established by the national regulations enforced.

Individual quotas are attributed according to the distribution mechanism, defined by “Ministerial Order of 24 February 2022 which establishes the conditions and methods for bluefin tuna fishing by vessels flying the national flag”.

However, following repeated requests, a quota of 40 tonnes has been allocated to small-scale coastal vessels, which were initially 90. This number will be gradually reduced depending on the adaptation and compliance of these small-scale coastal vessels with the control and traceability programmes that have been established.

The fishing capacity management plan and the list of vessels participating in the 2026 fishing campaign may, if necessary, be revised and will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat by the deadlines foreseen in paragraphs 13 and 52 of Recommendation 25-04.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22 and 23), as applicable

One (01) bluefin tuna fattening farm is authorized to operate in 2026 (see table below).

In accordance with Recommendation 25-04, the input volume of bluefin tuna in 2026 is proportional to the fishing quota allocated to Algeria in 2026.

However, Algeria reserves the right, if necessary, to submit revised farming management plans to the Secretariat before 1 June 2026, in accordance with paragraph 22 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04.

Monitoring of caging and random checks:

- National and regional observers will monitor caging operations in fattening farms, using conventional and stereoscopic cameras, in accordance with the provisions established in Recommendation 25-04.
- Random checks of no less than 10% will be carried out on cages after caging operations.

| <i>Farm name</i> | <i>ICCAT No.</i> | <i>Management facility</i> | <i>Farm coordinates</i> | <i>Entry wild (t)</i> | <i>Farming capacity (t)</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| SOUFI TUNA | AT001DZA00001 | SARL SOUFI FISH | 35°13'55,32"N - 01°38' 39,91"O | 950 | 1,800 |
| | | | 35°13'46,36"N - 01°38' 28,69"O | | |
| | | | 35°14'14,33"N - 01°38' 8,79"O | | |
| | | | 35°14'5,78"N - 01°37' 57,46"O | | |
| | | | 36°59'41,027"N-008°07'51,967"E | | |
| | | | 36°57'37,213"N-008°8'14,539"E | | |
| | | | 36°57'7,083"N-008°8'12,166"E | | |
| 36°57'21,068"N-08°8'34,732"E | | | | | |
| TOTAL (t) | | | | 950 | 1,800 |

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Algeria will not be involved in any aquaculture bluefin tuna activities in 2026.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The controlling competent authority is the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries represented by the Directorate-General for Fisheries and Aquaculture through the Directorate of Control of Fisheries Activities and Aquaculture.

The Contact Points designated as responsible for the implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan are:

- Mr. HENTOUR Abderrahmane: Director of control (email: abdou.hentour@gmail.com; Tel.: 213559139817/21323495333).
- Mr. HABTICHE Amirouche: Deputy Director of control (email: habticheamirouche@hotmail.fr; Tel.: 213553091710)

In accordance with the relevant provisions of the ICCAT Recommendations, Algeria is implementing a national monitoring, control and inspection plan for the 2026 bluefin tuna fishing season to ensure the effective compliance of the measures established in Rec. 25-04, including those relating to transfers and caging of bluefin tuna (paragraphs 108 to 139 and 157).

A national inspection programme covering all bluefin tuna fishing operations is implemented for the 2026 campaign. This programme foresees:

- In-port inspections of authorised vessels before and after the campaign,
- Monitoring and control at sea of tuna purse seine vessels throughout the campaign period.
- Boarding of controllers/observers.

A national controller / observer, sworn inspector relevant of the Fisheries Administration, is embarked onboard each of the tuna purse seine vessels during all the fishing season, ensuring 100% coverage.

The controllers / observers are responsible for monitoring fishing and transfer operations, verifying data and onboard documents, and ensure compliance with the national regulation and ICCAT Recommendations. In the event of an infringement, a report is immediately sent to the competent authority.

Fishing and transfer control operations

In accordance with the national regulation, the controllers/observers, in particular, guarantee:

- Inspection of vessels at departure before the start of the campaign;
- Daily control of the logbook;
- Monitoring of VMS operations;
- Control of fishing, transfer, and caging operations for bluefin tuna;
- Verification of transfer documents after each operation;
- Analysis of video recordings of transfers;
- Inspection of storage areas and cold-storage rooms;
- Preparation of reports on non-compliance and infringements observed.
- Inspectors/observers maintain constant contact with the fisheries administration and transmit all information on fishing and transfer operations.
- Monitoring by VMS

All authorised tuna vessels are equipped with a satellite monitoring system (VMS) operational throughout the campaign.

Transmission of VMS data starts 5 days before the authorisation period and will continue 5 days after the fishing campaign, with hourly transmission frequency, in accordance with ICCAT requirements.

A central monitoring unit is responsible for controlling vessel positions.

Landing controls

Tuna vessels flying the national flag are only authorised to land bluefin tuna caught in authorised ports. Landing operations and onboard documents are subject to inspections by competent authorities, in particular the Fisheries and Coast Guard Administration.

It is prohibited for foreign vessels to land bluefin tuna.

For small-scale coastal vessels, control and monitoring are ensured by fisheries inspectors deployed at authorised ports. Once the total quota allocated to small-scale coastal vessels has been used up, these vessels cease their activities.

The quota for coastal vessels is allocated in accordance with an internal measure that also includes control at designated ports as well as the fishing period, in accordance with ICCAT Recommendations and established regulatory requirements.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

In accordance with paragraphs 232 to 235 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and its Annex 7, Algeria provides information on the implementation of Joint International Inspections (JIS) applicable to the bluefin tuna fishery.

Given that the national fleet has more than fifteen (15) tuna purse seine vessels, Algeria participates in the JIS program, in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 25-04.

As such, Algeria will participate in the JIS program during the 2026 fishing season, with the vessel Grine Belkacem (AL405). The onboard inspectors will ensure the inspection tasks provided by ICCAT for Algerian and foreign vessels operating in the bluefin tuna fishing area in the Mediterranean, during the authorized fishing period.

In addition to its participation in the JIS, Algeria implements a set of enhanced national monitoring, control, and inspection measures designed to ensure strict compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.

Monitoring, control and inspection measures

(i) Control and inspection at the start to the bluefin tuna fishing season

All tuna purse seiners are subject to inspections aimed at controlling the fishing gear and the required documentation, in accordance with Ministerial Order of 24 February 2022 (Article 9 and Annexes 2, 4 and 5).

(ii) Pre-departure control

All tuna seiners are subject to pre-departure inspections, in accordance with Article 23 and Annex 6 of the Ministerial Order of 24 February 2022.

(iii) Control and monitoring during the fishing season

National sworn inspectors are embarked onboard each tuna purse seiner during the entire authorised bluefin tuna fishing period, ensuring 100% coverage of the fleet, in accordance with the national regulation in force.

(iv) Coordination of monitoring and control

A unit responsible for monitoring and control, established by a Ministerial Decision, guarantees coordination with onboard inspectors and centralises information relating to fishing operations in real time.

(v) Use of VMS

VMS data is used by the National Coastguard Service and the ministerial monitoring unit. In the event of VMS failure, vessel positions are transmitted regularly by captains and inspectors on board.

(vi) Landing control on return to ports

On return, all tuna purse seiners undergo an inspection by the fisheries inspectors and the National Coast Guard Service. Landing of bluefin tuna is only authorised in the designated ports.

(vii) Cross-check and analysis of data

The data from the VMS, onboard inspections, reports of captains and controller-observer are cross-checked to ensure rigorous monitoring of operations and improve the control system.

(viii) Strengthening of legislations and regulations

Law 15-08 amending and supplementing Law 01-11, as well as Articles 54 to 56 of the Ministerial Order of 24 February 2022 set out dissuasive penalties in case of infringements of ICCAT measures.

(ix) *Strengthening of inspector-observer capacities*

Training and capacity-building sessions are organized for inspector-observers. A guide to harmonised monitoring, control and inspection procedures has been made available.

6. Others

Not applicable.

Capacity table

| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | Ref years | | | Number of vessels | | | | Ref years | | | Fishing capacity | | | |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 141.32 | 141.32 | 141.32 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 3 | 8 | 12 | 34 | 37 | 37 | 38 | 149.34 | 398.24 | 597.36 | 1692.52 | 1841.86 | 1841.86 | 1891.64 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 33.68 | 33.68 | 67.36 | 33.68 | 33.68 | 33.68 | 33.68 |
| Purse seine total fleet | | 4 | 8 | 14 | 35 | 40 | 40 | 41 | 183.02 | 398.24 | 664.72 | 1726.2 | 2016.86 | 2016.86 | 2066.64 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 375 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.68 | 5.68 | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total longline fleet | | 17 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 385.68 | 10.68 | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Baitboat ³ | 19.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trap | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 21 | 10 | 15 | 35 | 40 | 40 | 131 | 568.70 | 408.92 | 664.72 | 1726.2 | 2016.86 | 2016.86 | 2106.64 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | 1700 | 1460.04 | 1260 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2460.64 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | 1700 | 1460.04 | 1300.0 | 2018 | 2041 | 2047.65 | 2465.28 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | 0.46% | 0.24% | 0.24% | 0.24% | 0.24% | | | | | | | 0.24% |
| Allocation of bycatch | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Allowance for sport recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2459.28 |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | -1131.3 | 1051.12 | -629.60 | -291.8 | -19.14 | -25.79 | -352.64 |

China

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

According to Recommendation 25-04, China was allocated 286.15 metric tons of BFT in 2026 fishing season. China will dispatch three longline fishing vessels to conduct BFT fishing activities seasonally in the eastern Atlantic.

The Fisheries Law (issued by the National People's Congress) and the Regulation on Management of Distant Water fisheries (issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, serial No. 2020-2) are the main national legislation to manage Chinese distant water fishing vessels to conduct fishing activities on the high seas. In addition, the Fisheries Authority of China also issued the Regulation on VMS Management (issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, serial No. Nongyufa 2019-22) and Regulation on the Implementation Guidance on the Management of National Observer Program in Distant Water Fisheries (issued by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, serial No. Nongbanyu 2016-72) which respectively specify the stipulation of VMS and observer on China's distant water fishing vessels. Besides, the Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs updated the document, namely Notification on complying with conservation and management measures adopted by ICCAT (issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) which entered into force from end of January of 2025, include the main requirement contained in the ICCAT Recommendation 24-05, such as the minimum size, observer coverage, VMS requirement, logbook requirement, fishing season and designated transshipment/landing port requirement and so on.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In 2025, the adjusted quota of China is 112.70 t while the harvested amount is 84.6 t. The gap is 28.1 t, which is above 20% of the annual quota. China would like to carry over of underharvest from 2025. The carryover amount from 2025 is $112 \times 20\% = 22.4$ metric tons. The total quota for China in 2026 is $286.15 + 22.4 = 308.55$ t.

1 c) Destination of catch

The fish will be landed.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | We distribute the standardized logbook (both paper and electronic) to every Chinese fishing vessel operating on the high seas and require the captain to fill them in time and accurately, and the BFT must be landed or transhipped at the designated port. The fishing vessel owner must report daily/weekly/monthly catch, while dead fish (retained or | 1.Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries 2. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 3, 4 and 8, Logbook: Each tuna fishing vessel must file in the logbook and | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | discarded) is counted against the quota. We will send out the warning notice when the quota approaches 80% of the total. When the quota is exhausted, we will ask the fishing vessels to stop operation and leave the fishing ground immediately, then we report the closure to Secretariat at once. | record truly all the catches including marine mammals. The bluefin tuna company must report its catches to the China Overseas Fisheries Association daily/weekly/monthly. Fishing company and vessel shall strictly follow the quota limit. Designated port is required. | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | BFT vessel in the area delimited by West of 10W and North of 42 N is permitted from 1 August to 31 January next year. BFT vessel in the eastern Atlantic is permitted during the period from 1 January to 31 May. Chinese vessels usually start to fish in the area delimited by West of 10W and North of 42 N in September until the quota is exhausted or before 31 January next year. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, (serial No Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and management Measures adopted by ICCAT. Section 5: Fishing area and gear limitation and prohibition: the fishing seasons and fishing area in the Atlantic Ocean shall be from 1 August to 31 January next year in the delimited area. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | Through the observer program and logbook as well as the daily/weekly/monthly catch report, we could monitor the Minimum size, any catch under the minimum size must be released and recorded. We set the minimum size limit, which is corresponding to Rec. 25-04, prohibit to catch, retain, tranship, land and sell BFT less than 30kg or 115cm, the maximum of 5% tolerance is authorized. Discarded | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management. 3. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 6: Vessels targeting BFT in the Atlantic Ocean must | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| | | catch is also counted against our quotas. | follow the minimum size requirement. | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Bycatch is not allowed for any other fishing vessels. Any vessels other than BFT fishing vessels are prohibited to catch, retain and tranship BFT. No eBCD will be issued to any BFT captured by the other vessels. All bycatch must be discarded. These discarded BFT will be counted against China's BFT quota and these data will be reported to ICCAT. China did not have bycatch in the recent years. However, we still allocate 0.51 t for such kind of discard bycatch. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management, which stipulated that tuna fishing vessel is obliged to receive national observers according to tuna-RFMOs requirements. 3. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 4: Fishing quota: tuna fishing vessel is not allowed to catch if no quota is allocated. | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | Not applicable as China does not have such fishery. | Not applicable as China does not have such fishery. | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Bluefin tuna fishing vessel shall only tranship and/or land bluefin tuna catches in the designated ports. Transshipment at sea is not allowed for BFT fishing vessel. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 8: transshipment: tuna Longline fishing vessels targeting Atlantic BFT is only allowed to conduct transshipment and/or landing at the designated port in accordance with | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | | relevant ICCAT requirement. | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | The VMS could be reported to the Secretariat directly as required and we will also poll the vessel position from our VMS platform. From our platform we could daily monitor and poll 24 positions, once per hour, which is higher than ICCAT requirement. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Regulation on Management of VMS, which stipulates vessels must report their position once every hour. 3. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 7: The VMS could be reported to the Secretariat directly as required. | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | At least 20% observer coverage will be implemented. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Regulation on the Implementation Guidance on the Management of National Observer, which stipulates that tuna fishing vessels are obliged to receive national observers according to tuna-RFMOs requirements. 3. Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. Section 9: observer and EMS requirement. | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Not applicable as China does not have purse seiners and also does not have caging and farming activities. | Not applicable as China does not have purse seiners and also does not have caging and farming activities. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|-------------|
| 10 | Domestic legislation | China has transposed Recommendations to domestic law and relevant legislation. | 1. Regulation on Management of Distant Water Fisheries. 2. Regulation on the Implementation of National Observer Management. 3. Regulation on Management of VMS Notification issued by Bureau of Fisheries from Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, (serial No. Nongyuyuanhan 2025-15) on Complying with Conservation and Management Measures Adopted by ICCAT. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | Each BFT will have a tag with a unique number. | Based on Fisheries Law of China, Chinese fishery competent authority has notified relevant company of such ICCAT requirement on BFT. | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

Only the designated port authorized by ICCAT can these vessels conduct landing or transshipment activities. China intends to use port of Dakar in Senegal, Mindelo in Cabo Verde and Las Palmas in Spain. The vessels are required to follow the regulation set by the port CPC.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Please see the attachment.

Due to the increase of quota, China will dispatch one more longline fishing vessel.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Not applicable as China has no BFT farming.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Not applicable as China has no such aquaculture activity.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The list of contact points is as follow.

LU Quan Director bofdwf@126.com
FANG Lianyong Staff fanglianyong@cofa.net.cn

China will dispatch three longline vessels to catch BFT in 2026. All three vessels will be allocated to 102.68 metric tons, each vessel hold one third of the 308.04 t (annual quota 286.15 t + carryover 22.4 t = 308.55 t of adjusted quota from which 0.51 t are allocated specifically to bycatch).

It is relatively simple to monitor and respect the quotas since only three fishing vessels share the quotas and they belong to one company. We could manage the quotas through the following ways:

Observer program: We will implement at least 20% observer coverage for BFT fishing vessels. The observer must be familiar with the BFT recommendation and will daily record the accurate weight and number of BFT, including the weight for round fish and GG weight.

Catch report: we have daily/weekly/monthly BFT catch report and we could cross-check the catch. The fishing vessel owner will be notified when 80% of the catch is reached, and the BFT fishing vessel must cease to fish and immediately leave the fishing ground when the quota is exhausted.

Logbook: the fishing vessel master must strictly and accurately fill in the logbook (both paper and electronic) including any other bycatch and incidental catch.

Landing\transhipment: only the designated port authorized by ICCAT can these vessels conduct landing or transhipment activities. China intends to use port of Dakar in Senegal, Mindelo in Cabo Verde and Las Palmas in Spain. The vessels are required to follow the regulation set by the port CPC

VMS requirement: we could monitor these vessels through our VMS platform and their positions could be polled whenever we need.

The monitoring, control and inspection plan should ensure compliance with the provisions of this Recommendation. This plan shall also designate the CPC control competent authority and the list of contact points nominated as responsible for the implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Not applicable as China only has three BFT longline vessels.

6. Others

China currently has no others to report.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|--|------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | 100 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 75 | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | 100 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 75 | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | 100 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 75 | | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | 74 | 63.55 | 79 | 112 | 112 | 112 | 286.15 | | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | 117.1 (112+ 5.1) | 113.3 (112+ 1.3) | 112.7 (112+ 0.7) | 308.55 (286.15 +22.4) | | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.446% | 0.446% | 0.446% | 0.178% | | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.5 t | 0.5 t | 0.5 t | 0.51 t | | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | 116.6 (117.1 -0.5) | 112.8 (112- 0.5+ 1.3) | 112.2 (112.7- 0.5) | 308.04 (308.55 -0.51) | | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | 26 | 36.4 | -29 | -66.6 | -62.8 | -62.2 | -233.04 | | |

Egypt

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

The allocated quota for Egypt for the fishing season 2026 is 549 t. In accordance with para 37 Recs. 24-05/25-04, the available quota will be 543.51 t. as the recorded bycatch for bluefin tuna has not exceeded this limit. The Egyptian fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean Sea are “Golovik” under ICCAT registration number AT000EGY00020 and national registration number 5365 in the Port of Alexandria and “SAFINAT NOOH” under ICCAT registration number AT000EGY00010 and national registration number 4274 in the Port of Alexandria. Egypt specifies an amount of 271.755 t for “Golovik” and 271.755 t for “SAFINAT NOOH” as shown in **Table 1**.

The LFRPDA will license purse seine vessels equipped with a VMS system and they are required to transmit on an hourly basis to catch BFT for the fishing season 2026 covering the period from 19 May to 1 July 2026, in accordance with ICCAT Rec. 24-05/25-04.

In the case of non-compliance with the Egyptian resolutions or any ICCAT Recommendations by the fishing vessel, the penal code will be applied, and the vessel will not be allowed to work in the bluefin tuna fishery for the next season. In case of repetition of non-compliance, this vessel will be banned from the bluefin tuna fisheries.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

Egypt has no carry over of underharvest from 2025.

1 c) Destination of catch

Farming: Egypt has no farming activity till now.
Landing: Egypt has no landing activity.

The amount of 543.51 t will be destined for fattening farm cages.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | The master of the catching vessels records all information in the bound logbooks including the dead fish (retained or discarded) that will be counted against the quota. According to the requirements set in Rec. 24-05/25-04, these are be submitted to the LFRPDA for verification using available inspection | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (8) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | reports, regional and national observers' reports, in addition to recording and reporting obligations laid down by relevant ICCAT Recommendations. | | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | The authorized period for fishing bluefin is from 19 May to 1 July 2026. In accordance with paragraph 28 of Rec. 24-05/25-04, Egypt may possibly extend its fishing period in the event of bad weather conditions during the authorized fishing period to 10 days. Moreover, the closed season for bluefin tuna fisheries will be announced by the LFRPDA once the allowed quota is caught even during the authorized fishing period. All fishing vessels catching BFT-E are licensed purse seine in the Mediterranean. | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (3) | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | Provisions regulating minimum size laid down by the relevant ICCAT Rec. 24-05/25-04 shall be strictly implemented. National observer / inspector on board shall ensure full compliance with the minimum size in accordance with the relevant ICCAT Rec. 24-05/25-04 during | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (4) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>the season.</p> <p>Regulations prohibit catching, retaining on board, transshipping, transferring, landing, storing, selling, displaying or offering for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm.</p> <p>Incidental catch of max. 5% of BFT weight (8 to 30 kg) or fork length 75 to 115 cm may be authorized.</p> <p>All live undersized BFT must be released into the sea and dead BFT should be reported and deducted from the quota.</p> | | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | <p>Egypt specify 1% out of its quota for bycatch, on the basis that the recorded bycatch has not exceeded this limit in 2025.</p> <p>All bycatch shall not exceed 20% of the total catch on board at the end of each fishing trip. Those quantities as bycatches shall be calculated in relation with the total catches on board (in weight or number of specimens).</p> <p>Vessels that are not actively fishing for bluefin tuna are monitored by national inspectors</p> | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (5) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>in landing ports to count any bycatches of BFT (if any) in order to ensure implementation of ICCAT Rec. 24-05/25-04.</p> <p>All inspectors in landing ports have been instructed to monitor and report any bycatch of BFT throughout the year.</p> <p>Egypt does not have any discards of bluefin tuna, as most of the purse seiners in Egypt are less than 24 m vessels working in our near shore so there is no chance to catch bluefin tuna (BFT); only the authorized vessels targeting BFT are allowed to work in deep water to catch BFT. Moreover, Egypt in collaboration with the FAO (EastMed-project) conducted a study to assess the discards in the Mediterranean. The study showed that the percentage of discards for purse seiners is less than 2% and there was no record of BFT in the report.</p> <p>Egypt shall submit its bycatch report by the end of the year declaring all BFT bycatches (if any) which must be deducted from the specified bycatch quota of the year.</p> | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>The amount of bycatch discarded whether alive or dead in status should be reported to the LFRPDA immediately, and these data will be reported to ICCAT.</p> <p>All quantities of BFT bycatch shall be landed only at the designated ports. Vessels record all information in the bound logbooks including the dead fish (retained or discarded) that will be counted against the quota.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No coastal recreational, sport fisheries will be allowed. | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (6) | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Transshipment at sea is completely prohibited. | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (12) | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | All authorized BFT vessels fishing actively in the 2026 fishing season shall be equipped with a fulltime operational satellite tracking device (vessel monitoring system, VMS) on board, as required by the LFRPDA, to be transmitted every 1 hour as minimum requirement. | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (16) | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | A national observer of the fisheries specialists will inspect the fishing operations on board during the fishing operations for monitoring the catch, recording the required data and ensuring compliance of the | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022, Article (14) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>fishing vessel with the ICCAT Recommendations and the LFRPDA resolutions. The permanent observer in port is assigned to follow up the landed catches (if any) and reviewing the on board observers reports.</p> <p>The LFRPDA conducted a national training programme for local fisheries observers of Egypt on ICCAT data collection and reporting, in collaboration with the NIOF in the 2025 fishing season funded by ICCAT/Japan Capacity-building Assistance Project (Phase 3). The programme focused on improving the capacity of local observers in Egypt to raise their efficiency in identifying ICCAT species, collecting standardized data, meeting the requirements for preparing comprehensive reports, improving data quality, and developing a replicable training program for observers that can be used in future capacity building efforts. Also, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport (AASTMT), is</p> | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | suitable, as safety at sea and survival training require specific skills and knowledge best provided by professionals with direct experience in maritime safety and rescue operations. AASTMT personnel are ideally suited to deliver the "Safety at Sea, Use of Survival Equipment" in collaboration with the LFRPDA. | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | All BFT vessels fishing actively in 2026 fishing season, have to be covered (100%) by two observers (one national observer and one ICCAT ROP observer). | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Egypt has issued Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022 on a multiannual conservation and management plan for bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean, to transpose the ICCAT recommendation to its domestic law. | Resolution Number (121) for the year 2022 | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | Egypt is not involved in the tagging programme. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The designated ports for BFT landing reported in the CP24 form are Alexandria port platform, Abo-Qir fishing port platform, El-Meadia fishing port platform and Elsharky Port Alexandria platform as shown in **Table 2**.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The LFRPDA will allocate to each P.S. an individual quota and it will ensure that its fishing capacity is commensurate with its allocated quota according to Recommendation 24-05/25-04.

The two Egyptian fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean Sea are “Golovik” under ICCAT registration number AT000EGY00020 and national registration number 5365 in the Port of Alexandria and “SAFINAT NOOH” under ICCAT registration number AT000EGY00010 and national registration number 4274 in the Port of Alexandria. Egypt specifies an amount of 271.755 t for “Golovik” and 271.755 t for “SAFINAT NOOH”.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

No farming activities will take place in 2026.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Egypt has an aquaculture farm for BFT that belongs to National Company for Fisheries and Aquaculture. All infrastructure have been completed. It was supposed to be opened last October, but this was delayed due to some reasons in the country from which the broodstock should be imported.

The broodstock with a known number of individuals will be imported in collaboration with one of the leading German companies in artificial hatching technology. The components of the farm including the offshore ponds, hatchery and nursery have been completed. The first production will take at least 3-4 years to become at the market size where Egypt will target local and international market. In case of exporting, Egypt will comply with eBCD requirements following negotiations during the upcoming meetings. Egypt shall prohibit bluefin tuna aquaculture operators from selling or offering for sale aquacultured fish until the eBCD system has a functionality to register the fish's origin. More details concerning origin of the bluefin tuna, any aquaculture facilities established, the forecasts for the quantities of aquaculture bluefin tuna to be marketed, the expected number and volume of fish to be produced, expected size of fish at time of harvest, the anticipated harvest date and the measures taken to prevent caged fish from escaping out will be provided in accordance with (Rec. 24-07).

The measurements at the aquaculture farm will be periodically inspected to ensure that all the activities performed in the aquaculture farm are in compliance with the provisions of Rec. 24-07.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The LFRPDA is the management competent authority which ensures that the monitoring, control, and inspection plan complies with the provisions of Rec. 24-05/25-04.

The contact points nominated from the LFRPDA as responsible for implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan are Dr Doaa Hammam (International Cooperation Administration, gafrd_eg@hotmail.com/doaahammam01@gmail.com) and Eng. Abdelrazek Mohamed (Fisheries Administration, abdelrazek.mohamed004@gmail.com).

For the national vessels, full inspection coverage shall be ensured during the 2026 bluefin tuna fishing season by LFRPDA inspectors. The inspection will include all the activities that will be conducted during the fishing season, i.e. fishing, transfer, caging, and landing if any. The national observer covers all fishing activities throughout the entire fishing period.

All catching vessels are crosschecked as they maintain and submit daily information from bound logbooks by electronic or any other effective means to the LFRPDA. In the case of landing, all landed catches are weighed and inspected based on a risk assessment system involving quota, fleet size and fishing effort by national inspectors.

All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) to be transmitted every 1 hour as minimum requirement. The LFRPDA submits weekly reports including information such as date, time, location (latitude, longitude), weight and number of BFT caught in the area covered by the plan, including releases and discards of dead fish.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Egypt has not been involved in an international inspection plan up till now.

6. Others

Following the successful completion of the ICCAT Data Collection and Reporting Training Programme, and building on the capacity developed under the ICCAT/Japan Capacity-building Assistance Project (Phase 3), the LFRPDA—in collaboration with NIOF and AASTMT—will commence scientific sampling of the bluefin tuna fishery during the 2026 fishing season. This critical task will be carried out by the locally trained observers who participated in the programme, applying the practical skills and standardized methodologies they obtained. This step is expected to enhance the quality and reliability of Egypt’s scientific data and support its long-term contribution to regional fisheries management and conservation efforts.

Table 1

| <i>Vessel Name</i> | <i>ICCAT Number</i> | <i>Quota (t)</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Golovik | AT000EGY00020 | 271.755 |
| Safinat Nooh | AT000EGY00010 | 271.755 |

Table 2

| <i>Port</i> | <i>Species</i> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Izbet El Borg | SWO & ALB |
| Rashid | SWO & ALB |
| Elmadia | BFT & SWO & ALB |
| ABO QIR | BFT & SWO & ALB |
| Elsharky Port Alexandria | BFT & SWO & ALB |
| Port Said | BFT & SWO & ALB |

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Refyears</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Refyears</i> | | | <i>Fishing Capacity</i> | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|-----------------|----------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 ¹ (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 0 | 0 | 49.78 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Purse seine total fleet | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 0 | 0 | 49.78 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessel | N/A | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 0 | 0 | 49.78 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 | 99.56 |
| Initial Quota | | 0 | 0 | | 513 | 513 | 513 | 549 | | 0 | 0 | 181 | 513 | 513 | 513 | 549 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | 0 | 0 | | 1% | 1% | 1.038% | 1% | | 0 | 0 | | 1% | 1% | 1.038% | 1% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | 0 | 0 | | 5.13 | 5.13 | 5.325 | 45.9 | | 0 | 0 | | 5.13 | 5.13 | 5.325 | 5.49 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Available quota | | 0 | 0 | | 507.87 | 507.87 | 507.675 | 543.51 | | 0 | 0 | | 507.87 | 507.87 | 507.675 | 543.51 |
| Under/ overcapacity | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | -131,22 | -408,31 | -408,31 | -408,115 | -443,95 |

European Union (EU)

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

Introduction

The European Union (EU) hereby provides its Fishing, Inspection and Capacity Management plans and its Farming Management plan for Eastern Bluefin tuna (E-BFT) for 2026.

The eight EU Member States actively fishing Bluefin tuna are Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain. These EU Member States fish with a range of fishing gears, with most of the quotas being attributed to the purse seine and trap sectors. However, significant catches are also made by longline vessels and more artisanal sectors, such as the bait-boats, handlines and pelagic trawlers, in both the Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. These eight EU Member States also cooperate in the implementation of a BFT Joint Deployment Plan of inspections, in coordination with the European Commission and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).

The EU adopted Council Regulation (EC) No 302/2009 on 6 April 2009 transposing into EU law ICCAT Recommendation 08-05 to establish a Multiannual Recovery Plan for Bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Following the adoption at the 2010 ICCAT Annual Meeting in Paris the ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 amending ICCAT Recommendation 08-05, the EU amended Council Regulation (EC) 302/2009 transposing ICCAT Recommendation 10-04 into EU law. In 2014, the EU adopted Regulation (EU) 544/2014 transposing the amendments to the recovery plan, as set out in the ICCAT Recommendation 13-07. Finally, the EU adopted Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and of the Council on 14 September 2016 transposing ICCAT Recommendation 14-04, as replaced by Recommendation 17-07.

Regulation (EU) 2019/833¹ partially transposed Recommendation 18-02, as replaced by Recommendation 19-04. In 2023, the EU concluded the transposition of the Recommendation 21-08, by adopting Regulation (EU) 2023/2053², further amended by Regulation (EU) 2024/897³ and Delegated Regulation 2024/2925⁴ implementing modifications brought about by Recommendation 22-08 as compared to the previous Recommendation 21-08. The EU transposed the changes introduced by Recommendation 24-05 into EU legislation by amending the Regulation (EU) 2023/2053. The latest changes incorporated in Recommendation 25-04 are being transposed.

In the meantime, and pursuant to Article 216(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, international agreements concluded by the Union are binding upon the institutions of the Union and on its Member States. In these circumstances, Member States are bound to take necessary direct measures designed to ensure compliance with ICCAT Recommendations, and in particular Recommendation 25-04 and, in particular, when the rules thereby implemented result in more stringent measures than the ones implemented via Regulation (EU) 2023/2053. Furthermore, the EU has decided to implement Recommendation 25-04 as of 1 of January 2026 in the EU. The European Commission informed the ICCAT Secretariat about this early implementation, matter that was communicated to the other ICCAT contracting parties via ICCAT Circular 00052/2026.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2019/833 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No. 2115/2005 and (EC) No. 1386/2007 (hereinafter: Regulation (EU) No. 2019/833).

² Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627.

³ Regulation (EU) 2024/897 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

⁴ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/2925 of 19 June 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the management of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and in the Mediterranean.

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

a. Overview (para 12)

Following the ICCAT circular 12095-2025, the EU is using Recommendation 25-04 as the sole reference for the preparation of the EU fishing plan and for the 2026 E-BFT fishing season. In accordance with the current Total Allowable Catch (TAC) provided for under Recommendation 25-04, the quota for the EU in 2026 will be 25,164.62 t. This plan is based on EU initial quota; a revised version will be submitted as soon as panel 2 Intersessional endorsed the carry-overs of EU 2025 into 2026. The EU has drawn up the annual fishing plan identifying catching vessels over 24 meters and their associated individual quotas. All purse seine vessels over 24 meters are allocated an individual vessel quota superior to the SCRS catch rates as adopted by the ICCAT Commission for estimating fleet capacity.

The EU will authorise 'catching vessels' and 'other vessels' and will continue to submit the lists of authorised vessels that will participate in the fishery in 2026 in accordance with the reporting deadlines laid down under paragraph 52 of the Recommendation 25-04.

The EU has allocated quotas⁵ to the following sectors:

| <i>Fishing plan</i> | <i>2026</i> | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | <i>Fleet (Nbr vessels)</i> | <i>Quota allocated (t)</i> |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 31 | 7,659 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 35 | 4,880 |
| Purse seiners less than 24m | 5 | 247 |
| Total Purse Seine Fleet | 71 | 12,787 |
| Longliner over 40m | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 4 | 40 |
| Longliner less than 24m | 178 | 2,101 |
| Total Longline Fleet | 182 | 2,141 |
| Baitboat | 72 | 1,764 |
| Handline | 88 | 327 |
| Trawler | 57 | 472 |
| Trap | 10 | 2,936 |
| Small scale | 1,192 | 1,798 |
| Other | 222 | 1,068 |
| Total EU fleet | 1,894 | 23,293 |
| Quota | | 25,164.62 |
| Adjusted quota ^{6*} | | 23,382.03 |
| Recreational | | 134 |
| Bycatch reserve | | 483 |
| Contingency | | 1,165 |

The EU hereby submits a complementary Inspection plan covering all bluefin tuna fisheries and capable of addressing effectively the control requirements of the fishery.

⁵ The EU fishing plan shows the number and length category of vessels that will be authorized by EU in 2026 and the quota allocated to them.

⁶ The adjusted quota is 23,370.03 t, i.e., 25,164.62 t (quota) minus 483 t (bycatch allocation) minus 134 t (sport/recreational allowance) minus 1,165 t (contingency).

The EU undertakes real-time monitoring of the bluefin tuna fishery and is committed to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect of ICCAT Recommendations concerning the management of E-BFT fisheries, including Recommendations 25-04, 10-11, 22-16 and 23-21.

The table below section 1d) summarises the actions taken to implement the requirements of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 as well as the relevant domestic laws or regulations when applicable.

1b. Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with paragraph 6 of Recommendation 25-04, the EU requests to transfer a maximum of 20% of its 2025 quota to 2026.

In 2025, the underharvest for the EU was of 1344,34 t, which is above the maximum allowed 5% (1,075.15 t) provided in Recommendation 24-05. Therefore, the EU adjusted quota for 2026, pursuant to the implementation of the 1,075.15 t carried over from 2025, will total 26,239.77 t.

The maximum carry-over allowed as modified by Recommendation 25-04 (20%) has not been yet implemented in EU law. The EU will send a revised EU fishing plan taking into consideration this new limit once it is effective for EU Member States.

1c. Destination of catch

The EU catches will be destined to landing and farming according to the following (preliminary estimated) percentages:

- Farming: 65%
- Landing: 35%

1d.

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|----------|--|--|--|---|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | All E-BFT catching vessels and traps shall communicate daily logbook information to their authorities during the whole period of authorization, including at least date, time, location, the weight and number of bluefin tuna caught, releases and discards . Weekly reports for all vessels are sent by Member States to the European Commission, which transmits them to the ICCAT Secretariat. All dead fish (retained or discarded) will be counted against the quota. | Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 ⁷ Section 2 Article "Recording Requirements" and Section 4 "Reporting Obligations". | All catch reports are recorded at EU level, and cross-checked with authorizations, individual quotas, national quotas and JFO quotas (when relevant). All vessels authorized to fish for E-BFT independently of the length shall record their catches in a logbook. In accordance with Art. 14 and 15 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 ⁸ ('EU Control Regulation') all EU |

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No. 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627.

⁸ Council Regulation (EC) No. 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Union control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy.

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | <p>fishing vessels above 10m must be equipped with a bound logbook with chronologically numbered pages. For fishing vessels over 12m, an electronic logbook is required.</p> <p>In accordance with Art. 109 of the above-mentioned Regulation. Member States must cross-check and validate the information reported by the operators in the following documents and data sources: fishing logbook, landing declaration, transshipment declaration, prior notification; take-over declarations, transport documents and sales notes; fishing licences and fishing authorisations; vessel monitoring system data; inspection reports.</p> <p>Additional requirements set up by ICCAT are covered by Art. 31 and Annex II of Regulation (EU) No. 2023/2053.</p> |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | The fishing seasons applicable to the EU fleets in all Member States concerned are in line with the seasons established by ICCAT Rec. 25-04. Art 17 Regulation (EU) No 2023/2053 transpose them into EU law. | Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Chapter III "Technical measures", section 1 "Fishing seasons", Article 17 and Annex I "Longliners, purse seiners, pelagic trawlers, traps and sport and recreational fisheries" and "Baitboats and trolling boats". | According to provisions in Recommendation 25-04, fishing seasons will be as follows: Fishing season for purse seine vessels will be from 19 May to 1 July. |

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | <p>According to Article 35 of EU Control Regulation, Member States shall inform the Commission as soon as the E-BFT quota is exhausted.</p> <p>In addition, under Regulation (EU) 2023/2053, Member States shall inform the Commission when the E-BFT quota allocated to a gear group referred to in Article 11 of this Regulation or to a JFO or to a purse seiner is deemed to be exhausted.</p> <p>A special reporting and alert system are in place to verify at EU level the quota used in each Member State for each fleet.</p> <p>Compliance with this measure is mainly verified by the Fishing Monitoring Centres (FMC) of the Member States which all operate 24/7. These FMCs have delimited authorised zones and periods, and automatic alarms are triggered in case of vessels in an unauthorised zone or period.</p> <p>In addition, the EU deploys a significant number of patrol vessels and air assets each year during the E-BFT fishing season. There are protocols for the managing of sighting reports.</p> | | <p>By derogation, the fishing season for purse seiner in the Adriatic Sea for farming purposes will be from 26 May until 15 July.</p> <p>By derogation, the fishing season for purse seiner in the Cantabrian Sea for farming purposes shall be from 26 May to 31 August.</p> <p>For other fisheries not included in para 28 and 30, the fishing seasons will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Croatia: HR open season is generally from 15 February to 31 December Sport fishery open season is from 1 May to 1 November Recreational fishery open season is from 1 June to 1 November France: during the period from 1st February to 31 December 2026 for French fishing vessels operating with any fishing gear other than purse seines and large-scale pelagic longlines over 24 meters. Greece: 10 February 2026 until quota exhaustion Malta: Maltese E-BFT historical longline vessels have a national fishing season set from 15 April to 31 December or until the quota exhaustion. |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | <p>Small scale coastal longliners season will be open for a limited predetermined period. Recreational fishing will be permitted from 16 June to 14 October or until the quota exhaustion .</p> <p>Portugal: Traps – from 1 April until 31 December Bait boats (sectorial quota) – from 1 March until 1 July</p> <p>Spain: Longliners more 24m: From first January until 31 May. Canary Islands: as from 20 January 2026</p> <p>Within the EUs Specific Control and Inspection Programme, inspection missions focus, among other things, on the verification of the respect of the fishing seasons.</p> <p>In accordance with paragraph 29 of Recommendation 25-04, EU may extend its fishing period for the affected vessels for the equivalent number of lost days up to a maximum of 10 days in case of wind speeds reaching 5 or more on the Beaufort scale. Assessment of the length of the bad weather conditions for the purpose of the extension will be based on VMS reports evidencing the day/s that the vessel/s have been inactive; in the</p> |

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|----------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | case of JFOs, evidence of concurrent inactivity of all the vessel members of the JFO is to be proven. |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | <p>According to Art. 20 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053, incidental catches of a maximum 5 % of E-BFT weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with a fork length between 75 and 115 cm are allowed for all catching vessels and traps fishing actively for E-BFT. These catches are subject to logbook entry, designated port and prior arrival notification requirements, and shall be deducted from the quota.</p> <p>Art. 15 of Regulation EU No 1380/2013⁹ establishes a general landing obligation across the EU. Where a derogation to this Regulation is granted in accordance with Article 15.2 and in line with international obligations, this is provided for by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98¹⁰.</p> <p>This measure is enforced through inspections at sea, inspections at landing and controls during transportation and at markets.</p> | Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Chapter III "Technical measures", Section 2 "Minimum conservation reference size, incidental catch, bycatch", Article 19 "Minimum conservation reference size" Article 20 "Incidental catches" and Annex I of the same Regulation "specific conditions applicable to the fisheries referred to in Article 19(2). | <p>For the implementation of the derogation to the Minimum size set up by Article 19(2) of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053, Article 27 of Council Regulation (EU) 2026/249 of 26 January and Annex ID, sets fishing, farming and fattening capacity limitations for E-BFT by fixing yearly the number of vessels per Member State concerned, including the maximum number of vessels allowed to fish actively for bluefin tuna between 8 kg/75 cm and 30 kg/115 in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea, as well as in the Adriatic for farming purposes.</p> <p>Compliance with capacity limitation provisions is monitored in the context of the Joint Deployment plan (JDP) (see 3.2.2.).</p> <p>A tolerance of a maximum of 7% weight for specimens with a minimum size of 6.4 or 66 cm caught for farming purposes by PS operating in the Adriatic Sea.</p> |

⁹ Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy.

¹⁰ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98 of 18 November 2014 on the implementation of the Union's international obligations, as referred to in Article 15(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, under the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, amended by Commission delegated Regulations (EU) 2016/171, (EU) 2017/1352, (EU) 2018/191 and (EU) 2019/2020.

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | <p>In accordance with ICCAT measures, the EU deducts all dead fish caught as bycatch from its quota. As every year, for EU Member States without a quota, the EU reserves part of its quota in Annex ID of Council Regulation (EU) 2026/249 of 26 January 2026.</p> <p>A quota of 495 t allocated to bycatch has been included in the EU fishing plan provided to ICCAT. This same quota might be adjusted over the year in case of need.</p> <p>Compliance with this measure is verified mainly through inspections at sea and inspections at landing.</p> | <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Chapter III "Technical measures", Article 19 "Minimum conservation reference size, Article 20 "Incidental catches below the minimum conservation reference size", incidental catch, bycatch", Article 21 "Bycatch".</p> | <p>A bycatch quota for accidental catches by EU Member States without a E-BFT quota is provided in Annex ID of Council Regulation (EU) 2026/249 of 26 January.</p> <p>Catching vessels not fishing actively E-BFT shall not retain on board E-BFT exceeding 20 % of the total catch by weight or number of specimens, compared to tuna and tuna-like species. For small-scale coastal vessels, the amount of bycatch may be calculated on an annual basis.</p> <p>Any bycatch in excess of the 20% of the total catches on board at the end of each fishing trip shall be released alive whenever possible.</p> <p>Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98 regulates under which circumstances E-BFT may be released or discarded within the EU Regulation (EU) 404/2011¹¹ provides that discards shall be recorded in the logbook.</p> <p>All bycatches discarded or retained on-board are counted against the quota.</p> |

¹¹ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 of 8 April 2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy.

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | <p>Recreational and sport fisheries are managed in different ways across the EU from a total ban of these activities to a catch and release or a maximum catch per vessel and day. In any case, dead catches from sport and recreational fisheries are counted against the quota. In this regard, a quota has been allocated for sport and recreational fisheries in the 2024 fishing plan.</p> <p>Furthermore, in the context of its Joint Deployment Plan, the EU conducts a series of inspections targeting sport and recreational activities, based on minimum benchmarks established based on a risk assessment procedure. Finally, in addition to these common activities, each EU Member State also conducts programs of inspections, targeting sport and recreational fisheries. The EU Member States programs are assessed through dedicated verification missions (on spot visits) and audits.</p> | <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Chapter IV "Recreational Fisheries", Article 23 "Sport and Recreational Fisheries", Article 24 "Specific conditions for recreational fisheries", Article 25. "Catch, tag and release".</p> | <p>Under Art. 24 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 each EU Member State is obliged to record catch data, including weight and length of each E-BFT caught during sport and recreational fishing and communicate the data for the preceding year to the European Commission by 30 June of each year. The European Commission forwards that information to the SCRS.</p> <p>According to Article 4(8) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/98, the limit of one fish per vessel per day shall apply for all recreational vessels.</p> |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | <p>Transshipments at sea are prohibited.</p> <p>Land inspections in the context of the Joint Deployment Plan also cover transshipments.</p> <p>There are sparse if any E-BFT transshipments in EU ports.</p> <p>In case of a transshipment in Port, full inspection coverage is mandatory in case of transshipment and there is continuous monitoring of authorised transshipment places.</p> | <p>Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Section 3 "Landings and transshipments", Article 35 "Transshipment".</p> | <p>Art. 35 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 prohibits all transshipments at sea in the Convention area. Fishing vessels can only tranship E-BFT catches in designated ports.</p> |

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | <p>All vessels are continually monitored by VMS and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will immediately be followed up with the EU Member State concerned. The software associated with VMS in the different EU Member States can set alarms and generating automatic warnings to monitor various aspects of interest. The VMS is monitored by the Fishing Monitoring Centres (FMC) of each EU Member State which are operational 24/7.</p> <p>EFCA also has its own system for monitoring vessel activity called IMS and its own FMC. The EFCA IMS is an operational fisheries control coordination tool using the integrated maritime data environment (Imdate) developed by the European Maritime Security Agency (EMSA). This tool provides a real-time maritime awareness operational picture fusing and correlating VMS, terrestrial automatic identification systems (AIS), satellite AIS, and long-range identification and tracking (LRIT) position reports together with visual sightings. The service provides a tool for behaviour analysis, risk assessment and classification of possible non-compliance targets to fisheries monitoring centres in EU Member States and drives the fisheries monitoring activity assessment and follow-up performed by the EFCA.</p> | <p>According to EU Control Regulation, Article 9 "Vessel Monitoring system", all EU vessels over 12 meters are equipped with a VMS. By Article 57 Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 this obligation was extended to all BFT tug and towing vessels irrespective of their length.</p> <p>Pursuant to Article 216(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Member States are bound to take necessary direct measures designed to ensure compliance with ICCAT Recommendations by their vessels and, as appropriate, their nationals.</p> | <p>EU also follows the additional provisions set up ICCAT Recommendation 18-10.</p> <p>VMS messages from the fishing vessels flying their flag are forwarded to the European Commission at least once every one hour for purse seine vessels and once every two hours for other vessels.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, all towing vessels used to transport live bluefin tuna shall, irrespective of their length, install and operate a VMS, in accordance with Rec. 18-10, and transmit messages at least once every hour.</p> <p>A specific IT system is in place to ensure the implementation of this obligation at EU level.</p> |

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|----------|---|---|--|---|
| | | Finally, the team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite VMS, monitors in real time the VMS submissions. To this end, a special IT system is in place. | | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | Masters of any fishing vessel holding a European fishing authorisation for E-BFT pelagic trawler, long liner, baitboat and traps as well as masters of towing vessels receive national observers according to measures set up by Regulation (EU) 2023/2053. | Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 Section 5 "Observer programmes", Article 38 "National observer programme". | <p>Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 "National observer programme" establishes the minimum levels of national observer coverage and describes the tasks to be performed by national observers.</p> <p>The minimum national observer coverages in vessels other than purse seiners are established in accordance with para 95 of Rec. 25-04. EU Member States also ensure a representative temporal and spatial presence of national observers on their vessels and traps to ensure that the European Commission receives adequate and appropriate data and information on catch, effort and other scientific and management aspects, taking into account characteristics of the fleets and fisheries. The implementation of these provisions is ensured through the Data Collection Framework.¹²</p> |

¹² Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008 (recast).

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|-----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | The EU ensures 100% coverage of all purse seine vessels and for all caging and harvesting activities. As in previous years, replies to all the cases highlighted by ROs will be duly provided to the ICCAT Secretariat. | Regulation (EU) 2023/2053, Article 39 and Annex VIII "ICCAT Regional Observer Programme". | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | <p>Regulation 2023/2053¹³ transposing ICCAT Recommendation 22-08, then amended by Regulation (EU) 2024/897, Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1389.</p> <p>Regulation 2023/2833¹⁴ implementing Recommendations 18-13 and 21-19 on ICCAT bluefin documentation programme, introducing the implementation of the bluefin tuna catch documentation scheme, Recommendation 10-11 on an electronic bluefin tuna catch document programme (eBCD) and Recommendation 22-16 on the application of the eBCD system.</p> <p>Regulation 2019/833¹⁵ partially transposes Recommendation 18-02 replaced by Recommendation 19-04.</p> | | |

¹³ Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627.

¹⁴ Regulation (EU) 2023/2833 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2023 establishing a catch documentation programme for bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) and repealing Regulation (EU) No. 640/2010.

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) 2019/833 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2115/2005 and (EC) No 1386/2007 (hereinafter: Regulation (EU) No. 2019/833).

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| | | <p>Regulation 2024/897¹⁶ amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.</p> <p>Council Regulation (EU) 2026/249 of 26 January¹⁷ fixing for 2026 the fishing opportunities for bluefin tuna as laid down by Rec. 25-04, paras 4 and 6.</p> | | |
| 11 | Tagging programme | In accordance with ICCAT provisions, the use of tags is authorised only upon request and when the accumulated catch amounts are within EU Member States' quotas or catch limits for each management year, including, where appropriate, individual quotas allocated to catching vessels or traps. A summary of any tagging programs implemented by EU Member States is sent to ICCAT. | Art. 6 of (EU) Reg. 2023/2833. | EU also follows the additional provisions set up at ICCAT level by para 5d of ICCAT Recommendation 22-16. |
| | Tagging programme (para 44) | The EU will be carrying out two tagging programs, where commercial/recreational vessels will conduct catch-and-release activities in the context of scientific projects of Marine Institutes | Denmark: The Danish Fisheries Act is the legal base for implementing the Common Fisheries Policy. According to § 10, the Minister is empowered to establish rules and measures to comply with | Sport or recreational vessels intending to conduct catch-and-release activities from 1 July to mid-November, in the context of scientific projects of Marine |

¹⁶ Regulation (EU) 2024/897 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, OJ L, 2024/897, 19.3.2024.

¹⁷ Council Regulation (EU) 2026/249 of 26 January 2026 fixing for 2026, 2027 and 2028 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2025/202.

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | <p>integrated. The activity is expected to run from 1 July to mid-November in the waters around Ireland, Skagerrak, Kattegat and the Sound.</p> <p>Denmark: The Danish “catch and release” fishery will be organised in the context of a scientific project run by the Danish research institute, DTU Aqua. The project is a continuation of similar projects carried out in the years 2017 to 2025. The project is part of DTU Aqua’s bluefin tuna research. Around 150 sports boats are anticipated to participate in the fishing activities during a 30-day period in August to October 2026 in Skagerrak, Kattegat and the Sound. If bad is common during the 4-week period, the fishing periods will be prolonged with a proportional time period.</p> <p>Ireland: IE Tuna Chart - Catch, Tag and Release Fishery. Number of vessels: max of 25 to be authorised. Fishing season activities are expected to take place from 1 July to 12 November</p> <p>The objective of these projects will be: 1) Migration patterns including possible return of individual tunas, 2) Detailed swimming and diving behaviour, 3) Movements over longer time including migration to spawning areas and,</p> | <p>Union fisheries legislation in Denmark and according to § 109 to establish measures and rules necessary to launch scientific research by public measures or authorised by the State. The Order on Experimental Fisheries stipulates the rules for studies, project etc. for scientific, environmental and stock enhancement purposes⁴, cf. §§ 10-12.</p> <p>Ireland: Fisheries (Consolidation) Act 1959 Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959 (irishstatutebook.ie) Bye-law 981 of 2020 Control of sea angling methods for certain species of fish 007db25e-64ad-4792-b25a-568987eea8be.pdf (www.gov.ie) SI No.352/2024 Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction (Bluefin Tuna) Regulations</p> | <p>Institutes integrated in scientific programmes shall be authorised. Fitting and operation of a simple VMS system will be a requirement of the authorisation.</p> <p>National Control Authorities would monitor the activities of these vessels both at sea and at landing to ensure compliance with National and EU Regulations. Tagging will be operated by staff of Marine Institutes or by recreational fishing vessel operators. The method to collect data is to tag a number of E-BFT with different types of tags: pop-up satellite tags, acoustic tags, accelerometer tags, camera tags and ICCAT’s ordinary tags (Floy tags). The tags are designed to collect a series of complementary data. Operators concerned will be trained in tagging.</p> <p>Any person authorised to target E-BFT in a catch-tag-release fishery shall not retain on board, tranship, transfer, tow, land, transport, store or sell E-BFT .</p> <p>Any E-BFT caught alive shall not be removed from the sea but, if so, shall be carefully handled and returned alive to the waters from which it was taken.</p> |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----|--|--|---|---|
| | | <p>4) Origin of stock and physiological condition by means of tissue and blood samples of bluefin tunas.</p> <p>Researchers will report about their activities in accordance the provisions applicable for this in ICCAT. The data collection will be consistent with the ICCAT GBYP research programme and will be communicated to and discussed with ICCAT as necessary.</p> | | <p>Any E-BFT that dies during capture must be recorded and discarded by returning immediately to the sea. The master of the vessel concerned shall immediately report to the flag authorities any discards of E-BFT in that trip.</p> |
| 12 | <p>Intra-farm transfers, inter-farm transfers and random controls in farms (para 198-202 and 211-221)</p> | <p>Traceability in farms is ensured in EU farms, including by way of sealing, with official seals provided by the authorities, of all cages containing E-BFT. Unsealing is possible in the presence of the farm competent authority. Transfers undertaken by the farm operators between farm cages of the same farm (“intra-farm transfer”) shall follow all the requirements of transfers as laid down in paragraph 198-202 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and hence require the necessary completion in the eBCD system. The presence of control authorities and the video recording of the transfer is mandatory for such transfers.</p> <p>In accordance with paragraph 212 of ICCAT Rec. 25-04, random controls shall take place in farms between the time of completion of the caging operations and the first caging of the following year Such controls shall involve the compulsory transfers of all fish from</p> | | <p>These elements are addressed in Joint Deployment Plan, in particular in Annex V of those Plans, which include harmonised procedures for all the EU.</p> |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------|
| | | <p>farm cage(s) to other empty farm cage(s) in order that the number of bluefin tuna can be counted by way of control video record(s). The number of controls shall be decided by the farm EU Member State authorities based on their risk assessment.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, the number of controls per year shall cover 10% of the total number of cages in each farm under each farm MS jurisdiction, always involving at least one control/cage and, rounded up where needed.</p> <p>If required, following the outcome of the risk analysis, the percentages referred to above can be increased as necessary.</p> <p>Transfers require the necessary completion in the eBCD system.</p> <p>Differences in number of E-BFT as a result of the random controls shall be duly investigated following the procedures in Recommendation 25-04 and in the EU joint deployment plan (JDP) and recorded in the eBCD system. In the event that differences in number of E-BFT are found to be in excess, the farm MS control authorities shall order a release order for the corresponding amount(s).</p> | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----|--|---|--|-------------|
| 13 | Carry over estimations in farms (para 203--210) | <p>In accordance with the measures laid down in paras 203-209 of ICCAT Rec. 25-04, the following procedures shall be followed for the implementation of carry-over assessments:</p> <p>Prior to the beginning of the next purse seiner and trap fishing seasons, all fish remaining in cages shall be transferred to other empty farm cages in order that they can be counted and estimates of weight be taken by way of stereoscopic cameras.</p> <p>The live E-BFT carried over is placed in separate cages in the farm, based on the catch year and JFO/same CPC trap of origin.</p> <p>Differences between the number of E-BFT individuals resulting from the carry-over assessment and the expected number after harvest is duly investigated and recorded in the eBCD system. In the case of excess number, the farm authority orders the release of the corresponding number of fish.</p> <p>The EU transmits to the ICCAT Secretariat the annual carry-over declaration in accordance with para 207 Rec. 25-04.</p> | | |
| 14 | Sectorial quota (para 15a) | <p>A total sectorial quota is allocated to a group of small-scale vessels with special fishing authorisations, valid for a defined season going from one to four months. Quota allocated considers the extensions of the fishing period(s).</p> | | |

| | ICCAT requirement (per Rec 25-04) | Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement | Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable) | Note |
|--|--|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>The fleets and gear types under the small-scale category are very heterogeneous in the EU. Each EU Member State is responsible for the monitoring of its fleet, including quota uptake, according to the EU Control Regulation in place and the national legislation.</p> <p>The quota uptake for these sectorial allocations is monitored following the national legislation.</p> | | |

1e. Designated ports (para 80)

Form CP24 has been submitted to the ICCAT Secretariat including the list of ports authorised in eleven EU Member States, including EU Member States which do not have E-BFT targeted fisheries, that allow for the landing of E-BFT bycatch (see **Annex 1**).

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The EU Capacity management plan is detailed below under section 7 – Capacity Table.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

The farming management plan for the EU is detailed below. This farming plan includes preliminary figures based on expected quota allocation between EU Members States Fishing Operations into farms and expected imports from other CPCs.

Hereby, the EU reserves its right to submit, if appropriate, revised farming management plans to the Secretariat by 1 June 2026, in accordance to paragraph 20 of Recommendation 25-04 by ICCAT establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

| | <i>Wild input (t)</i> 2026 |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Spain | 10,550 |
| Croatia | 2,947.00 |
| Malta | 8,786.00 |
| Portugal | 626.00 |
| Italy | 5,197.90 |
| Total EU | 28,106.90 |

| <i>Farm Name</i> | <i>ICCAT FFB</i> | <i>Geographical coordinates</i> | | <i>Wild Input (t)</i> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| Tuna Graso | ATEU1ESP00001 | N 37°45,95' W 00°39,49' | | 1500.00 |
| Caladeros del Mediterráneo | ATEU1ESP00003 | A:37°34'30.40"N 00°49'95.30"W B:37°34'06.60"N 00°50'11.40"W C:67°34'25.80"N 00°50'56.20"W D:37°34'49.60"N 00°50'40.10"W | | 1375.00 |
| Ensenada de Barbate | ATEU1ESP00004 | 36°09'13"N 5°55'45" W | | 1000.00 |
| Balfegó Tuna, S.L. | ATEU1ESP00005 | A:40° 51,5'N 00° 51,0'E B:40° 51,95'N 00° 51,17'E C:40° 51,57'N 00° 51,5'E D:40° 51,9'N 00° 51,61'E | | 4400.00 |
| Caladeros del Mediterraneo | ATEU1ESP00011 | 37°34'06,341"N; 0°52'39,300"W 37°33'59,998"N; 0°53'12,358"W 37°33'44,272"N; 0°53'12,802"W 37°33'43,683"N; 0°52'39,943"W | | 825.00 |
| ITSAS balfegó | ATEU1ESP00018 | A:43°22,337'N 02°10,962'W B:43°22,564'N 02°10,353'W C:43°22,166'N 02°10,080'W D:43°21,953'N 02°10,706'W | | 200.00 |
| Piscifactorias del Mediterraneo 2 | ATEU1ESP00019 | A 37° 53,064' N 0° 41,780' W B 37° 52,987' N 0° 41,453' W C 37° 52,520' N 0° 41,627' W D 37° 52,597' N 0° 41,954' W | | 70 |
| Mediterraneo | ATEU1ESP00014 | A: 37° 49',6 N 000° 40',7 W C: 37° 49',6 N 000° 40',4W B: 37° 49',0 N 000° 40',5 W D: 37° 49',0 N 000° 41',0 W" | | 1000.00 |
| Jadran Tuna D.O.O. | ATEU1HRV00008 | y 5540056,00 5540410,00 5539883,45 5540237,52 | x 854937,00 4854333,00 4854835,87 4854231,75 | 707.969 |
| Pelagos Net Farma D.O.O. | ATEU1HRV00011 | y 5521777,07 5522396,80 5522324,84 5521705,39 | x 4865868,10 4865705,51 4865434,70 4865597,28 | 683.298 |
| Sardina D.O.O. | ATEU1HRV00006 | y 5620531 5620851,14 5620663,29 5620343,141 | x 4795026,75 4794700 4794518,74 4794846,83 | 693.735 |
| Kali Tuna D.O.O. | ATEU1HRV00012 | y 5514248,71 5514346,2201 5514401,68 5514499,2376 | x 4877864,54 4877750,5522 4877993,40 4877879,4528 | 567.298 |
| | | 5515214,66 5514694,4002 5515061,69 5514541,3353 | 4877043,84 4877651,5991 4876914,98 4877522,6578 | |
| | | 5517392,279 5517553,927 5517303,667 5517142,018 | 4868049,255 4867931,485 4867587,981 4867705,751 | |
| | | 5517801,279 5517962,927 5517712,667 5517551,018 | 4867662,255 4867544,485 4867200,981 4867318,751 | |

| <i>Farm Name</i> | <i>ICCAT FFB</i> | <i>Geographical coordinates</i> | | <i>Wild Input (t)</i> |
|------------------------------|------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| | | 5493440,00 5493498,70 5494068,42 5494006,73 | 4892040,00 4892120,96 4891710,08 4891629,12 | |
| | | 5494273,27 5494331,97 5494898,70 5494840,00 5509116 5509264 5508712 5508860 | 4891535,88 4891516,84 4891105,96 4891025,00 4875654 4875520 4875211 4875076 | |
| MFF Ltd. | ATEU1MLT00004 | 35.8785 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8784 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8640 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8640 (N) 14.6430 (E) | | 2,142.927 |
| Fish & Fish | ATEUMLT00003 | 35.8640 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8640 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8496 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8495 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8496 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8496 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8352 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8352 (N) 14.6430 (E) | | 2,142.27 |
| Mare Blu | ATEUMLT00008 | 35.8930 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8930 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8784 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8785 (N) 14.6430 (E) 35.8930 (N) 14.6600 (E) 35.8930 (N) 14.6770 (E) 35.8785 (N) 14.6770 (E) 35.8784 (N) 14.6600 (E) | | 2,142.927 |
| MML | ATEUMLT00002 | 35.58.33 (N) 14.24.48 (E) 35.58.45 (N) 14.24.54 (E) 35.58.34 (N) 14.25.43 (E) 35.58.19 (N) 14.25.38 (E) | | 1,142.219 |
| AJD | ATEUMLT00001 | 35.58.33 (N) 14.24.48 (E) 35.58.45 (N) 14.24.54 (E) 35.58.34 (N) 14.25.43 (E) 35.58.19 (N) 14.25.38 (E) | | 1,215.00 |
| Tuniraise | ATEU1PRT00002 | N 37° 01.006' W 07° 42.615' N 37° 00.975' W 07° 42.607' N 37° 01.048' W 07° 42.500' N 37° 01.024' W 07° 42.485' | | 313.00 |
| Barril | ATEU1PRT00003 | Latitude N 37°02'21.4"; Longitude W 07°39'51.4" | | 313.00 |
| La Favorita Snc. | ATEU1ITA00015 | PUNTO 1: LAT: 40°47'10.2209" N LONG: 14°19'57.2993" E PUNTO 2: LAT: 40°47'14.7861" N LONG: 14°20'03.9480" E PUNTO 3: LAT: 40°47'19.8395" N LONG: 14°19'57.9417" E PUNTO 4: LAT: 40°47'15.2744" N LONG: 14°19'51.2930" E | | 0 |
| Orizon Maritimas Italia SARL | ATEU1ITA00020 | PUNTO 1: LAT: 37°55'52" N - LONG: 15°42'57" E PUNTO 2: LAT: 37°55'48" N - LONG: 15°43'07" E PUNTO 3: LAT: 37°55'43" N - LONG: 15°43'03" E PUNTO 4: LAT: 37°55'47" N - LONG: 15°42'54" E | | 1000.00 |

| <i>Farm Name</i> | <i>ICCAT FFB</i> | <i>Geographical coordinates</i> | <i>Wild Input (t)</i> |
|--|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Tonnare Sulcitane S.R.L. | ATEU1ITA00021 | PUNTO 1: LAT: 39°16'45,90" N LONG: 008°20'48,00" E PUNTO 2: LAT: 39°16'51,62" N LONG: 008°20'52,35" E PUNTO 3: LAT: 39°16'55,20" N LONG: 008°20'44,40" E PUNTO 4: LAT: 39°16'49,60" N LONG: 008°20'39,90" E | 110.00 |
| Consorzio Operatori Del Tonno Del Mediterraneo | ATEU1ITA00006 | PUNTO 1: LAT: 39°57,903' N LONG: 15°21,295' E PUNTO 2: LAT: 39°57,903' N LONG: 15°21,045' E PUNTO 3: LAT: 39°58,000' N LONG: 15°21,295' E PUNTO 4: LAT: 39°58,000' N LONG: 15°21,045' E | 0 |
| DG PESCA 1 | ATEU1ITA00022 | ROMA (RM) | 1043.50 |
| DG PESCA 2 | ATEU1ITA00023 | ROMA (RM) | 1043.50 |
| DG PESCA 3 | ATEU1ITA00024 | ROMA (RM) | 1000.0 |
| DG PESCA 4 | ATEU1ITA00025 | ROMA (RM) | 1000.9 |

Annual aquaculture plan (para 10e in [Rec. 25-04](#) in accordance with [Rec. 24-07](#)), as applicable

Not applicable.

Monitoring, control and inspection plan

a. CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

Under the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), the primary responsibility for control and enforcement lays with the EU Member State authorities.

The European Commission and EFCA coordinate with the EU Member States to ensure that the provisions laid down by ICCAT are reflected in EU and EU Member States' law and fully enforced. The tools in place are explained below.

i. Evaluation of the implementation by the Member States of the fisheries rules in force

Under the EU Common Fisheries Policy, one of the tasks of the European Commission is to ensure that EU Member States comply with the legal obligations set out in the EU framework, including those stemming from ICCAT rules.

The European Commission carries out this monitoring mainly by means of three tools: verifications, autonomous inspections and audits. A specific unit in the Directorate of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) carries out these checks on a regular basis. This supervision by the European Commission of the control activity exercised by the member states, which is provided for in the Title X, EU Control Regulation, "Evaluation and Control by the Commission", is an additional layer that helps to ensure effective control. In this regard, if the European Commission considers that irregularities have occurred in the implementation of the rules, it follows up on the shortcomings found using different tools such as administrative inquiries, EU pilots or actions plans. If the deficiencies are not corrected by the EU Member State authorities, the European Commission may open infringement proceedings against the EU Member State.

Although the inspection plan is still subject to change in response to the specificities of the 2026 fishing campaign, the European Commission inspectors will be very active in 2026.

ii. Vessel monitoring system and Operations team

All vessels will be continually monitored by Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and any interruption in the transmission of VMS data will be immediately followed up with the EU Member State concerned.

EU Member States continuously monitor the activity of their fleets, through their FMC, that are operational 24/7.

The team responsible within the European Commission for catch reporting and satellite VMS will monitor in real time the VMS submissions, addressing potential failures in the system, and undertake extensive cross-checks to avoid any potential quota overshoot.

b. Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

The ICCAT Scheme of joint international inspection as laid down by paras 232-235 and Annex 7 of Rec. 25-04 will be fully implemented by the EU and coordinated by EFCA. EFCA will also coordinate any agreed voluntary exchange of inspection personnel with other CPCs in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 19-17.

i. Specific Control and Inspection Programme

Working under the framework of the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspection and building on experiences from recent years, the EU has currently in place a Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP)¹⁸ to monitor and enforce the implementation of the bluefin tuna management and swordfish recovery plans. This programme is a joint initiative bringing together the resources of the European Commission, EFCA and EU Member States involved in the fishery.

ii. Joint Deployment Plan (JDP) for the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean

In cooperation with the European Commission and EU Member States, EFCA adopts annually a Joint Deployment Plan (JDP), which includes a strategy for control of bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, as well as Mediterranean swordfish and albacore. This Joint Deployment plan (JDP) brings the Specific Control and Inspection Programme into effect and covers all stages of the market chain as well as controls at sea, on land, traps and farms.

EFCA also coordinates the implementation of the joint international scheme of inspection (JIS) for bluefin tuna and swordfish as provided for under ICCAT conservation and management measures. Joint campaigns are planned, implemented and evaluated each year under the framework of the Mediterranean JDP in close cooperation with the European Commission, the Member State concerned and the EFCA.

Under the JDP, EFCA will coordinate in 2026 joint inspections and control activities in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean involving several fishery patrol vessels and aircrafts. EFCA also has three of its own chartered offshore fisheries patrol vessels as well as an aerial surveillance capacity. Whilst the operational strategies and precise areas of operation remain confidential, the general areas covered by the 2026 JDP will be the eastern Atlantic (ICES Areas VII, VIII, IX X and COPACE 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0) and the Mediterranean (Western, Central and Eastern). The control operations will particularly focus on, but are not restricted to purse seiners, towing vessels, longliners and farming activities. In 2026, the EU will conduct a minimum of 551 days of control and inspection activities at sea and 35 overall flights of air surveillance. A JDP Steering Group, composed by representatives of EFCA, the European Commission and EU Member States, guides the overall strategy of inspection activities and supervises the JDP implementation. The strategy and control priorities are based on an annual risk assessment carried out by EU Member States under the coordination of EFCA.

All cases of potential non-compliance will be forwarded to the flag State of the vessel/operator concerned and to ICCAT Secretariat where required in accordance with the procedures laid down in the respective ICCAT recommendations. Follow-up actions in the event a possible infringement is detected, will be reported by the European Commission to the ICCAT Secretariat for its publication in accordance with Appendix to Annex 7 of the Recommendation 25-04.

¹⁸ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018 establishing specific control and inspection programmes for certain fisheries.

EFCA is also cooperating with EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and FRONTEX (European Border and Coast Guard Agency), each within its mandate, to support the national authorities carrying coast guard functions, by providing services, information, equipment and training as well as by coordinating multipurpose operations. Among the tools used to support these multipurpose operations is the IMS (Integrated Maritime System) service, an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time fusion of VMS, Automatic Identification System (AIS) and other maritime related data.

Finally, EFCA also promote operational cooperation with other ICCAT Contracting Parties such as the exchange of inspectors and training activities, as well as training workshops when requested to ensure a common interpretation and the full implementation of inspection and control measures provided for by the ICCAT.

iii. EU Member States annual Inspection plans

Under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2053, each EU Member State concerned has developed and submitted a 2026 ICCAT Inspection plan as part of its National Control Action programme for bluefin tuna. These are extensive programmes containing the resources and inspection strategies that EU Member States commit to implement within their jurisdiction. These programmes, as required under the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (see above).

These National Programmes are in full accordance with the conservation and management measures adopted in Recommendation 25-04. The EU authorities will control 100% of caging operations, harvesting to processing vessels, intra-farm and inter-farm transfers and carry-over assessments, as well as to establish a level of random controls (with a minimum of 10% of the number of cages in each farm) based on risk assessment to ensure proper reporting and traceability of bluefin tuna in farms.

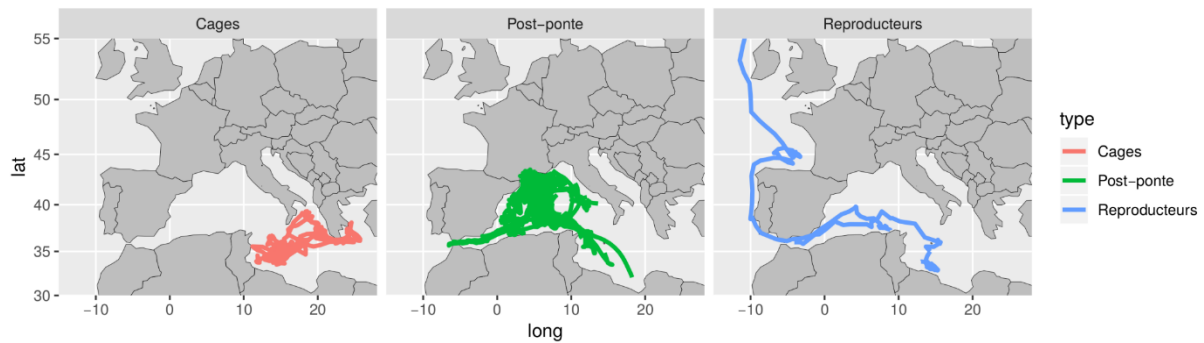
4. Others

a. Research activities

Two main research activities are carried out by French Institute for Ocean Science (Ifremer) on Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea.

The first activity is the aerial survey in the Gulf of Lions. This activity has been initiated in 2000 and provides a key fisheries-independent abundance index for young Bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean. This is the only index of this kind, and it is therefore very valuable to ICCAT for management purpose. The index has been used for the 2017 assessment of the eastern stock. Current work focus on improving the observation through the development of a system for image acquisition and analysis and integrating the impacts of environmental effects on the vertical and horizontal movements of tuna and on the abundance index. The survey could also be used for marine mammals. Papers are presented every year at the SCRS.

The second activity focuses on observing migrations of bluefin tuna in relation to its physiology. This is done through the development of a new electronic tag, embarking a sensor aiming at capturing fish growth and indirectly reproduction (POPSTAR project funded by Ifremer). The project aims also at tagging bluefin tuna caught by purse seiners. The Purse seiner fishery has been representing more than 50% of the E-BFT catch in the past 10 years, yet hardly any tagging has been done on this segment. A successful tagging operation was carried out from a purse-seiner in June 2018 and 2019, showing contrasting migration patterns to those obtained from fish tagged in the Northwest Mediterranean. These operations through different projects (POPSTAR, FISHNCHIP and PROMPT) are meant to be a key contribution to applied research and ICCAT, as it will help to document and understand migrations and how they are affected by the environment (e.g., for the MSE).



Another project (PROMPT) is pursuing work on E-BFT migrations through tagging and experimental work. The tagging planned in the project aims at pursuing the work initiated by the POPSTAR and FishNchip projects described above and understanding the effects of the physical environment on migrations. The experimental work will serve to estimate energetic requirements of E-BFT along its migrations.

A close working relationship has been set up between Ifremer, French purse seiners, scientists from a Maltese company (AquaBioTech Ltd, which has also been heavily involved in bluefin tuna research) and a Maltese fattening farm. This has created a unique and fruitful set-up to develop research and experiments on bluefin tuna.

In addition to the descriptive approach based on tagging, a mechanistic approach to migration has been pursued through the study of fish physiology. Experiments were conducted in Malta and Spain. In Malta, caged tunas were equipped for one year with heart rate sensors and acoustic transmitters, making it possible in 2023 to collect data on group behaviour and changes in physiological parameters in relation to water temperature. The MARATHON project, submitted in 2024, is an electronic tagging campaign for Atlantic bluefin tuna following on from previous projects. Its aim is to deploy electronic tags to document the long-term migratory dynamics of Atlantic bluefin tuna.

Building on previous initiatives (SELPAL and REPAST), several projects have been developed around bycatch in the longline fishery targeting Atlantic bluefin tuna in the Gulf of Lion. The RAYVIVAL project aims to estimate the survival rate of rays, the main species incidentally caught by this fishery, using survival tags. The POBLEU project seeks to increase observer coverage on board this fishery. The SMARTSNAP project aims to develop an electronic device to automatically detect, and release species incidentally caught by longliners. In 2023, continuing this momentum, the SMARTSNAP2 project was funded to further pursue this work. In addition, within the framework of the PROTECTMED and LIFE EMM projects, tagging operations will be carried out to estimate post-release survival of catches from the French Mediterranean bluefin tuna longline fishery across a wide range of species, including blue shark and ocean sunfish.

The Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA) will continue to lead the Acoustic tagging within GBYP in the tuna traps, which started in 2024, with analysis of detections and further tagging and installation of receivers, depending on budget availability. Regarding the genetic sampling for an epigenetic clock, the Portuguese tuna traps have been selected as one of the primary locations for sampling of adults in a well-mixed area. IPMA has confirmed the availability to participate in sampling if the project should move forward in 2026.

Croatia has allocated 1 ton of BFT for scientific purposes and will carry out research activities focused on:

- the analysis of feeding ecology and trophic relationships of Atlantic bluefin tuna using DNA metabarcoding of stomach contents,
- research on spatio-temporal patterns of feeding and reproduction of Atlantic bluefin tuna in the Adriatic Sea,
- morphometric comparison of juvenile tuna, including the development and application of methods for the reliable discrimination of juvenile *Thunnus thynnus* from closely related species.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|---|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) ¹⁹ | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.7 | 33 | 38 | 37 | 31 | 30 | 31 | 31 | 2,332 | 2685 | 2616 | 2192 | 2192 | 2191 | 2190 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 73 | 91 | 17 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 3,634 | 4530 | 846 | 1742 | 1742 | 1743 | 1743 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 39 | 112 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1,314 | 3772 | 135 | 135 | 135 | 231 | 168 |
| Purse seine total fleet²⁰ | | 145 | 241 | 58 | 70 | 70 | 71 | 71 | 7,279 | 10987 | 3597 | 4069 | 4069 | 4164 | 4101 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 13 | 7 | 12 | 4 | 24 | 5 | 4 | 17.0 | 40 | 68 | 23 | 23 | 28 | 23 |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 232 | 329 | 127 | 183 | 97 | 174 | 178 | 983 | 1645 | 635 | 778 | 885 | 786 | 890 |
| Total longline fleet | | 245 | 336 | 139 | 187 | 121 | 179 | 182 | 1,000 | 1685 | 703 | 800 | 908 | 814 | 913 |
| Baitboat ²¹ | 19.8 | 61 | 68 | 88 | 74 | 58 | 74 | 72 | 1,209 | 1343 | 1742 | 1462 | 1465 | 1462 | 1422 |
| Handline | 5 | 19 | 101 | 46 | 61 | 72 | 60 | 88 | 60 | 505 | 230 | 300 | 360 | 300 | 440 |
| Trawler | 10 | 108 | 160 | 57 | 57 | 56 | 56 | 57 | 1,080 | 1600 | 570 | 570 | 560 | 560 | 570 |
| Trap | 130 | 14 | 15 | 12 | 13 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 1,820 | 1950 | 1560 | 1690 | 1690 | 1300 | 1300 |
| Small coastal vessels ²² | N/A | 0 | | | 1340 | 173 | 830 | 1192 | | | | 5221 | 4131 | 3663 | 4056 |
| Other (artisanal) | 5 | 87 | 253 | 715 | 361 | 1,259 | 631 | 222 | 435 | 1265 | 3575 | 570 | 2530 | 1450 | 1110 |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity* | | 289 | 1174 | 1115 | 2163 | 1818 | 1911 | 1894 | 4604 | 19335 | 11977 | 14681 | 15163 | 13712 | 13912 |
| Initial Quota^{23*} | | | | | | | | | 12883 | 17044 | 15850 | 21503 | 21503 | 21503 | 25164 |

¹⁹ Anon. 2010. – Report for Biennial Period, 2008-09. Part II. Vol. 2.

²⁰ Ref year 2018. Paras 16-18 of Rec. 25-04.

²¹ Ref year 2006. Para 1 of Annex 1 of Rec. 25-04.

²² Ref year 2008. Para 1 of Annex 1 of Rec. 25-04.

²³ "Initial quota" refers to the quota allocated to a CPC under the relevant Recommendation.

INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2 – HYBRID / MADRID, MARCH 2026

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 2.89% | 4.6% | 2% | 1,92% |
| Allocation to bycatch* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 483 |
| Adjusted quota (if applicable) ^{24*} | | | | | | | | | | 16211 | 15850 | 20882 | 21414 | 20917 | 26240 ²⁵ |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable)* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable)* | | | | | | | | | | | | 150 | 123 | 116 | 134 |
| Available quota ^{26*} | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 25610 |
| Under/ overcapacity ^{27*} | | | | | | | | | | 3124 | -3873 | -6201 | -5161 | -7205 | -11698 |

*Expressed in tons.

²⁴ Adjusted quota” is calculated as the “Initial quota” plus or minus any transfers the CPC receives or makes, plus any carryover from the previous year, minus any potential overharvest [AQ = IQ ± Transfers + Carryover - Overharvest].

²⁵ The maximum carry-over allowed as modified by Recommendation 25-04 (20%) has not been yet implemented into EU law. The EU will send a revised EU fishing plan taking into consideration this new limit once it is effective for EU Member States.

²⁶ “Available quota” is calculated as the “Adjusted quota” minus any allocations for bycatch, scientific research, and allowances for sport and recreational fisheries [AvQ = AQ – (bycatch + scientific research + sport/recreational fisheries allowances)].

²⁷ “Under/overcapacity” is calculated by subtracting the “Available quota” from the “Total fleet/fishing capacity”. If the calculated figure is greater than 0, it indicates overcapacity. If the figure is less than 0, it indicates undercapacity and should be expressed with a minus sign (-) [UC/OC = Total fleet/fishing capacity – AvQ]. For example, if the capacity is 1,000 and the available quota is 1,050, write “-50” in “Under/overcapacity”.

List of designated ports

| Port Name | MS |
|-------------------------|------------|
| BANJOLE – RIBARSKA LUKA | EU-Croatia |
| BIOGRAD – GLAVNI MUL | EU-Croatia |
| BOL | EU-Croatia |
| BRAC-UVALA MASLINOVA | EU-Croatia |
| BRIŽINE – RIBARSKA LUKA | EU-Croatia |
| BRNA | EU-Croatia |
| BUNARINA | EU-Croatia |
| CAVTAT | EU-Croatia |
| CRES | EU-Croatia |
| CRIKVENICA-PAZDEHOVA | EU-Croatia |
| DUBROVNIK – GRUŽ | EU-Croatia |
| FAŽANA | EU-Croatia |
| FORTICA | EU-Croatia |
| FUNTANA | EU-Croatia |
| GAT CAĐAVICA | EU-Croatia |
| HVAR | EU-Croatia |
| HVAR – VIRA | EU-Croatia |
| ILOVIK | EU-Croatia |
| JABLANAC | EU-Croatia |
| JELSA | EU-Croatia |
| JEZERA | EU-Croatia |
| KALI – BATALAŽA | EU-Croatia |
| KALI – VELA LAMJANA | EU-Croatia |
| KARIGADOR | EU-Croatia |
| KAŠTEL GOMILICA | EU-Croatia |
| KAŠTEL KAMBELOVAC | EU-Croatia |
| KAŠTEL STARI | EU-Croatia |
| KAŠTEL SUCURAC | EU-Croatia |
| KLENOVICA | EU-Croatia |
| KOMIŽA | EU-Croatia |
| KRALJEVICA | EU-Croatia |
| KRILA JESENICE | EU-Croatia |
| KRK | EU-Croatia |
| KRNICA | EU-Croatia |
| KUKLJICA – RIBARSKI GAT | EU-Croatia |
| LIŽNJAN – KUJE | EU-Croatia |
| LOVIŠTE | EU-Croatia |
| LUMBARDA | EU-Croatia |
| MAKARSKA | EU-Croatia |
| MALI LOŠINJ | EU-Croatia |
| MALINSKA | EU-Croatia |
| MANDRE | EU-Croatia |

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| MARTINSKA | EU-Croatia |
| MEDULIN | EU-Croatia |
| MILNA | EU-Croatia |
| MOLAT – LUCINA | EU-Croatia |
| MOLUNAT | EU-Croatia |
| MOŠCENICKA DRAGA | EU-Croatia |
| MURTER | EU-Croatia |
| NOVALJA | EU-Croatia |
| NOVIGRAD | EU-Croatia |
| NOVIGRAD – PORPORELA | EU-Croatia |
| OBALA ULJANIK | EU-Croatia |
| OMIŠ | EU-Croatia |
| OMIŠALJ | EU-Croatia |
| OREBIC | EU-Croatia |
| OSOR | EU-Croatia |
| PLOCE | EU-Croatia |
| PLOMIN | EU-Croatia |
| PODGORA | EU-Croatia |
| PODVRŠKE | EU-Croatia |
| PORAT | EU-Croatia |
| POREC | EU-Croatia |
| PRAPRATNO | EU-Croatia |
| PRIMOŠTEN | EU-Croatia |
| PRVIC – ŠEPURINE | EU-Croatia |
| PUCIŠCA | EU-Croatia |
| PULA – KORIJEN GATA RIJEKA | EU-Croatia |
| PUNAT | EU-Croatia |
| RAB | EU-Croatia |
| RABAC | EU-Croatia |
| RIJEKA – DIO PUTNICKE LUKE | EU-Croatia |
| RIJEKA-LUKA RIJEKA | EU-Croatia |
| ROGOZNICA | EU-Croatia |
| ROVINJ – VALDIBORA | EU-Croatia |
| SALI – MARDEŠIC | EU-Croatia |
| SANTA MARINA | EU-Croatia |
| SAVUDRIJA | EU-Croatia |
| SEGET DONJI | EU-Croatia |
| SENJ | EU-Croatia |
| SILBA – PORAT | EU-Croatia |
| SLANO | EU-Croatia |
| SPLIT-SJEVERNA LUKA | EU-Croatia |
| STARI GRAD | EU-Croatia |
| STOBREC | EU-Croatia |
| SUCURAJ | EU-Croatia |
| SUKOŠAN | EU-Croatia |
| SUMARTIN | EU-Croatia |

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|---------------------------|------------|
| SUPETAR | EU-Croatia |
| SUSTJEPAN | EU-Croatia |
| SVETA FUSKA | EU-Croatia |
| SVETI MARTIN | EU-Croatia |
| TKON | EU-Croatia |
| TRIBUNJ | EU-Croatia |
| TROGIR – TRAJEKTNA RAMPA | EU-Croatia |
| TRPANJ | EU-Croatia |
| TRSTENIK | EU-Croatia |
| TURANJ | EU-Croatia |
| UBLI – OPERATIVNA OBALA | EU-Croatia |
| UMAG | EU-Croatia |
| UVALA PALEŠ | EU-Croatia |
| UVALA PELEŠ | EU-Croatia |
| UVALA VOZ | EU-Croatia |
| VELA LUKA | EU-Croatia |
| VIGANJ | EU-Croatia |
| VINIŠĆE | EU-Croatia |
| VIR | EU-Croatia |
| VIS | EU-Croatia |
| VODICE | EU-Croatia |
| VRBOVSKA | EU-Croatia |
| VRSAR | EU-Croatia |
| ZADAR – GAŽENICA | EU-Croatia |
| ZADAR – KOD MOSTA | EU-Croatia |
| ZAOSTROG | EU-Croatia |
| ŠIBENIK – GAT SV. PETRA | EU-Croatia |
| ŠIMUNI | EU-Croatia |
| ŽUNAC | EU-Croatia |
| AYIA NAPA FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| LARNACA | EU-Cyprus |
| LARNACA FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| LATSI FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| LIMASSOL NEW PORT | EU-Cyprus |
| LIMASSOL OLD PORT | EU-Cyprus |
| PAFOS FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| PARALIMNI FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| ZYGI FISHING SHELTER | EU-Cyprus |
| BØNNERUP | EU-Denmark |
| GILLELEJE | EU-Denmark |
| GRENÅ | EU-Denmark |
| HANSTHOLM | EU-Denmark |
| HELSINGØR | EU-Denmark |
| HIRTSHALS | EU-Denmark |
| HVIDE SANDE | EU-Denmark |
| SKAGEN | EU-Denmark |

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| THYBORØN | EU-Denmark |
| A CORUÑA | EU-España |
| ADRA | EU-España |
| AGAETE | EU-España |
| AGUILAS | EU-España |
| ALCUDIA | EU-España |
| ALGECIRAS | EU-España |
| ALICANTE | EU-España |
| AMPOLLA | EU-España |
| ANDRATX | EU-España |
| ARENYS DE MAR | EU-España |
| ARGUINEGUIN | EU-España |
| ARRECIFE DE LANZAROTE | EU-España |
| AVILES | EU-España |
| AZOHIA | EU-España |
| BADALONA | EU-España |
| BARBATE | EU-España |
| BARCELONA | EU-España |
| BENICARLO | EU-España |
| BERMEO | EU-España |
| BLANES | EU-España |
| BURELA | EU-España |
| BURRIANA | EU-España |
| CABO PALOS | EU-España |
| CADIZ | EU-España |
| CALA BONA | EU-España |
| CALA RATJADA | EU-España |
| CALETA DE VELEZ | EU-España |
| CALPE | EU-España |
| CAMBRILS | EU-España |
| CARBONERAS | EU-España |
| CARTAGENA | EU-España |
| CASAS DE ALCANAR | EU-España |
| CASTELLON | EU-España |
| CELEIRO | EU-España |
| CIUDADELA | EU-España |
| COLINDRES | EU-España |
| COLONIA SAN JORGE | EU-España |
| CONIL | EU-España |
| CORRALEJO | EU-España |
| CULLERA | EU-España |
| ESTEPONA | EU-España |
| FORMENTERA (CALA SAVINA) | EU-España |
| FORNELLS | EU-España |
| FUENGIROLA | EU-España |
| GANDIA | EU-España |

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| GIJON | EU-España |
| GRAN TARAJAL | EU-España |
| GUETARIA | EU-España |
| HONDARRIBIA | EU-España |
| HUELVA | EU-España |
| IBIZA | EU-España |
| JAVEA | EU-España |
| L'AMETLLA DE MAR | EU-España |
| LA ESCALA | EU-España |
| LA RESTINGA | EU-España |
| LA TIÑOSA - PUERTO DEL CARMEN | EU-España |
| LAREDO | EU-España |
| LAS PALMAS | EU-España |
| LLANSA | EU-España |
| LOS CRISTIANOS | EU-España |
| L'ESTARTIT | EU-España |
| MAHON | EU-España |
| MARBELLA | EU-España |
| MAZARRON | EU-España |
| MOGAN | EU-España |
| MORRO JABLE | EU-España |
| MOTRIL | EU-España |
| ONDARROA | EU-España |
| ORZOLA | EU-España |
| PALAMOS | EU-España |
| PALMA DE MALLORCA | EU-España |
| PASAJES | EU-España |
| PEÑISCOLA | EU-España |
| PLAYA DE SANTIAGO (GOMERA) | EU-España |
| PLAYA SAN JUAN - GUIA ISORA | EU-España |
| POLLENSA | EU-España |
| PORT DE LA SELVA | EU-España |
| PORTO COLOM | EU-España |
| PUERTO DEL ROSARIO | EU-España |
| ROQUETAS DE MAR | EU-España |
| ROSAS | EU-España |
| S'ESTANYOL DE MIGJORN | EU-España |
| SAN ANTONI DE PORTMANY | EU-España |
| SAN CARLOS DE LA RAPITA | EU-España |
| SAN FELIU DE GUIXOLS | EU-España |
| SAN PEDRO DEL PINATAR | EU-España |
| SAN VICENTE DE LA BARQUERA | EU-España |
| SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA | EU-España |
| SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE | EU-España |
| SANTA POLA | EU-España |
| SANTANDER | EU-España |

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|----------------------|-----------|
| SANTAÑI | EU-España |
| SANTOÑA | EU-España |
| SOLLER | EU-España |
| TALIARTE - MELENARA | EU-España |
| TARIFA | EU-España |
| TARRAGONA | EU-España |
| TAZACORTE | EU-España |
| TORREDEMBARRA | EU-España |
| TORREVIEJA | EU-España |
| VALLE GRAN REY | EU-España |
| VIGO | EU-España |
| VILANOVA I LA GELTRU | EU-España |
| VILLAJYOSA | EU-España |
| VINAROZ | EU-España |
| AGDE | EU-France |
| AJACCIO | EU-France |
| ARCACHON | EU-France |
| ARGELÈS-SUR-MER | EU-France |
| AUDIERNE | EU-France |
| BASTIA | EU-France |
| BAYONNE | EU-France |
| BONIFACIO | EU-France |
| BOULOGNE SUR MER | EU-France |
| CAGNES SUR MER | EU-France |
| CALVI | EU-France |
| CANNES | EU-France |
| CARGESE | EU-France |
| CARNON | EU-France |
| CARRY-LE-ROUET | EU-France |
| CENTURI | EU-France |
| CHERBOURG | EU-France |
| COGOLIN | EU-France |
| CONCARNEAU | EU-France |
| DOUARNENEZ | EU-France |
| ERQUY | EU-France |
| FRONTIGNAN PLAG | EU-France |
| GALÉRIA | EU-France |
| GRANVILLE | EU-France |
| GRAU-DU-ROI | EU-France |
| GRUISSAN | EU-France |
| HYÈRES | EU-France |
| HYÈRES | EU-France |
| L'ÎLE-ROUSSE | EU-France |
| LA CIOTAT | EU-France |
| LA COTINIÈRE | EU-France |
| LA ROCHELLE | EU-France |

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| LA TURBALLE | EU-France |
| LE BARCARÈS | EU-France |
| LE CONQUET | EU-France |
| LE GUILVINEC | EU-France |
| LE LAVANDOU | EU-France |
| LES SABLES D'OLONNE | EU-France |
| LES SAINTES-MARIES -DE-LA-MER | EU-France |
| LEUCATE | EU-France |
| LOGUIVY-DE-LA-MER | EU-France |
| LORIENT | EU-France |
| MACCINAGGIO | EU-France |
| MARSEILLAN PLAGE | EU-France |
| MARSEILLE | EU-France |
| MARTIGUES | EU-France |
| MENTON | EU-France |
| PALAVAS-LES-FLOTS | EU-France |
| PORT DE BOUC | EU-France |
| PORT SAINT LOUIS DU RHÔNE | EU-France |
| PORT-LA-NOUVELLE | EU-France |
| PORT-VENDRES | EU-France |
| PORTO-VECCHIO | EU-France |
| PROPRIANO | EU-France |
| QUIBERON | EU-France |
| ROSCOFF | EU-France |
| ROYAN | EU-France |
| SAGONE | EU-France |
| SAINT GILLES CROIX DE VIE | EU-France |
| SAINT JEAN CAP FERRAT | EU-France |
| SAINT MALO | EU-France |
| SAINT MANDRIER | EU-France |
| SAINT-CYPRIEN | EU-France |
| SAINT-FLORENT | EU-France |
| SAINT-JEAN-DE-LUZ | EU-France |
| SAINT-QUAY-PORTRIEUX | EU-France |
| SAINT-RAPHAËL | EU-France |
| SAN'T AMBROGGIO | EU-France |
| SANARY | EU-France |
| SANTA MARIA POGGIO | EU-France |
| SARI-SOLENZARA | EU-France |
| SÈTE | EU-France |
| THÉOULE SUR MER | EU-France |
| TIZZANO | EU-France |
| TOULON | EU-France |
| TREBEURDEN | EU-France |
| VALLAURIS GOLFE-JUAN | EU-France |
| ACHILLEIO MAGNISIAS | EU-Greece |

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| ADAMANTAS | EU-Greece |
| AGIA ANNA NAXOU | EU-Greece |
| AGIA GALINI RETHYMNOU | EU-Greece |
| AGIA KYRIAKI TRIKERON | EU-Greece |
| AGIA MARINA (LEROS) | EU-Greece |
| AGIA SOTIRA LIMNOU | EU-Greece |
| AGIOKAMPOS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS EFSTRATIOS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS GEORGIOS LICHADAS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS IOANNIS (PILIOU) | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS IOANNIS THEOLOGOS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS KIRYKOS IKARIAS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS KONSTANTINOS FTHIOTIDAS | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS NIKOLAOS (ANAFI) | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS NIKOLAOS (LASITHIOU) | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS NIKOLAOS VOLIMON | EU-Greece |
| AGIOS STEFANOS (AVLIOTON) | EU-Greece |
| AIDIPSOS | EU-Greece |
| AIGIALI AMORGOU | EU-Greece |
| AIGINA | EU-Greece |
| AIGIO | EU-Greece |
| ALEXANDROUPOLI | EU-Greece |
| ALIVERI | EU-Greece |
| ALYKES ACHAIAS | EU-Greece |
| ALYKES PAROU | EU-Greece |
| ALYPA (PALAIOKASTRITSAS) | EU-Greece |
| AMALIAPOLI | EU-Greece |
| AMFILOCHIA | EU-Greece |
| AMMOUDIA PREVEZAS | EU-Greece |
| AMMOULIANI ALIEFTIKO KATAFYGIO - GRASTRI | EU-Greece |
| ANDROS | EU-Greece |
| ANTIKYRA | EU-Greece |
| ARGOSTOLI | EU-Greece |
| ARILLAS PERDIKAS | EU-Greece |
| ARKITSA | EU-Greece |
| ARTAKI EVVOIAS | EU-Greece |
| ASTAKOS | EU-Greece |
| ASTYPALAIA | EU-Greece |
| ATALANTI | EU-Greece |
| ATHERINOLAKKOS | EU-Greece |
| ATHINIOS THIRAS | EU-Greece |
| BATSI ANDROU | EU-Greece |
| CHALASTRA THESSALONIKIS | EU-Greece |
| CHALKIDA | EU-Greece |
| CHANIA | EU-Greece |
| CHERSONISOS IRAKLEIOU | EU-Greece |

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| CHIOS | EU-Greece |
| CHORA SFAKION | EU-Greece |
| DIAPORI LIMNOU | EU-Greece |
| DONOUSA | EU-Greece |
| ELEFSINA | EU-Greece |
| ELEFTHERES KAVALAS | EU-Greece |
| EPIDAVROS | EU-Greece |
| ERATEINI | EU-Greece |
| EREIKOUSA KERKYRAS | EU-Greece |
| ERETRIA | EU-Greece |
| ERMIONI | EU-Greece |
| ERMOUPOLI SYROU | EU-Greece |
| EVDILOS IKARIAS | EU-Greece |
| FANARI RODOPIS | EU-Greece |
| FISKARDO | EU-Greece |
| FOLEGANDROS | EU-Greece |
| FOURNOI IKARIAS | EU-Greece |
| FRY KASOU | EU-Greece |
| GAIOS | EU-Greece |
| GALAXIDI | EU-Greece |
| GAVRIO ANDROU | EU-Greece |
| GEORGIUPOLI | EU-Greece |
| GLOSSA SKOPELOU | EU-Greece |
| GLYFA | EU-Greece |
| GRITSA PIERIAS | EU-Greece |
| GYTHEIO | EU-Greece |
| IERAPETRA | EU-Greece |
| IERISSOS | EU-Greece |
| IGOUMENITSA | EU-Greece |
| ILIA EVVOIAS | EU-Greece |
| IMEROLIA (KASSIOPIS) | EU-Greece |
| IMEROS RODOPIS | EU-Greece |
| IOS | EU-Greece |
| IRAKLEIA | EU-Greece |
| IRAKLEIO | EU-Greece |
| ITEAS | EU-Greece |
| KALAMARIA | EU-Greece |
| KALAMATA | EU-Greece |
| KALANTOS NAXOU | EU-Greece |
| KALLIRACHI THASOU | EU-Greece |
| KALOI LIMENES IRAKLEIOU | EU-Greece |
| KALYMNOS | EU-Greece |
| KAMARES SIFNOU | EU-Greece |
| KAMARIOTISSA SAMOTHRAKIS | EU-Greece |
| KAPSALI | EU-Greece |
| KARDAMAINA (KOS) | EU-Greece |

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| KARDAMYLA | EU-Greece |
| KARLOVASI | EU-Greece |
| KARPATHOS | EU-Greece |
| KARYANI | EU-Greece |
| KARYSTOS | EU-Greece |
| KATAKOLO | EU-Greece |
| KATAPOLA | EU-Greece |
| KAVALA | EU-Greece |
| KEFALOS KOS | EU-Greece |
| KERAMIDI | EU-Greece |
| KERAMOTI | EU-Greece |
| KERATSINI | EU-Greece |
| KERKYRA | EU-Greece |
| KIATO | EU-Greece |
| KIMOLOS | EU-Greece |
| KISSAMOS | EU-Greece |
| KITROS (PINDA) PIERIAS | EU-Greece |
| KOILADA | EU-Greece |
| KOKKINOS PYRGOS | EU-Greece |
| KOLYMPARI CHANION | EU-Greece |
| KORINTHOS | EU-Greece |
| KORISSIA | EU-Greece |
| KORONI | EU-Greece |
| KORTHIOU ANDROU | EU-Greece |
| KOS | EU-Greece |
| KOTSINAS LIMNOU | EU-Greece |
| KOUFONISI | EU-Greece |
| KOUREMENOS | EU-Greece |
| KYLLINI | EU-Greece |
| KYMI | EU-Greece |
| KYPARISSIA | EU-Greece |
| LARDOU | EU-Greece |
| LAVRIO | EU-Greece |
| LEFKADA | EU-Greece |
| LEFKIMMI | EU-Greece |
| LEONIDIO | EU-Greece |
| LIMENARIA THASOU | EU-Greece |
| LIMNI EVVOIAS | EU-Greece |
| LINOPERAMATA (RODIA) IRAKLEIOU | EU-Greece |
| LITHI CHIOU | EU-Greece |
| LIVADI SERIFOU | EU-Greece |
| LIXOURI | EU-Greece |
| LYGIA LEFKADAS | EU-Greece |
| LYGIA PREVEZAS | EU-Greece |
| MAISTROS EVROU | EU-Greece |
| MAKRI EVROU | EU-Greece |

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| MANTOUDI | EU-Greece |
| MARMARI EVVOIAS | EU-Greece |
| MARONEIA RODOPIS | EU-Greece |
| MASTICHARI KOS | EU-Greece |
| MATHRAKI KERKYRAS | EU-Greece |
| MAVRA LITHARIA KORINTHIAS | EU-Greece |
| MAVROLIMNI KORINTHIAS | EU-Greece |
| MEGISTI | EU-Greece |
| MERICHAS KYTHNOU | EU-Greece |
| MESOLONGI | EU-Greece |
| MESTA | EU-Greece |
| METHANA TROIZINIAS | EU-Greece |
| MONEMVASIA | EU-Greece |
| MOUDROS | EU-Greece |
| MOUTSOUNA NAXOU | EU-Greece |
| MYKONOS | EU-Greece |
| MYRINA LIMNOU | EU-Greece |
| MYTIKAS | EU-Greece |
| MYTILINI | EU-Greece |
| NAFPAKTOS | EU-Greece |
| NAOUSA PAROU | EU-Greece |
| NAXOS | EU-Greece |
| NEA FOKAIA CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| NEA KALLIKRATEIA | EU-Greece |
| NEA MICHANIONA | EU-Greece |
| NEA MOUDANIA | EU-Greece |
| NEA PERAMOS ATTIKIS | EU-Greece |
| NEA POTIDAIA | EU-Greece |
| NEA RODA CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| NEA SKIONI CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| NEA STYRA | EU-Greece |
| NEAPOLI | EU-Greece |
| NEOS MARMARAS | EU-Greece |
| OLYMPIADA CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| OREOI | EU-Greece |
| ORMOS MARATHOKAMPOU | EU-Greece |
| ORMOS PANAGIAS CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| OROPOS | EU-Greece |
| OTHONOI | EU-Greece |
| OURANOUPOLI CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| PACHI MEGARON | EU-Greece |
| PALAIA FOKAIA | EU-Greece |
| PALAIOCHORA CHANION | EU-Greece |
| PALAIROS AITOLOAKARNANIAS | EU-Greece |
| PARALIA ASTROUS | EU-Greece |
| PARALIA KATERINIS | EU-Greece |

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| PARALIA PETRION (AGIOI APOSTOLOI DYSTION) | EU-Greece |
| PARGA | EU-Greece |
| PAROIKIA PAROU | EU-Greece |
| PARTHENI LEROU | EU-Greece |
| PATITIRI ALONISOU | EU-Greece |
| PATMOS | EU-Greece |
| PATRA | EU-Greece |
| PEFKI EVVOIAS | EU-Greece |
| PERAMA GERAS | EU-Greece |
| PERAMA PEIRAIA | EU-Greece |
| PERIGIALI LEFKADAS | EU-Greece |
| PETRA LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| PETRITI (KORISSION) KERKYRAS | EU-Greece |
| PIGADI PTELEOU MAGNISIAS | EU-Greece |
| PISO LIVADI PAROU | EU-Greece |
| PLAKA LIMNOU | EU-Greece |
| PLATAMONAS | EU-Greece |
| PLATANIAS MAGNISIAS | EU-Greece |
| PLATARIA THESPROTIAS | EU-Greece |
| PLATYGIALI ASTAKOU | EU-Greece |
| PLATYS GIALOS SIFNOU | EU-Greece |
| PLIMMYRI RODOU | EU-Greece |
| PLOMARI | EU-Greece |
| POLITIKA | EU-Greece |
| POROS KEFALLINIAS | EU-Greece |
| POROS TROIZINIAS | EU-Greece |
| PORTO KOUFO CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| PORTO LAGOS | EU-Greece |
| PORTO RAFTI | EU-Greece |
| PORTOCHELI | EU-Greece |
| POUNTA PAROU | EU-Greece |
| PREVEZA | EU-Greece |
| PSAROPOULI (PARALIA VASILIKON) | EU-Greece |
| PYLOS | EU-Greece |
| PYRGOS PERAMATOS LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| PYTHAGOREIO SAMOU | EU-Greece |
| RACHES FTHIOTIDAS | EU-Greece |
| RAFINA | EU-Greece |
| RETHYMNO | EU-Greece |
| RODOS | EU-Greece |
| SAGIADA | EU-Greece |
| SALAMINA | EU-Greece |
| SAMI KEFALLINIAS | EU-Greece |
| SAMOS - VATHY | EU-Greece |
| SARTI CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| SCHOINOUSA | EU-Greece |

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| SIGRI LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| SIKINOS | EU-Greece |
| SITEIA | EU-Greece |
| SKALA KALLONIS LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| SKALA KAMEIROU RODOS | EU-Greece |
| SKALA POLICHNITOU LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| SKALA SYKAMINEAS LESVOU | EU-Greece |
| SKIATHOS | EU-Greece |
| SKYROS | EU-Greece |
| SOUDA | EU-Greece |
| STAVROS THESSALONIKIS | EU-Greece |
| STOMIO LARISAS | EU-Greece |
| STYLIDA | EU-Greece |
| SYMI | EU-Greece |
| SYVOTA LEFKADAS | EU-Greece |
| THASOS | EU-Greece |
| TINOS | EU-Greece |
| TOLO ARGOLIDAS | EU-Greece |
| TRYPITI CHALKIDIKIS | EU-Greece |
| VARKIZA | EU-Greece |
| VASILIKI LEFKADAS | EU-Greece |
| VATHY ITHAKIS | EU-Greece |
| VLYCHADA THIRAS | EU-Greece |
| VLYCHOS LEFKADAS | EU-Greece |
| VOLAKAS NAXOU | EU-Greece |
| VOLOS | EU-Greece |
| VONITSA | EU-Greece |
| XYLOKASTRO | EU-Greece |
| ZAKYNTHOS | EU-Greece |
| AN DAINGEAN, CO. KERRY | EU-Ireland |
| BALTIMORE, CO. CORK | EU-Ireland |
| CASTLETOWNBERE, CO. CORK | EU-Ireland |
| CLOGHERHEAD, CO. LOUTH | EU-Ireland |
| DUNMORE EAST, CO. WATERFORD | EU-Ireland |
| HOWTH, CO. DUBLIN | EU-Ireland |
| KILLYBEGS, CO. DONEGAL | EU-Ireland |
| PORT OF CORK, CO. CORK | EU-Ireland |
| ROS A MHIL, CO. GALWAY | EU-Ireland |
| UNION HALL, CO. CORK | EU-Ireland |
| ACCIAROLI | EU-Italy |
| AGROPOLI | EU-Italy |
| ALASSIO | EU-Italy |
| ALGHERO | EU-Italy |
| AMANTEA | EU-Italy |
| ANCONA | EU-Italy |
| ANDORRA | EU-Italy |

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| ARBATAX | EU-Italy |
| ARENZANO | EU-Italy |
| ARMA DI TAGGIA | EU-Italy |
| AUGUSTA | EU-Italy |
| BAGNARA CALABRA | EU-Italy |
| BARI | EU-Italy |
| BISCEGLIE | EU-Italy |
| BORDIGHERA | EU-Italy |
| BOSA | EU-Italy |
| BRINDISI | EU-Italy |
| CAGLIARI | EU-Italy |
| CALA GONONE | EU-Italy |
| CALASETTA | EU-Italy |
| CAMOGLI | EU-Italy |
| CAPRAIA ISOLA | EU-Italy |
| CARIATI | EU-Italy |
| CARLOFORTE | EU-Italy |
| CASTELLAMMARE DEL GOLFO | EU-Italy |
| CASTELLAMMARE DI STABIA | EU-Italy |
| CASTELSARDO | EU-Italy |
| CASTIGLIONE DELLA PESCAIA | EU-Italy |
| CATANIA | EU-Italy |
| CESENATICO | EU-Italy |
| CETRARO | EU-Italy |
| CHIOGGIA | EU-Italy |
| CIVITANOVA MARCHE | EU-Italy |
| CIVITAVECCHIA | EU-Italy |
| CORIGLIANO CALABRO | EU-Italy |
| CROTONE | EU-Italy |
| FANO | EU-Italy |
| FAVIGNANA | EU-Italy |
| FINALE LIGURE | EU-Italy |
| FIUMICINO | EU-Italy |
| FORIO | EU-Italy |
| GAETA | EU-Italy |
| GALLIPOLI | EU-Italy |
| GELA | EU-Italy |
| GENOVA | EU-Italy |
| GIOIA TAURO | EU-Italy |
| GIULIANOVA | EU-Italy |
| GOLFO ARANCI | EU-Italy |
| GRADO | EU-Italy |
| IMPERIA | EU-Italy |
| ISCHIA | EU-Italy |
| LA CALETTA DI SINISCOLA | EU-Italy |
| LA MADDALENA | EU-Italy |

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| LA SPEZIA | EU-Italy |
| LAMPEDUSA | EU-Italy |
| LICATA | EU-Italy |
| LIPARI | EU-Italy |
| LIVORNO | EU-Italy |
| LOANO | EU-Italy |
| MANFREDONIA | EU-Italy |
| MARETTIMO | EU-Italy |
| MARINA DI CAMEROTA | EU-Italy |
| MARSALA | EU-Italy |
| MESSINA | EU-Italy |
| MILAZZO | EU-Italy |
| MOLA DI BARI | EU-Italy |
| MOLFETTA | EU-Italy |
| MONOPOLI | EU-Italy |
| MONTEROSSO | EU-Italy |
| NAPOLI | EU-Italy |
| OLBIA | EU-Italy |
| ORISTANO | EU-Italy |
| ORTONA | EU-Italy |
| OTRANTO | EU-Italy |
| PALERMO | EU-Italy |
| PANTELLERIA | EU-Italy |
| PESARO | EU-Italy |
| PESCARA | EU-Italy |
| PILA DI PORTO TOLLE | EU-Italy |
| PONZA | EU-Italy |
| PORTICELLO | EU-Italy |
| PORTO CESAREO | EU-Italy |
| PORTO EMPEDOCLE | EU-Italy |
| PORTO GARIBALDI | EU-Italy |
| PORTO S. GIORGIO | EU-Italy |
| PORTO SANTO STEFANO | EU-Italy |
| PORTO TORRES | EU-Italy |
| PORTOFERRAIO | EU-Italy |
| PORTOFINO | EU-Italy |
| PORTOPALO DI CAPO PASSERO | EU-Italy |
| PORTOSCUSO | EU-Italy |
| POZZUOLI | EU-Italy |
| PROCIDA | EU-Italy |
| RAVENNA | EU-Italy |
| REGGIO CALABRIA | EU-Italy |
| RIMINI | EU-Italy |
| RIPOSTO | EU-Italy |
| ROCCELLA JONICA | EU-Italy |
| S. BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO | EU-Italy |

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| S. VITO LO CAPO | EU-Italy |
| SALERNO | EU-Italy |
| SANREMO | EU-Italy |
| SANT' AGATA DI MILITELLO | EU-Italy |
| SANT' ANTIOCO | EU-Italy |
| SANTA FOCA DI MELENDUGNO | EU-Italy |
| SANTA MARGHERITA LIGURE | EU-Italy |
| SANTA MARIA DI LEUCA | EU-Italy |
| SANTA MARIA LA SCALA | EU-Italy |
| SANTA MARINELLA | EU-Italy |
| SANTA TERESA DI GALLURA | EU-Italy |
| SAPRI | EU-Italy |
| SAVONA | EU-Italy |
| SCHIAVONEA | EU-Italy |
| SCIACCA | EU-Italy |
| SESTRI LEVANTE | EU-Italy |
| SEVELLETRI | EU-Italy |
| TARANTO | EU-Italy |
| TERMINI IMERESE | EU-Italy |
| TERMOLI | EU-Italy |
| TERRACINA | EU-Italy |
| TERRASINI | EU-Italy |
| TORRE ANNUNZIATA | EU-Italy |
| TORRE DEL GRECO | EU-Italy |
| TRANI | EU-Italy |
| TRAPANI | EU-Italy |
| TRICASE | EU-Italy |
| VARAZZE | EU-Italy |
| VASTO | EU-Italy |
| VIAREGGIO | EU-Italy |
| VIBO VALENTIA MARINA | EU-Italy |
| VIESTE | EU-Italy |
| VILLA SAN GIOVANNI | EU-Italy |
| VILLASIMIUS | EU-Italy |
| GNEJNA | EU-Malta |
| MARFA/CIRKEWWA | EU-Malta |
| MARSALFORN (GOZO) | EU-Malta |
| MARSAXLOKK | EU-Malta |
| MELLIEHA (GHADIRA) | EU-Malta |
| MGARR (GOZO) | EU-Malta |
| ST.PAUL'S BAY | EU-Malta |
| VALLETTA | EU-Malta |
| CANIÇAL | EU-Portugal |
| FIGUEIRA DA FOZ | EU-Portugal |
| FUNCHAL | EU-Portugal |
| HORTA (FAIAL) | EU-Portugal |

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| LAJES (FLORES) | EU-Portugal |
| MADALENA (PICO) | EU-Portugal |
| MATOSINHOS | EU-Portugal |
| OLHAO | EU-Portugal |
| PAUL DO MAR | EU-Portugal |
| PENICHE | EU-Portugal |
| PONTA DELGADA (SAO MIGUEL) | EU-Portugal |
| PORTO DA CASA (CORVO) | EU-Portugal |
| PORTO MONIZ | EU-Portugal |
| PORTO SANTO | EU-Portugal |
| PRAIA (GRACIOSA) | EU-Portugal |
| PRAIA DA VITORIA (TERCEIRA) | EU-Portugal |
| RABO DE PEIXE | EU-Portugal |
| SESIMBRA | EU-Portugal |
| SINES | EU-Portugal |
| VELAS (SAO JORGE) | EU-Portugal |
| VIANA DO CASTELO | EU-Portugal |
| VILA DO PORTO (SANTA MARIA) | EU-Portugal |
| VILA FRANCA DO CAMPO (S. MIGUEL) | EU-Portugal |
| BARSEBÄCKSHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| BLÄSINGE | EU-Sweden |
| BONDHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| BYXELKROK | EU-Sweden |
| ELLÖS | EU-Sweden |
| ENGESBERG | EU-Sweden |
| GRANKULLAVIK | EU-Sweden |
| GÖTEBORG | EU-Sweden |
| KARLSKRONA, HANDELSHAMNEN | EU-Sweden |
| KARLSKRONA, SALTÖ | EU-Sweden |
| KUNGSHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| LIMHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| LOMMA | EU-Sweden |
| LYSEKIL | EU-Sweden |
| MELLANFJÄRDEN | EU-Sweden |
| MOLLÖSUND | EU-Sweden |
| NOGERSUND | EU-Sweden |
| NORRSUNDET | EU-Sweden |
| NÄRSHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| OXELÖSUND | EU-Sweden |
| RONEHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| RÖNNÄNG | EU-Sweden |
| SIMRISHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| SKAGSHAMN | EU-Sweden |
| SKEPPSMALEN | EU-Sweden |
| SPIKARNA, ALNÖN | EU-Sweden |
| STRÖMSTAD | EU-Sweden |

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|------------------|-----------|
| STURKÖ-EKENABBEN | EU-Sweden |
| STURKÖ-SANDA | EU-Sweden |
| TRELLEBORG | EU-Sweden |
| TRÄSLÖVSLÄGE | EU-Sweden |
| VÄSTERVIK | EU-Sweden |
| YSTAD | EU-Sweden |

Iceland

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

The eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) allocated quota of Iceland for the year 2026 is 253.14 t. Iceland requests to transfer 10.2% of its unutilized 2025 quota to 2026, or 22.86 t. In 2025 used quota was 150 kg as bycatch and 200 t transferred to another CPC. If endorsed the adjusted quota for 2026 will be 276 t.

Reserved for incidental bycatches will be 5 t. Eventual bycatches of BFT by other Icelandic fishing vessels will be reported to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

According to the Regulation on BFT fisheries up to three Icelandic longline vessels can be authorised to conduct directed fisheries for BFT in 2026. Each vessel will be allocated an individual quota, within the limits of the Icelandic quota, which may be adjusted according to the number of authorised fishing vessels. In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, Iceland will submit relevant information concerning the authorised vessels to the ICCAT Secretariat at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing season, as well as any subsequent modification to the annual fishing plan.

The 5 t reserved for incidental bycatches by other Icelandic fishing vessels will be adjusted to cover all catches if needed.

All Icelandic vessels are equipped with a vessel monitoring system (VMS) system and are required to transmit on an hourly basis.

All fishing vessels are required to have electronic logbooks and landings are monitored and recorded in the database of the Directorate of Fisheries (DF). All Icelandic fishing vessels are required to register all catches and bycatches in electronic logbooks.

The Icelandic fisheries management system is based on individual transfer quotas (ITQs) and all fishing vessels need a general fishing permit and sufficient quota for the expected catch before leaving port for any fishing.

Iceland manages over a million tonnes of commercial fisheries every year with ITQs, electronic logbooks and mandatory weighing of all catches at landing. The DF keeps records of all allocated quota and all landings, and quota uptake by each vessel is updated after landing in an online landing registration of the DF which is publicly available at www.island.is/fiskistofa.

Discards of commercial species are not allowed. Undersized BFT are to be released alive or landed and registered if dead when taken on board. No BFT catches of individual fishes below 30 kg have been recorded by Icelandic vessels, neither directed catches or bycatches.

The BFT quota of Iceland will be adjusted if needed between bycatches and longline catch. This will be managed by the DF like all other commercial catches in Iceland. All adjustments will be reported to ICCAT.

Inspectors from the DF in Iceland shall be present on board the BFT longliners for at least 20% of the fishing operations. The vessels need written permission from the DF before leaving port without an inspector.

The Marine and Freshwater Research Institute in Iceland (MFRI) will advise the DF on the relevant training and sampling methods for the inspectors to collect biological data. Biological data will also be collected at landing by the Directorate and MFRI.

The longline fishing season will start on 1 August and end on 31 December. The fishing area is South of Iceland in the NE-Atlantic West of 10°W and North of 42°N. The vessels are required to have a general fishing permit and sufficient quota for other species within the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to allow for incidental bycatches of other species. When the vessel intends to utilize the BFT quota it shall notify the

DF in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT. As soon as the individual quotas are fished the BFT fishing permit expires. The Icelandic authorities will close the fisheries when the quota is exhausted, or the vessels notify an end to fishing operations in 2026.

In 2015 the DF in Iceland implemented the eBCD system and intends to issue all certificates in 2026 electronically.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

Iceland requests a transfer of 22.86 t from 2025 to 2026.

1 c) Destination of catch

Destination of catch will be for landing only.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | All Icelandic fishing vessels have electronic logbooks, all landing is recorded in online database of the DF. All catches are to be recorded in logbooks. Dead discards of commercial species are not allowed. All catches counted against quota. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | Longline fishing season starts 1 August and closes when the quota is fished or 31 December. The fishing area is South of Iceland in the NE Atlantic West of 10°W and North of 42°N. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | Undersized fish to be released alive, discards banned if dead to be landed and recorded. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Discard of commercial species are banned by the Icelandic fleet and all commercial and non-commercial species must be landed. All catches of commercial and | Icelandic Fisheries Act, and Act concerning the Treatment of Commercial Marine Stocks. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | non-commercial species must be registered in logbooks, this also applies to all bycatches of BFT by Icelandic vessels. 5 t are reserved for incidental bycatches for the year 2026. | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No recreational or sport fisheries for eastern Atlantic BFT will be allowed in 2026. | Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | No transshipment is allowed. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | All Icelandic fishing vessels are equipped with a VMS system and required to transmit on hourly basis. | Icelandic Fisheries Act. | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | There are no observers in Iceland, only inspectors that are full time employees of the DF. Inspectors shall be present on board for at least 20% of the fishing operations. The vessel needs written permission from the DF before leaving port without an inspector. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | N/A. Only longline fishing by up to three vessels. | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | ICCAT rules and requirements implemented with legal acts and regulations. | The Icelandic Fisheries Act, and the Regulation on BFT fisheries. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of authorized ports for 2026: Reykjavik, Hafnarfjordur, Hofn i Hornafirdi, Vestmannaeyjar, Grindavik, Thorlakshofn, Sandgerdi, Keflavik, Akranes, Olafsvik, Grundarfjordur, Stykkisholmur.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

See table below.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

N/A. No farming.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A. No aquacultured fish.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

BFT longline vessels need written permission from the DF as the competent authority to leave port for BFT fishing without an inspector onboard from the DF. Required coverage is at least 20% of the fishing operations in days. Inspectors from the DF are present at all landings of BFT.

All Icelandic vessels are equipped with a VMS system and are required to transmit on an hourly basis.

All catches of commercial and non-commercial species must be registered in electronic logbooks, this also applies to all bycatches of BFT by Icelandic vessels.

The vessels are required to have a general fishing permit and sufficient quota for other species within in the Icelandic EEZ to allow for incidental bycatches of other species. When the vessel intends to utilize the BFT quota it shall notify the DF in Iceland and thereby undergo the management regime of ICCAT.

List of contact points:

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- Guðjón Rafn Steinsson, Directorate of Fisheries (gudjon.r.steinsson@fiskistofa.is)

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

N/A. Iceland only authorizes up to three longline vessels in the NE-Atlantic and is therefore not required to be part of an ICCAT international inspection plan.

6. Others

N/A.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|----------|------|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|------------------|-----------|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | 75 | 75 | 75 | 75 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | 1 | | | | | | | | 10 | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | 1 | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | 10 | | 75 | 75 | 75 | 75 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | 51.53 | | 224 | 224 | 224 | 253.14 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | NA | NA | 24 (224-200 transferred to EU) | 276 (253.14 + 22.86) |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5.4% | 5.4% | 10.7% | 2% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 12 | 12 | 24 | 5 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | 212 (224 - 12) | 212 (224 - 12) | 0 (24-24) | 271 (276-5) |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | -41.53 | | -137 | -137 | 75 | -196 |

Japan

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

Japan's initial quota for the 2026 fishing season (from 1 August 2026 to 31 July 2027) is 3,559.41 t. As of 21 January 2026, the available quota for 2026 in the Capacity table is 4,008.16 t, which includes transfer of 14.89% of its 2025 quota to 2026, dead discard, as well as bycatch quota. Please see "1 b) Carry Over" for the specific calculation.

All Japanese fishing vessels catching bluefin tuna (BFT) in the eastern Atlantic are large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (LSTLVs). The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, having been entrusted competence by the Fisheries Law, has introduced the Ministerial Ordinance to establish a legally binding management system including individual quotas. The Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ) is an extra-ministerial bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, which enforces the Fisheries Law and the Ministerial Ordinance on Japanese fishermen.

The Minister requires fishing operators to report a daily BFT catch (including zero catch) every two days in accordance with the Ordinance. Such report has to contain relevant information including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), catch amounts, individual BFT weights, tag numbers, and the number of live releases and dead discards including those under the minimum size. The FAJ monitors the catch for each vessel relative to the vessel's individual quota.

Regarding bycatch, all Japanese catching vessels targeting fish other than BFT operate around the equator or further south: the possibility of bycatch of BFT is de minimis. Given the circumstances, the Minister sets aside 1 t for bycatch. In 2025, there were eleven fishes of bycatch reported and all of them were released shipside and not retained on board.

Landings at ports except for designated ports are prohibited by the Ministerial Ordinance. The Ministerial Ordinance only allows BFT fishermen to land at 10 domestic ports designated by the Ordinance. At the 10 ports, 100% of landings of BFT by both fishing vessels and carrier vessels will be inspected by FAJ official inspectors who will check the total weight and tags, count the number of BFT and compare the collected information with the data previously reported, including daily reports.

Japanese fishing vessels operate in almost the same period from the end of September to early January without entering ports during this period. Therefore, the observers are on board the designated BFT vessels and monitor BFT operations throughout the entire fishing trips, aiming to cover at least 20% of its active vessels. In addition, as the main fishing ground of BFT is usually located in a very limited area off the coast of Ireland, there should be little concern about the spatial representation. After the main fishing season, remaining quota may be consumed in the other fishing grounds in accordance with Recommendation 25-04.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with paragraph 6 of Recommendation 25-04, Japan would like to request to transfer its 2025 quota to 2026. The catch of BFT-E in 2025 fishing season, as of 21 January 2026, was 2,805.95 t, which includes 1.58 t of dead discards. The amount of catch is subject to change, as some vessels are still operating. At this point, 3,269.70 t (2025 catch quota) minus 2,805.95 t equals 463.75 t (14.89%), which is transferred to the 2026 fishing season as underage. In addition, the reserved quota for dead discard (14 t) as well as bycatch quota for vessels without individual quota of bluefin tuna (1 t) are set aside.

To conclude, the available quota for 2026 in the Capacity table is 4,008.16 t accordingly.

AQ: Adjusted quota (IQ ± Transfers + Carryover – Overharvest) = 3,559.41 + 0 + 463.75 – 0 = 4,023.16t
 Available quota (AQ – (bycatch + scientific research + sport/recreational fisheries allowances) – dead discard) = 4,023.16 – (1 + 0 + 0) – 14 = 4,008.16 t.

Please note the 2026 adjusted quota might be subject to further adjustment depending on the final total catch in 2025 fishing season and, subsequently, the available quota.

1 c) Destination of catch

All BFT caught by Japanese vessels will be destined to landing.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | The Minister requires fishing operators to communicate to the FAJ daily information including the date, time, location, the weight and number of BFT caught in eastern Atlantic Ocean (including releases and discards of dead fish under the minimum size) every two days. In addition, the Minister also requires the operators to maintain a bound or electronic fishing logbook of their operation. | Fisheries Law, Article 26, 52. Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 14 and 26. | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | The Minister prohibits fishing operators from fishing for BFT in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42°N during the period from 1 February to 31 July and in other areas during the period from 1 June to 31 December. | Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 23. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | The Minister prohibits fishing operators from catching BFT weighing less than 30kg. The fishing vessel shall stop operating and move away | Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 23. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|--|-------------|
| | | from the fishing area when the number of BFTs which weigh 8-30 kg gets larger than 5% of the total number of BFTs caught on the day. The weight of dead discards of BFTs below minimum weight is counted against Japan's quota. | | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | The Minister prohibits the vessels without BFT quota from catching, transshipping or landing BFT. All Japanese catching vessels targeting fish other than BFT operate around the equator or further south, thus the possibility of by-catch of BFT is de minimis. Given the circumstances, the Minister sets aside 1 t (i.e., less than 0.04%) for bycatch as a minimum figure. | Fisheries Law, Article 19 and 25. | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No recreational or sport fishing vessels in the ICCAT area. | N/A | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | The Minister prohibits transshipment of BFT at sea and only allows transshipment at ports registered on the ICCAT website with prior authorization. | Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 59. | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | The Minister requires fishing vessels to be equipped with a VMS which automatically transmits the data every two hours to the FAJ. | Fisheries Law, Article 52 Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Article 15. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| | | The FAJ transmits the VMS data from the vessels fishing for BFT to the ICCAT Secretariat. | | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | The FAJ will ensure 20 % observer coverage of the number of LSTLVs which are allowed to fish BFT. | N/A | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Japanese fishing vessels catching BFT are not purse seiner and Japan has no registered farming facilities for BFT. | N/A | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | The relevant Recommendations have been transposed to Japanese domestic law. See <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fisheries Law ▪ Ministerial Ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of domestic ports for landing:

| | |
|----|-----------|
| 1 | Tokyo |
| 2 | Kawasaki |
| 3 | Yokohama |
| 4 | Yokosuka |
| 5 | Misaki |
| 6 | Shimizu |
| 7 | Oigawa |
| 8 | Yaizu |
| 9 | Kesenuma |
| 10 | Kushikino |

The list of third party ports for transshipment:

| | Country | Port |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| 1 | Cabo Verde | Mindelo |
| 2 | Iceland | Reykjavík |
| 3 | Morocco | Tanger Ville |
| 4 | Panama | Cristóbal |
| 5 | | Balboa |
| 6 | South Africa | Cape Town |
| 7 | EU-Spain | Las Palmas |

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The Minister will allocate to each LSTLV individual quota, which is more than the recommended catch amount (i.e. 25 t per LSTLV over 40 m) estimated by SCRS (see Capacity Table). Thus, Japan, having accomplished the obligation on capacity adjustment provided in Rec. 25-04, ensures that its fishing capacity be commensurate with its allocated quota.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

N/A

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

(i) Characteristic of Japanese BFT-E Fishery

The Northeast Atlantic Ocean off the west coast of Ireland is the main BFT-E fishing ground for the Japanese fleet. The fishing season usually starts at the end of September and lasted until early January. The BFT-E fishing area is remote from fishing areas of bigeye tuna, which is another primary target fish for the Japanese fleet and caught around the equator. This means that LSTLVs targeting BFT-E are distinguishable from LSTLVs targeting other fish such as bigeye, by their location.

(ii) Monitoring the BFT-E fishery in accordance with Rec. 25-04 and other ICCAT measures

The FAJ constantly monitors LSTLVs' locations in the entire Atlantic Ocean through the VMS. The agency issues authorization to LSTLVs to conduct fishing activity for BFT-E and allocates quotas to those vessels. The FAJ ensures through the VMS that the LSTLVs without authorization and quota do not operate in the BFT-E fishing ground. Also, the FAJ requires authorized vessels to transmit daily catch reports to the FAJ during the BFT fishing season. The FAJ closely monitors the accumulated catches to make sure that authorized vessels comply with their quotas.

The FAJ distributes official tags only to LSTLVs having BFT-E quotas. The Ministerial Ordinance requires Japanese fishermen to attach the tag to every BFT caught by them. Landings of any BFT-E without the tag are a violation of the Ministerial Ordinance.

Reporting requirements regarding transshipment are also established by the Ministerial Ordinance. LSTLVs shall acquire authorization from the FAJ before transshipment at ports. The FAJ also receives transshipment declaration in accordance with the ICCAT Recommendation. The FAJ examines such information and checks the consistency with the accumulated catch amount. Such information will be verified through landing inspections by the FAJ inspectors when the BFT is landed in Japan.

(iii) Additional measure adopted by the FAJ (1) - Very low capacity of Japanese LSTLVs

Moreover, the FAJ will limit the number of catching vessels fishing for BFT well below the limit articulated by the Recommendation 25-04. The Capacity Table shows that the number of Japan's BFT-E fleet has been very low (40 vessels in 2026 fishing season planned as of 21 January 2026), compared to the limit in accordance with the Rec. 25-04 and its predecessors (4,008.16 t (available quota)/25 t (per LSTLV over 40 m) = 160.33 vessels).

(iv) Additional measure adopted by the FAJ (2) – 100% landing inspection by FAJ officials

The Ministerial Ordinance prohibits landing of BFT at any foreign port. All of the BFT caught by Japanese fishermen including those brought by carrier vessels must be landed in the 10 designated ports in Japan. Those ports are the final destination of BFT caught by Japanese fishermen; this scheme enables the FAJ to conduct direct landing inspections against the landed BFT-E. In fact, the FAJ has been implementing 100% landing inspections against the BFT-E caught by Japanese LSTLVs since 2009. A range of information collected through the MCS measures mentioned above (e.g., weight and number of BFT-E, attachment of plastic tags) are utilized at the landing inspections. This 100% landing inspection is implemented as one of the alternative measures in accordance with Recommendation 25-04, para 234.

(v) Cooperation with port State and importing State

Many of the BFT-E caught by Japanese LSTLVs are also subject to port inspection by coastal CPCs. When the LSTLVs exhaust their individual BFT quotas, they typically head to one of the seven designated foreign ports (see 1e) for at-port BFT transshipments in accordance with Recommendation 25-04. During this at-port transshipments, the LSTLVs may be subjected to inspections by the port State in accordance with Recommendation 25-11.

Japan requires that BFT-E caught by Japanese vessels be landed at one of the designated Japanese ports. As a result, carrier vessels have to go to Japan to land BFT-E. It is rare that a catching vessel carrying the BFT-E goes back to Japan after the end of the BFT fishing season because, in most cases, Japanese LSTLVs change their target fish to bigeye tuna (moving South) and continue their operation in the ICCAT area.

(vi) Risk analysis for illegal BFT fishing

In a hypothetical case that a Japanese LSTLV poaches BFT-E despite the MCS measures described above, the vessel has to sell the fish somewhere in the world. The importing State, especially if an ICCAT member, shall require an electronic Bluefin tuna Catch Document (eBCD) to import the BFT-E. However, the FAJ will never validate an eBCD for the export of such fish to market States.

In another hypothetical case, if a Japanese LSTLV poaches BFT-E and attempts to bring the fish to Japan, as it is prohibited to land illegally caught BFT-E, it can easily be identified by the landing inspections of the FAJ or business operators in Japan because an official tag is not attached to the fish and the fish is not accompanied by an eBCD. Furthermore, business operators are prohibited from buying such illegal fish by the Ministerial Ordinance.

(vii) Contact points

| Name | Professional Address | E-mail |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------------|
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(viii) Conclusion

To conclude, Japan fully implements MCS measures and capacity control as required by the relevant Recommendation of ICCAT. In addition, Japan adopts some additional and very effective MCS measures, including 100% landing inspection. Moreover, compliance of Japanese LSTLVs is further ensured through the assistance of and cooperation with port States and possible market States. Those combined measures are expected to eliminate any possibility of IUU fishing of BFT-E by Japanese vessels. Given the effectiveness of the combined measures, the FAJ is not going to dispatch its inspection vessel for BFT fishing.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Japan will not be part of an ICCAT International Inspection plan, due to its alternative measures described in the previous sub-paragraph.

6. Others

N/A.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------------------|----------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 47 | 49 | 36 | 41 | 42 | 40 | 40 | 1,175 | 1,225 | 900 | 1,025 | 1,050 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | 47 | 49 | 36 | 41 | 42 | 40 | 40 | 1,175 | 1,225 | 900 | 1,025 | 1,050 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 47 | 49 | 36 | 41*1 | 42*2 | 40*3 | 40 | 1,175 | 1,225 | 900 | 1,025 | 1,050 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Initial Quota^{5*} | | | | | | | | | | 2,430.54 | 2,279 | 3,114 | 3,114 | 3,114 | 3,559.41 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable)^{6*} | | | | | | | | | | 2,529 | 2,279.00 | 3,158.39 | 3,184.40 | 3,269.70 | 4,023.16 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | less than 0.04% (1 t) ⁸ | less than 0.03% (1 t) ⁸ | less than 0.04% (1 t) ⁸ | less than 0.04% (1 t) ⁸ | less than 0.04% (1 t) ⁸ |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | 1 t | 1 t | 1 t | 1 t | 1 t |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota^{7*} | | | | | | | | | | | 2,264 | 3,143.39*4 | 3,169.40*5 | 3,254.70*6 | 4,008.16*7 |
| Under/ overcapacity^{8*} | | | | | | | | | | | -1,364.00 | -2,118.39 | -2,119.40 | -2,254.70 | -3,008.16 |

*1 One of the 41 vessels cancelled its operation for BFT-E in the 2023 fishing season. *2 Three of the 42 vessels cancelled its operation for BFT-E in the 2024 fishing season.

*3 Three of the 40 vessels cancelled its operation for BFT-E in the 2025 fishing season. The figures are provisional. Once the number of vessels is confirmed, these figures will be revised and be communicated to the Secretariat.

*4 3,114.00 t (2023 initial quota) + 44.39 t (2022 carry over (Para 6 of Rec. 22-08))- 15 t (*8) = 3,143.39 t.*5 3,114.00 t (2024 initial quota) + 70.4 t (2023 carry over (Para 6 of Rec. 22-08))- 15 t (*8) = 3,169.4 t.

*6 3,114.00 t (2025 initial quota) + 155.7 t (2024 carry over (Para 6 of Rec. 24-05))- 15 t (*8) = 3,254.7 t.

*7 3,559.41 t (2026 initial quota) + 463.75 t (2025 carry over (Para 6 of Rec. 24-05))- 15 t (*8) = 4,008.16 t. *8 Japan sets aside 14 t for dead discards by the BFT fishery and allocates 1 t for bycatch by the other fishery.

Korea (Rep.)

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

Korea's adjusted bluefin tuna quota for 2026 will be 440.323 t subject to the endorsement by Panel 2.

368.93 t of initial quota + 50 t of quota transfer from Chinese Taipei + 21.393 t of unused quota carried forward from 2025

Longline is the only gear type that Korea uses for its bluefin tuna fishery. Open fishing season for the longline gear group will be from 1 September to 31 December 2026.

As Korean bluefin tuna longline vessels operate in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42°N and no other Korean tuna fishing vessels operate around or in the ICCAT temperate zones, there is virtually zero possibility that any bycatch may occur. Nevertheless, Korea will set aside 0.5 t of its quota for bycatch. Therefore, 439.823 t out of 440.323 t will be allocated to the longline gear group. The amount of any bycatch will be deducted from Korea's quota and the data will be reported to the ICCAT Secretariat. Korea has not experienced any bycatch of bluefin tuna so far.

BFT fishing vessels shall be equipped with a full-time operational VMS in line with the minimum standards in Rec. 18-10. BFT fishing vessels are transmitting satellite-based positions to Korean Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) every twenty minutes, but hourly positions are relayed to the Secretariat in accordance with Recs. 25-04 and 21-16. BFT fishing vessels shall only tranship bluefin tuna catches in ICCAT-registered ports with prior authorization. MOF will achieve more than 20% observer coverage for the 2026 fishing season. BFT catching vessels will affix a valid plastic tag to each BFT brought on board.

Korea's bluefin tuna quota will be allocated to four to six longline vessels of certain fishing companies which have historical records of bluefin tuna fishing. MOF will decide the individual quota for each vessel in consultation with those companies. The details of quota allocation will be submitted to the Secretariat at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing activities in accordance with para 52 of Rec. 25-04. Authorized fishing vessels are required to report their daily catch (including zero catch) to MOF by the end of the next day following their catch. Such report has to contain relevant information/data including the date, time, location (latitude and longitude), number of catch, individual bluefin tuna weight, number and weight of discarded/released fish (discards will be counted against the quota), etc. Any overcatch beyond the vessel's individual quota will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act which governs Korea's overseas fisheries.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

Korea would like to request the carry over of its unused 2025 quota 21.393 tons to 2026 in accordance with para 6 of Rec. 25-04.

2025 adjusted quota (279.224 t) – 2025 final catch (257.831 t) = unused quota (21.393 t)

1 c) Destination of catch

Farming: No

Landing: Yes

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | The masters of authorized longline fishing vessels will keep a bound logbook as well as an electronic logbook of their operation and record all necessary information. Bi-weekly catch reports will be submitted. All dead fish (retained or discarded) will be counted against the quota. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 16 | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | No more than six Korean longline vessels will catch BFT from 1 September to 31 December 2026 in the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42°N. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2 | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | Korean BFT catching vessels are prohibited from catching bluefin tuna weighting less than 30 kg or with fork length less than 115 cm. Fish below these minimum sizes that are discarded dead shall be counted against Korea's BFT quota. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2 | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Bycatch, including dead discards, will be deducted from Korea's quota. Korea will set aside 0.5 t of quota for this purpose. There was no by catch in 2025. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2 | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | Not applicable. Korea does not have any recreational or sports fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area. | | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | At-sea transshipment of bluefin tuna is prohibited and only in port transshipment is permitted under | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 16 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>domestic regulations. Transshipment of bluefin tuna shall take place in the designated ports only. Korea has also a robust transshipment authorisation scheme in place, under which all Korean distant water fishing vessels shall be authorized by Korean FMC before conducting transshipment. In the 2026 season, Korean vessels are expected to use the port of Cape Town, Dakar, Mindelo or Shimizu and designated domestic ports.</p> | | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | BFT fishing vessels are equipped with a full-time operational VMS, which transmits position data to the Secretariat every hour via Korean FMC. Any delay in data transmission or transmission failure is monitored and addressed immediately. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1, 13-2, 15 | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | MOF will achieve more than 20% observer coverage for the 2026 fishing season. | Distant Water Fisheries Development Act, Article 13-1,13-2, 21 | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Not applicable (Korea does not operate purse seine vessels for BFT and is not a farming CPC.) | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Article 13 of Korea's Distant Water Fisheries Development Act stipulates that: Each operator of a distant water fisheries business and a person engaged in distant water fisheries shall | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | conscientiously conduct fishing operations within the permitted scope of operations and shall comply with resolutions made by international fisheries organizations for the conservation and management of resources and international standards regarding fisheries in the high seas. | | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | Since 2017, Korea has been conducting a tagging program with archival tags (Mini-PAT) by scientific observers as part of GBYP. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

Third party ports for transshipment and landing (paras 80-84):

| | <i>Country</i> | <i>Port</i> |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| 1 | South Africa | Cape Town |
| 2 | Senegal | Dakar |
| 3 | Cape Verde | Mindelo |
| 4 | Japan | Shimizu |

List of domestic ports

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Boryeong | Hadong | Mokpo | Seoul |
| Busan | Hosan | Okgye | Sokcho |
| Daesan | Incheon | Okpo | Taeon |
| Donghae-Mukho | Janghang | Pohang | Tongyeong |
| Gohyeon | Jangseungpo | Pyeongtaek-Dangjin | Ulsan |
| Gunsan | Jeju | Samcheok | Wando |
| Gwangyang | Jinhae | Samcheonpo | Yeosu |
| Gyeongin | Masan | Seogwipo | |

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Korea will operate no more than 6 longline vessels in 2026 although the maximum number of longline vessels (over 40 m) it may operate is 10 according to the best catch rate defined by the SCRS and the corresponding capacity. Please refer to the detailed information in the last page of this paper.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Not applicable (Korea is not a farming CPC).

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Not applicable (Korea is not a farming CPC).

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

Masters of Korean longline vessels must provide the relevant authorities of the port, at least 4 hours before the estimated time of arrival, with the necessary information required by para 85. Also, after each trip, they must submit within 48 hours a landing declaration to the competent authorities of the CPC where the landing takes place and to the FMC of Korea. Korean fishing vessels are required to report their catch to the FMC of Korea on a daily basis and transshipment/landing activities must be reported, too, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act. The FMC of Korea analyzes all relevant information including VMS records and the MOF investigates any suspicious events identified by the FMC. Any infringements or non-compliances will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act which governs Korea's overseas fisheries. At least 60% of the Korean BFT fishing vessels returning to Korean ports will be inspected by Korean FMC.

Following control competent authorities are responsible for the implementation of the monitoring, control and inspection plan:

- i. Focal: International Cooperation Division, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Mr. Royun Kim / 100ro@korea.kr / (+82) 51-773-5467
- ii. Monitoring: Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) of Korea
Fisheries Monitoring team / fmc2014@korea.kr / (+82) 51-410-1405
- iii. Port inspection: Quarantine and Inspection Division, National Fishery Products Quality Management Service
Ms. Minkyung Kim / kyung91206@korea.kr / (+82) 51- 400-5741

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Korea does not have any plans to have an inspection vessel in the ICCAT Convention area in 2026 for the purpose of Joint International Inspection but Korean fishing vessels will fully cooperate with the boarding and inspection activities.

6. Others

None.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|--|------------------|------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | | | | 75 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 150 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | | | | 75 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 150 |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | | | | 75 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 150 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | | 160 | 221 | 221 | 221 | 368.93 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | 205.8 | 278.724 (221+50 +7.724) | 276.179 (221+50 +5.179) | 279.224 (221+50 +8.224) | 440.323 (368.93 + 50 + 21.393)* |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.11 |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | 278.224 (278.724 -0.5) | 275.679 (276.179 -0.5) | 278.724 (279.224 -0.5) | 439.823 (440.323 - 0.5) |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | -130.8 | -178.224 | -175.679 | -178.724 |

* 368.93 t of initial quota + 50 t of quota transfer from Chinese Taipei + 21.393 t of unused quota carried forward from 2025 – 0.5 t for possible bycatch.

Libya

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

The Government of Libya hereby submits its Fishing, Farming, Inspection, and Capacity Management Plan for the 2026 Mediterranean bluefin tuna season. This plan has been prepared in full conformity with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04. Libya's quota for 2026 has been established at **2,950 tonnes**, reflecting the collective commitment to sustainable management of Bluefin Tuna resources.

1 a) Overview (para 12)

In preparation for the 2026 season, Libya has adjusted its fishing capacity in strict accordance with ICCAT methodologies. The Fishing Plan allocates individual quotas to 15 authorized purse-seiner vessels, each exceeding 24 meters in length, which shall actively participate in the Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna fishery.

Fishing authorizations will be issued by the Ministry of Marine Wealth and duly reported to ICCAT. Management of fishing activities shall be governed by:

- ICCAT Recommendation 25-04,
- Law No. 14/1989 regulating Fisheries and Aquaculture in Libya.
- Ministerial Decree No. 32/2022, as amended by Decree No. 35/2023.

Of the allocated quota, including carryover of unutilized quota from 2025, 2,958 t shall be distributed among the 15 purse-seiners, while 10 t shall be reserved for incidental bycatch or minor overruns.

Libya will notify ICCAT of the authorized vessels and their quotas within the required timeframe. Joint Fishing Operations (JFOs) among Libyan vessels will be permitted, and JFOs with vessels from other CPCs may be authorized in accordance with paragraph 73 of Recommendation 25-04.

1 b) Carry Over (para 6)

Libya had unutilized quota amounting to 18 tonnes in 2025 which will be carried over to 2026 as per provisions in para. 6 of Rec. 25-04. Therefore, Libya's total quota for 2026 will be equivalent to 2,968 t.

1 c) Destination of catch

All catches will be destined for farming, in accordance with ICCAT forms and procedures, the farming destination will be indicated later in the specified forms.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | Masters of all authorized Libyan vessels engaged in the bluefin tuna fishery shall maintain bound logbooks in accordance with the procedures outlined in Annex 2 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04. These logbooks must record all fishing operations with precision and accuracy. In strict compliance with paragraph 74 of the Recommendation 25-04, weekly and monthly catch reports — including zero-catch declarations — shall be compiled and transmitted by the Libyan authorities to the ICCAT Secretariat. This reporting framework ensures continuous monitoring, transparency, and accountability of national fishing activities. | Art. 15/ Decree #35/2023 | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, Libyan purse-seiner vessels shall be authorized to operate exclusively in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea during the designated fishing period of 19 May to 1 July. By way of derogation, and strictly limited to compliance with | Art.12/ Decree #35/2023 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>paragraph 29 of the Recommendation, a maximum of three Libyan purse-seiners operating in FAO zones 37.3.1 and 37.3.2 may commence fishing from 15 May to 1 July, provided their catches are destined for farming units of CPCs located in the aforementioned zones.</p> <p>Furthermore, in line with paragraph 30 of Recommendation 25-04, Libya reserves the right to extend the authorized fishing period for affected vessels by up to ten additional days in cases of adverse weather conditions. Such extensions shall be granted only when wind speeds reach force 4 or higher on the Beaufort scale, and shall be substantiated by VMS reports evidencing vessel inactivity. In the case of Joint Fishing Operations (JFOs), concurrent inactivity of all participating vessels must be demonstrated.</p> <p>The Libyan Administration shall notify ICCAT Secretariat of the official closure of the fishing season in accordance with the provisions of Recommendation 25-04. This framework ensures</p> | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | that fishing activities are conducted within the prescribed temporal boundaries, while safeguarding operational flexibility under exceptional circumstances. | | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | Catching, retaining, landing, transshipping, transferring, selling, displaying for sale BFT weighing less than 30kg or less than 115cm fork length is prohibited as per para 33 of Rec. 25-04. Any incidental catch of Max. 5% weighing between 8-30 kg and shall be counted on Libyan quota. | Art. 31/32 Decree#35/2023 | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Libyan fishing vessels shall, whenever practicable, release bluefin tuna incidentally caught as bycatch; where release is not feasible, the quantity discarded—specifying whether the fish were alive or dead—shall be reported immediately to the competent authority. An annual bycatch quota of [10 tons] is hereby established, with reference to bycatch levels recorded in previous years for comparative monitoring. All bycatches, including discards, shall be fully counted | Art. 37/ Decree #35/2023 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| | | against Libya's national quota allocation. The methodology for calculating authorized bycatch levels, expressed in relation to total catches on board (by weight or number of specimens), shall be clearly defined and applied consistently to ensure compliance with ICCAT management procedures. | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No recreational and sport fisheries are allowed. | Art. 7 & 8/ Decree #35/2023 | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Transshipment of bluefin tuna at sea is strictly prohibited. All authorized Libyan fishing vessels shall land their catches exclusively in ports designated by the competent Fishery Authority, namely Al-Khoms, Tripoli, Misurata, and Tobruk. Vessels intending to enter any of these ports for the purpose of landing shall obtain prior entry authorization from the relevant port authorities. All landings of bluefin tuna shall be subject to inspection by both Port and Fishery Authorities, and the results of such inspections shall be formally communicated to the flag State of the fishing vessel through an official report. | Art. 32/ Decree#35/2023 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | All fishing vessels engaged in bluefin tuna operations shall be equipped with a fully functional Vessel Monitoring System (VMS). Transmission of positional data shall commence no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the vessel's authorized fishing period and shall continue for fifteen (15) days following the expiration of such authorization. The Fishery Authority shall monitor VMS transmissions on an hourly basis, and any interruption shall be immediately investigated and remedied. Where transmission cannot be restored within twenty-four (24) hours, the vessel concerned shall be ordered to return to port without delay. | Art 8, 34/ Decree #35/2023 (Transmission start 15 days before Authorization and continue 15 days after end of fishing campaign). | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | National observers shall cover 100% of the activity of towing and auxiliary vessels (BFT - Other Vessels if any). National observers shall not be deployed on catching vessels. For scientific purposes, the competent authority may appoint qualified researchers to accompany operations, provided that such appointments do not substitute or | Art.14/15 Decree #35/2023 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | diminish the mandatory ICCAT Regional Observer Program requirements. | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Regional observers shall be placed on board all catching vessels authorized to fish BFT in season 2026 on a full deployment (100%) basis. | Art.14/ Decree #35/2023 | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Law 14/1989, the Fishery and Aquaculture in Libya and Ministerial Decree (issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Marine Wealth) #32/2022, amended by Decree #35/2023 (issued by the Government of National Unity) adopting Rec. 22-08 and amending Decree No. 205/2013, to establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for BFT in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean. | | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | No Tagging Program in Libyan Sea. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of designated ports contained in CP24 is the following: Tripoli, Alkhoums, Musratah and Topruk

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

In accordance with SCRS recommendations CPC-Libya has endeavoured to keep its fishing capacity at a low level. CPC-Libya shall, in terms of Para 21 of Rec. 25-04, adjust its fishing capacity in a manner commensurate with the 'best catch rates' indicated by SCRS and the allocated quota to the particular fishing gear (**Table 2**).

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

In accordance with paragraphs 22 to 23 of Recommendation 25-04, Libya has duly communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat the existence of three authorized bluefin tuna farms with a combined capacity of 1,800 metric tons. Notwithstanding this notification, no farming activity shall be undertaken during the year 2026 due to prevailing security circumstances.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

This case is not applicable in CPC Libya Plan.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The Ministry of Marine Wealth (MOMW) is designated as the competent authority responsible for ensuring that the monitoring, control, and inspection plan is implemented in full compliance with the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04. The official contact points within MOMW charged with the execution of this plan are:

- Hasan Fouzi Gafri, Head of Fishing Ports Administration (gafrihasan@gmail.com), and
- Mohamed Noor Rabeie, Head of Vessels Registration Department (Elrabeie.Mohamed@gmail.com).

This framework is established pursuant to the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act No. 14/1989, Decree No. 32/2022 as amended by Decree No. 35/2023, and the Coast Guard and Port Security Act No. 229/2005 as modified in 2019. Prior to entry into any designated port, masters of catching vessels and auxiliary vessels, or their duly appointed representatives, shall provide the relevant port authorities with a pre-arrival notification at least four (4) hours before the estimated time of arrival. Such notification shall include:

- i) The estimated time of arrival;
- ii) The estimated quantity of Bluefin tuna retained on board (Dead Bluefin tuna in case of any).
- iii) The geographic area where the catch was taken.

And Port State authorities shall keep a record of all prior notices for the current year.

Fishing Inspectors from the Fishing Authority/Coast Guard shall be trained to this effect.

Given that the larger part of the quota is caught by the purse seine fleet on the high seas and transferred into cages of farms situated in the areas of competence of other CPCs only a minimal percentage can be inspected on arrival/landing in Libyan ports which will not allow for a reliable risk assessment system involving quota, fleet size and fishing effort. However, CPC-Libya will seek cooperation with the farming CPCs receiving fish caught by Libyan catching vessels to obtain further statistics in this regard. This shall be applied for bycatch and dead fish cases.

In case of landing in ports of other CPCs masters of Libyan catching vessels shall submit within 48 hours a landing declaration to the competent authorities of the CPC where the landing takes place and to CPC-Libya. The master of the authorized catching vessel shall be responsible and shall certify the completeness and accuracy of the declaration, which shall indicate, as a minimum requirement, the quantities of bluefin tuna landed and the area where they were caught. All landed catches shall be weighed and not only estimated. In the case of landings in Libya by catching vessels of other CPCs. CPC-Libya shall send a record of the landing to the flag CPC authority of the fishing vessel within 48 hours after the landing has ended.

a.1) Measures to compliance with quotas

The Fishery Authority will set up a Control Unit on a 24 x 7 basis during the fishing season.

Operators and masters of the authorized fishing vessels shall adhere to ICCAT Rec. 25-04.

Joint Fishing Operations (JFOs) and their respective allocation keys will be notified to ICCAT Secretariat within the stipulated time frame.

Respecting individual quota limits shall be monitored by fishery authorities and cross checked with ROPs on board fishing vessels.

All vessels or JFOs whose quota is exhausted shall be ordered back to port immediately.

All fishing vessels catching BFT shall adhere to the eBCD system.

Catching vessels shall be authorized to transfer their catches only to farming units in CPCs that can guarantee the utilization of stereoscopic systems for assessments of live fish on arrival of towing cages to their farms.

a.2) Enforcement of fishing plan

Regulations

Ministerial Decree (issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Marine Wealth) #33/2019, amended by Decree #35/2023 from Ministry of Marine Wealth adopting Rec. 25-04 and amending Decree No. 205/2013 to establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for BFT in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

Law # 14/1989 which organizes the Fishery and Aquaculture in Libya.

Imposing sanction

Any non-compliance with the regulations regarding BFT fishing operations shall lead to penalties stated in Decree #32/2022/Art. 20 (confiscation of fishing gear, releasing catches, suspending or withdrawal of license, decrease or withdrawal of individual quota). This decree is in force in this year which will give more effective measures.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Participation in the Joint International Inspection Scheme is not currently feasible due to resource constraints.

6. Others

N/A.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|--|------|------------------|-------|---------|---------|-------------------------|---------|--|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 71 | 71 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 31 | 31 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | | 1543 | 1543 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 34 | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | 33 | 33 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | | 1648 | 1648 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 125 | 125 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total longline fleet | | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 125 | 125 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Baitboat ³ | 19.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Trap | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 38 | 38 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | | 1773 | 1773 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | 747 | | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | 947 | 947 | 1846 | 2548 | 2548 | 2548 | 2950.03 | | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 2622 | 2968.0 | | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.34% | | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | (18ton) | (18ton) | (18ton) | (10ton) | | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | 947 | 947 | 1846 | 2530 | 2530 | 2604 | 2958 | | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | 826 | 826 | -1099 | -1783 | -1783 | -1857 | -2211 | | |

Mauritania

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

In accordance with the Recommendations and Resolutions adopted at the 29th Regular Meeting of the Commission, held in Seville (Spain) from 17 to 24 November 2025, and in accordance with the ICCAT quota allocation system for 2026, Mauritania has been allocated an annual quota of 55 t of bluefin tuna to be fished in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea ([Rec. 25-04](#)).

Mauritania intends to transfer the total amount of 55 t to Türkiye in accordance with paragraph 8 of [Rec. 25-04](#), to which Türkiye also agrees.

Mauritania's total fishing quota (55 t) will be transferred to the Turkish-flagged fishing vessel whose details are given below:

AT000TUR00040 – *Tuncay Sagun-6*

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

No carry over of underexploited tuna stocks from 2025 is requested.

1 c) Destination of catch

55 t are being transferred to Türkiye.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | The captains of the fishing vessel must keep a logbook in which they record daily information relating to fishing activities. At the end of each trip, the onboard logbook is sent to the competent authority electronically or by other means. It contains the bluefin tuna catches (including declarations of zero catches). Mauritania submits a biweekly catch report to ICCAT. Dead fish (kept or discarded) will be counted against the quota. | Maritime Fisheries Code and its implementing decree. Order establishing the fishing logbook. Law 017/2025 and Decree 159/2015 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|--|---|--|-------------|
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | | | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | It is prohibited to catch, retain, land, tranship, transfer, sell and display for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm. Fish below the minimum size that are discarded dead shall be counted against Mauritania's quota. | The methods and conditions, established by the General Commission of Fisheries Resources, for bluefin tuna fishing (No. 1827, of 19/03/2023) | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | No quantity for bycatch. | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No recreational or sport fishing is currently authorised in Mauritania. | Not applicable. | |
| 6 | Transhipment (paras 89-94) | Fishing vessels are only permitted to tranship bluefin tuna catches in designated CPC ports. No transhipment operations have been reported in Mauritania. | The methods and conditions, established by the General Commission of Fisheries Resources, for bluefin tuna fishing (No. 1827, of 19/03/2023) | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | All authorised vessels in the Mauritanian EEZ are equipped with a VMS system. All vessels in operation must transmit at least 24 positions per day, at a rate of one position per hour, to the GCM Monitoring Centre. | Order No. 664/MPem on satellite monitoring of fishing vessels in waters under national jurisdiction of 24/08/2020 | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | N/A | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | N/A | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Mauritanian national legislation on bluefin tuna is in line with ICCAT | General conditions of the General Fisheries Institution for | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | Recommendations. Each year, national legislation is amended in accordance with ICCAT recommendations. It includes all information relating to bluefin tuna fishing (fishing season, catch monitoring system, catch recording and reporting, minimum size, bycatch, etc.) | bluefin tuna fishing (No. 1827, dated 19/03/2023) | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The designated ports for landing bluefin tuna are:

- The autonomous port of Nouadhibou (PAN),
- The autonomous port of Nouakchott

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The total quantity of tuna that may be fished during the 2026 fishing season is 55 t, which will be transferred to Türkiye.

Mauritania's total fishing quota (55 t) will be transferred to the Turkish-flagged fishing vessel whose details are provided below:

AT000TUR00040 – *Tuncay Sagun-6*

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

There are currently no bluefin tuna farming facilities in Mauritanian waters. The fish will be transferred to Türkiye for farming in CPC member countries.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan**5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)**

Most of the Mauritanian fleet consists of small coastal vessels fishing for small pelagics, and the possibility of catching bluefin tuna is virtually inexistant as no pelagic trawlers, longliners, baitboats or traps operate under the Mauritanian flag.

The competent authority for the control and monitoring of fishing activities is the Mauritanian Coast Guard (GCM) of the Ministry of Fisheries, Maritime and Port Infrastructure (MPIMP). It works in close collaboration with the Directorate for Fisheries Resource Management and the port authorities. The designated contact points for the implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan are:

| List of contact points | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lamine CAMARA | Laminecam2000@yahoo.fr |
| CV Cheikh HMOUD | cheikhlehמודhmety@gmail.com |
| Ahmed DIEH | |

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

No Joint Scheme of International Inspection is implemented.

6. Others

Mauritania has nothing further to report.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|--|------|------------------|------|------|------|-------------------------|----------|--|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 55 | | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | |

Morocco

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

In accordance with the Recommendations and Resolutions adopted at the 29th Regular Meeting of ICCAT, held in Seville (Spain), from 17-24 November 2025, and under paragraph 4 of Rec. 25-04, Morocco's quota is fixed at 4,379.47 t, which will be distributed among the different operational segments: traps, tuna vessels (purse seine and longline) targeting bluefin tuna, small coastal vessels and artisanal boats that take bluefin tuna as bycatch. The quota of each segment is established according to the catch history and the number of fishing vessels in the segment.

Following the requests to transfer 55 tonnes from Namibia and 55 tonnes from Panama, to Morocco to be caught by traps during the current 2026 fishing season, and Morocco's acceptance for this request, and in accordance with paragraph 8 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, the total adjusted national quota after the transfer for Morocco will be 4,489.47 tonnes (4,379.47 t + 110 t).

In accordance with the provisions of the national fishing capacity management plan, as established in Article 10 to 13 of Rec. 25-04, as amended and supplemented, the maximum fishing capacity authorized to directly target bluefin tuna is distributed as follows:

- 18 traps
- 7 tuna purse seine vessels i.e. 4 vessels with LOA > 40 m and 3 vessels with LOA between 24 and 40 m.
- One tuna longline vessel with LOA > 24 m.
- Small coastal vessels and artisanal boats with a fishing license for bycatch during its migration period, and their catches will be counted, as in the past, against the quota allocated to their segment. The fishing gears used by these small coastal vessels and artisanal boats are longline and line. The catches of these vessels are reported in the logbook as well as in the eBCD system.

Individual quotas will be allocated to tuna purse seiners and tuna longliners over 24 metres and to Moroccan traps, in accordance with the Order of the Secretary of State to the Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests, responsible for maritime fisheries, No. 2648-24 of 5 Jomada I 1446 (8 November 2024) relating to the management and development plan for bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) fisheries in Moroccan maritime waters.

The total (including transfer and carry over) adjusted bluefin tuna fishing quota for the 2026 fishing season is distributed as follows:

- Traps: 2,878 t
- Tuna purse seine vessels: 1,053 t
- Tuna longline vessel : 70 tonnes
- Bluefin tuna bycatch reserved for small coastal vessels and artisanal boats (longline and handline (LL and HL)): 602.09 t, calculated based on historical bycatch statistics. It should be noted that bycatch in 2025 was 337.80 t).
- A reserve is set aside for the case of potential dead discards of bluefin tuna: 30 t.

It should be noted that the gears used to catch bluefin tuna in Morocco have specific fishing periods.

Among the six bluefin tuna farming facilities which shall be authorised, four will be operational in 2026 in accordance with specific conditions and methods which will be determined by the administration on the basis of the regulatory provisions in force. These four farming facilities are linked to authorised traps and vessels.

Fishing conditions will be established within the framework of the annual management plan for the bluefin tuna fishery, which has been updated to take into account the new provisions of the eastern bluefin tuna management plan adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with paragraph 6 of Rec. 25-04, Morocco requests a transfer of a volume of 143.62 t (3.88% of the initial quota (3,700 t)) (of its unused quota in 2025 to 2026. Therefore, the national adjusted quota (including transfer and carry over) will be 4,633.09 t.

1 c) Destination of catch

Trap catches will be destined to authorised Moroccan bluefin tuna fattening farms (55.76%) and export (6.92%). Catches taken by tuna vessels will be destined for fattening farms authorised by ICCAT (24.30%). Catches by small coastal vessels and artisanal boats shall be destined for export (13,02%).

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Notes</i> |
|---|--|---|--|--------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (para 74-88) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tuna (purse seine and longline) vessels have a bound logbook. - Catches of small coastal vessels and artisanal boats with a fishing license are recorded in the logbook and in the eBCD system. - Trap catches are included in fishing logbooks as well as in the eBCD system. - Dead fish (retained or discarded) will be deducted from the quota. - Implementation of the electronic bluefin tuna catch documentation programme/eBCD. - Transmission of bi-weekly bluefin tuna catches. - Dates of closure of the bluefin tuna fishery are reported to the ICCAT Secretariat. | Decree of the Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, Water, and Forests, responsible for maritime fisheries, No. 2648-24 of 5 Jomada I 1446 (8 November 2024) relating to the plan for the development and management of bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) fisheries in Moroccan maritime waters. | |
| 2 | Fishery openings (para 28-32) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bluefin tuna fishing by traps is authorised from 1 April to 31 July. - Bluefin tuna fishing by large pelagic longline is authorised from 1 January to 31 May. - As regards the purse seine bluefin tuna fishery, 7 purse seiners will operate within the framework of national joint fishing operations (JFOs): | Ministerial Decision No. BFT/01 of 13/02/2025 on the conditions of exploitation of bluefin tuna for the 2025 season. | |

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | <p>- 4 vessels will operate in the Mediterranean from 19 May to 1 July.</p> <p>- Three vessels will operate in the fishing zones of the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea, limited to waters under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Morocco. In this context, Morocco requests a derogation to allow the purse seine fishing season to be open from 1 May to 15 June.</p> | | |
| 3 | Minimum size (para 33-35) | <p>It is prohibited to catch, retain onboard, tranship, transfer, land, store, sell, display or offer for sale bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm. A 5% maximum bycatch is authorised for bluefin tunas weighing between 8 and 30 kg or 75 cm to 115 cm.</p> <p>All bluefin tuna that is smaller than the minimum size would be recorded and deducted from the quota allocated to Morocco.</p> | <p>Order of the Ministry of Fishing and Merchant Marine No. 1154-88 of 20 safar 1409 (3 October 1988) which fixes the minimum trade size of individuals caught in Moroccan maritime waters as amended and supplemented by Order No. 4132-19 dated 26 December 2019.</p> <p>This order is also applicable to the high seas in the ICCAT Convention area.</p> | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | <p>Vessels that take bluefin tuna as bycatch are authorised to retain, at any time, bluefin tuna representing less than 20% of the total annual catch in weight or number of specimens.</p> <p>A quota of 602.09 t allocated to bycatch taken by small coastal boats and artisanal boats, using longline and handline is calculated on an annual basis, and is counted and deducted from the national quota allocated by ICCAT.</p> | <p>Decree of the Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, Water, and Forests, responsible for maritime fisheries, No. 2648-24 of 5 Jomada I 1446 (8 November 2024) relating to the plan for the development and management of bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) fisheries in Moroccan maritime waters.</p> | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | <p>In 2025, the level of bycatch amounted to 337.80 t.</p> <p>A reserve of 30 t is set aside for potential dead discards of bluefin tuna.</p> <p>A total of 632.09 t (13.64%) of the adjusted quota (4,633.09 t) is set aside for bycatch taken by small coastal vessels and artisanal boats and potential dead discards of bluefin tuna.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sport fisheries (para 38-46) | Currently sport and recreational fishing is not authorised. | | |
| 6 | Transshipment (para 89-94) | <p>Prohibition on at-sea transshipment.</p> <p>Only transshipment at the port is authorised under national regulations.</p> <p>Transshipment is authorised only at the ports designated to this effect, in accordance with all the provisions of ICCAT Recommendations.</p> <p>All in-port transshipment operations of bluefin tuna are subject to inspection.</p> | <p>Dahir No. 1-14-95 of 12 May 2014 concerned with the promulgation of Law No. 15-12 on the prevention and fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and amending and supplementing the dahir concerned with Law No. 1-73-255 of 27 chaoual 1393 (23 November 1973) forming the regulation on maritime fishing.</p> <p>Decree No. 455.17.2 of 26 April 2018 for the compliance of certain provisions of Title I of Law No. 15-12 on the prevention and fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.</p> <p>Decree No. 2.17.456 of 15 March 2018 for the compliance of certain provisions of Decree No. 1-73-255 dated 23 November 1973 forming the regulation on maritime fishing.</p> | |
| 7 | VMS (para 219-225/ para 222-228) | <p>Obligation to have onboard a functional positioning and tracking device for all authorized fishing vessels subject to VMS under Rec. 25-04.</p> <p>The transmission of VMS data of fishing vessels subject to VMS under Rec. 25-04, registered in the ICCAT record start, at least 5 days before the</p> | <p>Decree No. 2.18.104 of 02 rabbi II 1440 (10 December 2018) amending and supplementing Decree No. 2-09-674 of 30 rabbi I 1431 (17 March 2010) which establishes the conditions and methods for installation and use onboard of fishing vessels of a positioning and tracking system which continues to use satellite communications to transmit data.</p> | |

| | | | | |
|----|---|--|---|--|
| | | <p>authorised period and continue 5 days after this period, unless the vessel is deregistered from the list of authorised vessels.</p> <p>VMS data transmission is ensured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Every hour for seiners and trawlers; - Every two hours for other vessels. | <p>Order No. 574-19 of 29 Jomada II 1440 (7 March 2019) on the fishing vessel positioning and ongoing tracking device.</p> | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (para 95-100) | <p>Mandatory presence of observers during the following operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the farming facility; - Harvest of bluefin tuna; - Intra-farm transfers (from a floating cage to another); - Sealing and unsealing of cages. | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (para 101-107) | <p>Presence of onboard observers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transfer of live bluefin tuna from the trap to the farming facilities: 100%. - Caging and harvesting in farms: 100%. - Tuna purse seiners: 100%. | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | | <p>Decree of the Secretary of State to the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, Water, and Forests, responsible for maritime fisheries, No. 2648-24 of 5 Jomada 1446 (8 November 2024) relating to the plan for the development and management of bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) fisheries in Moroccan maritime waters.</p> | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

List of designated port for landing and transhipment of bluefin tuna for the 2026 season: Agadir, Casablanca, Dakhla, Kenitra, Laayoune, Larache and Tanger Ville.

List of ports designated only for landing bluefin tuna for the 2026 season: Al Hoceima, Asilah, Boujdour, El jadida, Essaouira, Jebha, Jorf Lasfar, Ksar Sghir, Mdiq, Mohammedia, Nador, Safi, Sidi Ifni, Tarfaya, Ras kebdana and TanTan.

List of ports designated only for transhipment of bluefin tuna for the 2026 season: Tanger-Med.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The number of fishing vessels and the corresponding fishing capacity are reported in the attached table.

Given that Morocco has registered an under capacity for several years (-177.6 in 2025), three new tuna vessels (two tuna seiners and one tuna longliner) will be authorized during the 2026 bluefin tuna fishing season.

This fishing capacity management plan may be revised and communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat at least one working day before the activity corresponding to that modification is carried out, in accordance with the provisions of para 13 of Rec. 25-04.

3. Annual farming management plan (para 22 and 23), as applicable

Morocco hereby reserves the right to submit, if applicable, revised farming management plans to the Secretariat by 1 June 2026, in accordance with paragraph 22 of the ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

In addition, it should be signalled that no carryover of caged live bluefin tuna is authorised.

Morocco's farming capacity management plan for 2026 is as follows:

- Farming facilities authorized to be operational: 4 farms;
- These four farms are associated to traps and authorised vessels (as indicated in the first page).

| <i>Farm name</i> | <i>No. FFB ICCAT</i> | <i>Geographic coordinates</i> | <i>Wild input (t) *</i> | <i>Capacity (t)*</i> |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|
| BLUE FARM | AT001MAR00002 | Point A: Lat: 35°18'17,00"N Long: 006°11'19,00"W Point B: Lat: 35°19'17,00"N Long: 006°11'19,00"W Point C: Lat: 35°19'17,00"N Long: 006°10'47,20"W Point D: Lat: 35°18'17,00"N Long: 006°10'47,20"W | 1,057 | 2,500 |
| LA LEVANTADA | AT001MAR00003 | Point A: Lat: 35°18'10,00"N Long: 006°10'31,00"W Point B: Lat: 35°19'10,00"N Long: 006°10'31,00"W Point C: Lat: 35°19'10,00"N Long: 006°10'01,50"W Point D: Lat: 35°18'10,00"N Long: 006°10'01,50"W | 1,128 | 1500 |
| PESBAK FISH | AT001MAR00004 | Point A: Lat: 35°19'23"N Long: 06°10'35"W Point B: Lat: 35°20'27" N Long: 06°10'30"W Point C: Lat: 35°20'24" N Long: 06°09'28"W Point D: Lat: 35°19'21" N Long: 06°09'33"W | 1,138 | 1,500 |
| ATLANTIQUE TUNA FARM | AT001MAR00005 | Point A: Lat: 34°24'00" N Long: 06°39'25" W Point B: Lat: 34°25'14" N Long: 06°38'40" W Point C: Lat: 34°25'00" N Long: 06°36'50" W Point D: Lat: 34°23'41" N Long: 06°37'46" W | 608 | 1,500 |
| TOTAL | | | 3,931 | 7,000 |

*Approximate and provisional estimation.

- Total amount per farm carried over from previous year: 0

Surveillance and control of bluefin tuna caging operations

- Surveillance and control of caging operations in farming facilities are supported, in particular, by the presence of authorised control officers, regional observers and national observers and video recording by using conventional cameras and stereoscopic cameras, in accordance with the conditions established in Recommendation 25-04.

Random controls in farming facilities

- Random control of at least 10% of number of cages on each farm after the conclusion of caging operations. These controls are carried out on the internal traceability system implemented by the fattening farm and also by transfer operation followed by a control camera for verification of the number of bluefin tuna transferred;

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Morocco does not intend to engage in bluefin tuna fry aquaculture in 2026.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10c)

| Competent control authority of Morocco, depending on the Secretary of State for Maritime Fisheries, responsible for implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Directorate of Control of Maritime Fisheries Activities | |
| List of contacts | |
| Surname and first name | E-mail address |
| Abdellatif HMIDANE | hmidane@mpm.gov.ma |
| BOUAAMRI MOUNIR | bouaamri@mpm.gov.ma |
| KECHA YOUSSEF | youssef.kecha@mpm.gov.ma |

Fishery monitoring, control and observation will be carried out in accordance with the national regulation and ICCAT Recommendations in force through the use of the control and surveillance methodology for bluefin tuna fishing and fattening activities in 2026.

This methodology is part of the framework for implementation of national maritime fishery control activities. It includes measures for compliance with ICCAT provisions on control and inspection, in particular, those of Rec. 25-04. This methodology therefore includes measures related to the following actions:

Prior notification of landings

- Maintain records for monitoring prior notifications to port entry transmitted by all catch, transformation and support vessels that carry onboard catches equivalent or superior to three fishes or a ton;

Monitoring and control of landings

- Systematic monitoring and control of landings of the coastal and artisanal fleet which must be effectively weighed before first sale. Compliance with the catch documentation system, which is implemented nationally, is also mandatory. This national documentation system enables control through direct systematic cross-checking between the catch declaration on landing and data from first sale, and acts as an additional tool for verifying validation of documents of the eBCD process;

Monitoring and control of harvesting operations in traps and farming facilities

- Monitoring and control of harvesting operations in traps and farming facilities, in particular in the presence of authorised control officers, regional observers and/or national observers in accordance with the provisions of Rec. 25-04;

Monitoring and control of live bluefin tuna transfer operations

- Monitoring and control of bluefin tuna transfer operations are supported in particular by the presence of authorised control officers, regional observers and/or national observers and video recording using conventional cameras in accordance with the conditions established in Rec. 25-04;

VMS

- VMS surveillance of relevant fishing vessels carried out by the FMC of the Secretary of State responsible for Maritime Fisheries with online real time availability of position data for the regional maritime fisheries administration (Maritime Fisheries Delegations);

Bluefin tuna catch documentation

- Establishment of a procedure to report and record information regarding catch, transfer, caging, harvesting, in particular, through implementation of the catch documentation programme (eBCD);

Port inspection

- Compliance with provisions on port inspection measures for foreign vessels, and fulfilment of international commitments by the Kingdom of Morocco with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

At-sea surveillance

- At-sea surveillance is also performed by other authorities to which powers have been conferred by the national regulation.

Measures for sealing cages

- Morocco will implement the measures for sealing bluefin tuna cages in accordance with Recommendation 25-04.

5 b) Joint scheme of international inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

The Kingdom of Morocco has eight vessels that could operate outside the national EEZ. There will not be an inspection vessel.

It should be noted that these eight vessels will embark ICCAT regional observers, in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT recommendations.

6. Others

Regarding scientific research and in accordance with paragraph 26 of ICCAT Rec. 25-04, Morocco intends to update in 2026 its study on growth rate of fattened bluefin tuna, based on measures of stereoscopic cameras and size sampling both at caging and during the harvesting period at the end of the fattening season. The results of this study will be presented at the 2026 Bluefin tuna Species Group meeting.

Furthermore, in accordance with paragraph 167 of the same Recommendation, Morocco is willing to update during 2026, if necessary, the pilot study carried out in 2024. This study aimed at estimating the length of bluefin tuna specimens using artificial intelligence (AI), in collaboration with a specialised Japanese company, will require financial support of the ICCAT/JCAP project.

This project will be coordinated jointly by the National Institute of Fisheries Research and ICCAT/JCAP project.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref year</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref Year</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Type | <i>Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t)</i> | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40 m | 70.66 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 70.66 | 70.66 | 141.32 | 282.64 | 282.64 | 282.64 | 282.64 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40 m | 49.78 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | 149.34 | 149.3 | 0 | 0 | 49.78 | 49.78 | 149.34 |
| Purse seiner less than 24 m | 33.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total purse seine fleet | | | 4 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 | | 220 | 220 | 141.32 | 282.6 | 332.42 | 332.42 | 431.98 |
| Longliner over 40 m | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40 m | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.68 |
| Longliner less than 24 m | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total longline fleet | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5.68 |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trap | 130 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | | 1950 | 1950 | 1950 | 2340 | 2340 | 2340 | 2340 |
| Small coastal vessels and baitboats | N/A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other (specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | 80 | 80 | 309 | 524 | 490 | 510 | 632.09 |
| Total fleet / fishing capacity | | 19 | 19 | 17 | 22 | 23 | 23 | 26 | | 2250 | 2250 | 2400.3 | 3147 | 3162.4 | 3182.42 | 3409.75 |
| Initial quota | | | | | | | | | | 3177 | 2729 | 2578 | 3700 | 3700 | 3700 | 4379.47 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Adjusted quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | 3177 | 2729 | 2578 | 3703 | 3739 | 3870 | 4633.09 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | 2.99 | 3.00 | 11.99 | 14.15 | 13.11 | 13.18 | 13.64 |
| Bycatch allocation | | | | | | | | | | 95 | 82 | 309 | 524 | 490 | 510 | 632.09 |
| Quota for scientific research (if necessary) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | 3082 | 2647 | 2269 | 3179 | 3249 | 3360 | 4001 |
| Under/overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | -832 | -397 | 131.32 | -32.4 | -86.58 | -177.6 | -591.25 |

Norway

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

According to Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 4, Norway is allocated a quota of 461.38 t in 2026. Regarding Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 6, Norway requests to transfer 20% of its 2025 quota to 2026. A total of 99.7 t of the Norwegian catch quota was utilized in 2025, and 73.6 t (20% of 368 t) may, according to paragraph 6, be transferred to 2026. If the request is endorsed, the adjusted quota for 2026 will be 534.98 t.

Norway has set aside a group quota of 440 t for purse seiners and longline vessels, and a group quota of 40 t for small-scale coastal vessels. Furthermore, we have allocated a group quota of 8 t for the recreational fishery, and in addition 2 t will be set aside for the purpose of catch and release. Norway will also allocate a quota of 10 t for bycatch, and 34.98 t for research activities. Out of the research quota 30 t will be allocated to the pilot project of short-term live storage of bluefin tuna in accordance with Res. 22-07/25-03.

The Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna will be regulated through the national Regulations on Fisheries for Bluefin Tuna in 2026, which will enter into force when the Norwegian fishing, farming, inspection and capacity management plan has been approved by ICCAT. In addition to national requirements, these Regulations will cover the requirements specified in ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and include a general requirement to comply with the relevant ICCAT recommendations.

Norway will authorize ten purse seiners to fish for bluefin tuna in 2026, four of these vessels have an overall length exceeding 40 m. The purse seiners will be given maximum quotas. In addition, Norway will authorize 20 longline vessels that will participate with the same individually allocated quota as the purse seiners. The exact maximum quotas may be adjusted throughout the fishing season, but at no time will the total Norwegian quota be exceeded.

A limited number of vessels will get access to participate in the small-scale coastal fishery in 2026. In 2025, 30 small-scale coastal vessels were authorized to participate in the Norwegian bluefin tuna fishery. For 2026 we will authorize 40 small-scale coastal vessels to participate in this fishery.

Norway will authorize a number of vessels for a recreational fishery. A few of these vessels will also get a permit to participate in tag and release fishery of bluefin tuna. Further details are specified in Section 2 below.

10 t of the Norwegian quota are set aside for unintentional bycatch of bluefin tuna. Bycatch of bluefin tuna in the Norwegian fishery is taking place in relation to non-ICCAT regulated fisheries, such as the mackerel and blue whiting fishery. Annual variations in these fisheries are reflected in the number of bycatch. The highest level of bycatch of bluefin tuna registered in the Norwegian economic zone in the past few years is 8.4 t in 2015, and in 2025 the total bycatch was 3.4 t. Therefore, 10 t set aside for bycatch should be more than sufficient to cover bycatch in 2026.

All bycatch of bluefin tuna shall immediately be reported to the Norwegian FMC. The FMC will alert inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries who will initiate appropriate follow-up action. The FMC is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and any interruption in the transmission of the electronic logbooks will immediately be followed up by the FMC. The Norwegian Coastguard also has access to the electronic logbooks in real time.

The purse seiners, longline vessels and small-scale coastal vessels will be required to communicate information from their electronic logbook to the Norwegian FMC on a daily basis, including information on date, time, location (latitude and longitude) and weight and number of bluefin tuna taken.

The vessels participating in the recreational fishery and in the tag and release fishery are required to communicate the same information as the commercial vessels. They also have to stay in close contact with the Institute of Marine Research.

All Norwegian catching vessels with an overall length exceeding 8 meters are required to send position reports (VMS) and daily catch reports to the FMC.

Further information regarding the monitoring and control of the Norwegian quota is included in the table below.

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 52, Norway will submit information concerning the vessels authorised to conduct this fishery to the ICCAT Executive Secretary at the latest 15 days before the beginning of the fishing activity. Any subsequent modification to the annual fishing plan will be transmitted to the ICCAT Executive Secretary in accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 15.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

Norway requests a transfer of 73,6 t from 2025 to 2026.

1 c) Destination of catch

All bluefin tuna caught by Norwegian vessels will be landed, except for those used for the pilot study on short-term live storage. They will be stored for a limited period of time before they are prepared for sale.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|---|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <p>74. The vessels authorised to target bluefin tuna will be required to keep an electronic logbook.</p> <p>75. Not applicable. There are no Norwegian towing, auxiliary or processing vessels participating in the BFT fishery.</p> <p>However, under the pilot project on live storage, the towing operation will be carried out by the same purse seine vessel that catches the fish. This vessel will then report the required information via its electronic logbook.</p> <p>76. The Norwegian vessels fishing for bluefin tuna will be required to communicate information from their electronic logbook to the Norwegian FMC on a daily basis, including information on</p> | <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 17 and Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 17 and Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> <p>The Marine Resources Act and Regulation relating to harvesting of wild living marine resources.</p> <p>Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | <p>date, time, location (latitude and longitude) and weight and number of bluefin tuna taken.</p> <p>The Norwegian legislation requires that all dead fish, including fish under the minimum size, shall be landed and deducted from the vessel quota.</p> <p>The FMC is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and any interruption in the transmission of the electronic logbooks will immediately be followed up by the FMC.</p> <p>The Norwegian Coastguard will have access to the electronic logbooks in real time.</p> <p>77. The purse seiners will be required to communicate the daily reports on a fishing operation by fishing operation basis, including when the catch is zero. The reports shall be transmitted by the operator to the Norwegian FMC by 9.00 GMT for the preceding day.</p> <p>78. Not applicable. There are no Norwegian traps fishing for bluefin tuna.</p> <p>79. Catching vessels other than purse seiners will be required to transmit to the Norwegian FMC by the latest Tuesday at noon for the preceding week ending Sunday.</p> <p>From 1 January 2026, all Norwegian catching vessels with an overall length exceeding 8 meters are required to send position reports (VMS) and daily catch reports to the FMC.</p> | <p>Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> <p>Regulations on Coastal fisheries phone application.</p> <p>Regulations on landing of catch.</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| | | All catching vessels are required to submit a landing or sales note at the time of landing. | | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | <p>Purse seine fishing for bluefin tuna is permitted in the Norwegian Economic Zone from 25 June to 15 November, in accordance with Rec. 25-04 paragraph 28.</p> <p>Fishing with longline vessels will be permitted in the Norwegian Economic Zone from 1 August to 31 December.</p> <p>If weather conditions prevent purse seine fishing operations during the authorised fishing period, Norway may, in accordance with Rec. 25-04 paragraph 29, extend the fishing period for the affected vessels for the equivalent number of lost days up to a maximum of ten days. Weather conditions which may lead to an extension of the fishing period shall correspond to wind speeds reaching 4 or more on the Beaufort scale.</p> <p>Norway has established a fishing season for small-scale coastal vessels in the Norwegian Economic Zone from 13 May to 31 December 2026.</p> <p>The fishing season for the recreational fishery will be from 13 May to 31 December 2026.</p> | Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 3. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | The Norwegian vessels authorised to fish for bluefin tuna will only be authorised to fish in Norwegian waters. No bluefin tuna at such low individual size has been registered in Norwegian | Regulation relating to harvesting of wild living marine resources § 47. Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 2. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>fisheries. Nevertheless, a minimum size of 30 kilos or 115 cm applies.</p> <p>For catching vessels fishing actively for bluefin tuna an incidental catch of maximum 5% of bluefin tuna weighing between 8 and 30 kg or with fork length between 75-115 cm may be authorised according to Rec. 25-04 paragraph 36.</p> <p>Not applicable. There are no Norwegian baitboats or trolling boats authorised to fish for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and no Norwegian vessels are authorised to fish for bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean Sea or the Adriatic Sea.</p> <p>Not applicable. Reference is made to paragraph 34 above.</p> | | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37, including % to be set aside) | <p>Norway has allocated a quota of 10 t for bycatch of bluefin tuna in other fisheries in 2026. By comparison, the bycatch in 2025 was 3.4 t.</p> <p>Bycatch of bluefin tuna in the Norwegian fishery is taking place in relation to non-ICCAT regulated fisheries, such as the mackerel and blue whiting fishery, in addition to the BFT swimming into farms. Annual variations in these fisheries are reflected in the number of bycatch.</p> <p>All bycatches of dead bluefin tuna shall be landed and deducted from the Norwegian quota and reported on an annual basis to ICCAT.</p> | Regulation on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 §§ 2 and 7. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>If no quota has been allocated to the fishing vessel concerned, or if the quota has already been exhausted, the catching vessel shall take the necessary measures to ensure the release of live bluefin tuna. If the bluefin tuna is dead, it shall be landed and the appropriate follow-up action shall be taken in accordance with domestic law.</p> <p>For vessels not actively fishing for bluefin tuna, any quantity of bluefin tuna kept on board shall be clearly separated from other fish species to allow control authorities to monitor the respect of this rule.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | <p>In 2025, Norway issued fishing authorisations to 94 teams participating in a recreational fishery. 43 of these teams were also authorised to participate in a tag and release fishery. We expect the number of vessels in 2026 to increase slightly.</p> <p>The tag and release fisheries follow the requirements in Rec. 25-04 paragraph 44.</p> <p>The Norwegian legislation requires that all dead fish, including those caught by recreational and tag and release fishery, shall be landed. The Norwegian Regulation on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna contains measures which prohibit recreational and tag and release vessels to land more than one bluefin tuna per vessel per day.</p> | <p>Regulation on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 5.</p> <p>Regulation relating to harvesting of wild living marine resources § 47.</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 13.</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|---|-------------|
| | | <p>Norway has prohibited the marketing of bluefin tuna caught in recreational and tag and release fishery.</p> <p>Data, including weight of each bluefin tuna caught during recreational and tag and release fishery, will be communicated to the ICCAT Secretariat for the preceding year by 31 July each year.</p> <p>Dead catches from recreational and tag and release fishery will be counted against the Norwegian quota. 8 t of the Norwegian quota is set aside to cover catches from a recreational fishery, and 2 t of the Norwegian quota is set aside to cover any bluefin tuna which might die during the tag and release fishery.</p> <p>Norway will take measures to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the release of bluefin tuna caught alive in recreational fisheries if no quota has been allocated to the vessel or if the quota has been exhausted.</p> <p>Only vessels with a license issued by the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries are allowed to participate in the tag and release fishery. The vessels must also be authorised by the competent authorities to perform the tagging process. The license to participate in the tag and release fishery, and the authorisation to perform the tagging process, will be withdrawn if the vessel does not comply with the terms of the license/authorisation.</p> | <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 13.</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 13.</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 2.</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|---|-------------|
| | | <p>All vessels participating in the tag and release fishery will be closely monitored by the Directorate of Fisheries.</p> <p>Norway will report on tag and release activities in accordance with Rec. 11-06.</p> <p>Any bluefin tuna that die during tag and release activities will be reported and deducted from the Norwegian quota.</p> <p>Norway will, upon request from ICCAT, make available the list of sport and recreational vessels which have received an authorisation.</p> <p>The list of sport and recreational vessels will include the information specified in Rec. 25-04 paragraph 46.</p> | | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Not applicable. All transshipment of bluefin tuna at sea is prohibited. | Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 18. | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 219-225 / paras 222-228) | <p>The purse seiners, the longline vessels and the small-scale coastal vessels over 8 m authorised to target bluefin tuna will be required to send position reports (VMS) every ten minutes to the FMC at the Directorate of Fisheries. The FMC is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and any interruption in the transmission of VMS signals will immediately be followed up by the FMC.</p> <p>VMS will be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat, every two hours for longline vessels, and every hour for purse seine vessels.</p> | <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 17.</p> <p>Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>All Norwegian catching vessels with an overall length exceeding 8 meters are required to send position reports (VMS) and daily catch reports to the FMC.</p> <p>All catching vessels are required to submit a landing or sales note at the time of landing.</p> <p>Norway does not use towing vessels in the commercial fishery. Should it be necessary to use towing vessels during the research on short-term live storage of bluefin tuna, the towing vessel(s) will be required to install and operate a VMS in accordance with Rec. 18-10 and transmit messages at least every 10 minutes.</p> <p>The Norwegian Coastguard will have access to both VMS signals and electronic logbooks in real time.</p> <p>The VMS signals will be forwarded to the ICCAT Secretariat at least 5 days before the vessel's period of authorisation and shall continue at least 5 days after its period of authorisation.</p> | | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | <p>In 2026, Norway will have 20 longline vessels over 15 meters participating in the fisheries. We do not have any pelagic trawlers or baitboats over 15 meters.</p> <p>The Institute of Marine Research will have an observer coverage of the authorised purse seine vessels of at least 5% measured in number of trips as required in para 4a) in</p> | Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 14. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | <p>Recommendation 16-14. Furthermore, the operative unit of the Directorate of Fisheries will provide an observer coverage on 20 percent on the longline vessels, in accordance with para 95-100 in Recommendation 25-04.</p> <p>The longliners and the purse seine vessels will be provided with an information sheet where they will include information regarding the scheduled start-up date, area and period for the bluefin tuna fishery. Based on this plan, the Norwegian Surveillance Services and the Institute of Marine Research will organize their observer coverage ensuring representative temporal and spatial coverage to collect adequate and appropriate data and information on catch, effort and other scientific and management aspects, in line with Rec. 25-04 and Rec. 16-14.</p> <p>All Norwegian vessels will be required to keep close contact with the Norwegian Surveillance Services when fishing for bluefin tuna to ensure that the requirements relating to observer coverage are fulfilled.</p> <p>The vessels authorised to target bluefin tuna will be required to send position reports (VMS) at least every ten minutes as well as daily reports from the electronic logbooks to the FMC at the Directorate of Fisheries. The Surveillance Services have access to this information in real time.</p> | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | The Institute of Marine Research will provide the Norwegian Surveillance Services with relevant training and inform them of which sampling methods that must be used to collect biological data in accordance with Rec. 25-04 | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | <p>The purse seine vessels will be required to have 100% observer coverage under the Regional Observer Programme (ROP).</p> <p>The vessels will be closely monitored by the FMC, and the Directorate of Fisheries will carry out landing inspections. The Institute of Marine Research will, if the situation allows it, have scientists on board several of the vessels.</p> | <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 16.</p> <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026 § 17.</p> | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | <p>The Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna will be regulated through the Regulations on Fisheries for Bluefin Tuna in 2026, which will be adopted when the Norwegian fishing, farming, inspection and capacity management plan has been approved by ICCAT.</p> <p>In addition to national requirements, these Regulations will cover the requirements specified in ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and include a general requirement to comply with the relevant ICCAT recommendations.</p> <p>The requirements regarding catch reporting and VMS are already in place in the regulations on an Electronic Reporting System.</p> | <p>Regulations on Fishery for Bluefin Tuna in 2026.</p> <p>Regulations on an Electronic Reporting System (logbook requirements).</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|--|---|--|-------------|
| | <p><i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i></p> | <p>Norway conducts a tag and release fishery in accordance with requirements in Rec. 25-04 paragraph 44.</p> <p>Only vessels with a license issued by the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries are allowed to participate in the tag and release fishery. The vessels must also be authorised by the competent authorities to perform the tagging process. The license to participate in the tag and release fishery, and the authorisation to perform the tagging process, will be withdrawn if the vessel does not comply with the terms of the license/authorisation.</p> <p>Any bluefin tuna that die during tag and release activities will be reported and deducted from the Norwegian quota.</p> <p>Norway will, upon request from ICCAT, make available the list of sport and recreational vessels which have received an authorisation.</p> <p>The list of sport and recreational vessels will include the information specified in Rec. 25-04 paragraph 46.</p> | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

A list of designated ports for landing and transhipment through form CP24 are attached to the fishing plan. The list is also attached on the last page of this plan.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 are based on catches from the Mediterranean Sea. These catch rates do not reflect the catch rates in the feeding areas in Norwegian waters. When bluefin tunas are feeding in Norwegian waters, they are much less aggregated than when they are spawning in the Mediterranean Sea. In addition to this, the weather along the Norwegian coast in September and October

often prevents the fishermen from going out to fish for bluefin tuna. As requested by the Chair of Panel 2 at the Commission annual meeting in 2019, Norway provided a paper to the SCRS in 2020 on catch rates for the Norwegian purse seine vessels fishing in the Norwegian Economic Zone. Norway also presented this paper in the Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 in 2020. For further detail see SCRS/2020/017.

In accordance with Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 20 b) the adjustment of fishing capacity in paragraphs 15, 16 and 19 does not apply to Norway.

As the vessels have not been selected, information on their length is not yet available. The purse seine vessels and the longline vessels will be allocated equal individual vessel quotas within the group quota of 440 t, regardless of the size of the vessel. In addition, the vessels will be given *maximum* quotas. The exact maximum quotas may be adjusted throughout the fishing season, but at no time will the total Norwegian quota be exceeded.

The small-scale coastal vessels will be allocated a specific sectorial quota of 40 t. 10 t of bluefin tuna will be set aside to cover incidental bycatches in fisheries not targeting bluefin tuna, 34.98 t will be set aside for research, 2 t will be set aside for tag and release fishery, and 8 t will be set aside for the recreational fishery.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Not applicable. Norway does not have any bluefin tuna farms.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Not applicable. Norway does not conduct any aquaculture related to bluefin tuna.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

Norway has established a system of real-time monitoring of all its fisheries and is committed to taking the measures necessary to ensure full compliance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04. The purse seine vessels will be required to have 100% observer coverage under the Regional Observer Programme (ROP). Furthermore, the operative unit of the Directorate of Fisheries will provide an observer coverage of at least 20 percent on the longline vessel, in accordance with para 95-100 in Recommendation 25-04.

Small-scale coastal vessels will be monitored closely. The vessels will be monitored by the FMC, and the Directorate of Fisheries will carry out landing inspections. The Institute of Marine Research will, if the situation allows it, have scientists on board several of the vessels.

All Norwegian vessels having catches of bluefin tuna, including as bycatch, are required to inform the Norwegian FMC. Furthermore, a minimum of 5% of the landings of bluefin tuna by the vessels targeting this species will be inspected by inspectors from the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries. These inspections will be carried out as full inspections, i.e. the inspectors will monitor the entire landing. This includes monitoring the entire weighing of the fish, cross-checking this against the prior notice of port entry, the VMS, the electronic logbook as well as the landing and sales notes. Furthermore, the inspectors shall ensure that there is no fish left on board once the landing is completed and the landing or sales notes are signed.

The Norwegian fishery for bluefin tuna is limited to the Norwegian fisheries jurisdiction, and the requirement of an inspection vessel in paragraph 232 does not apply.

The vessels authorised to target bluefin tuna and the vessels with incidental bycatch of dead bluefin tuna can be instructed to collect biological samples for the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research.

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 47, searching for bluefin tuna with airplanes, helicopters or any type of unmanned aerial vehicles will be prohibited.

Furthermore, Bluefin Tuna Catch Documents will be issued in accordance with *Recommendation by ICCAT amending and replacing Recommendation 18-13 on an ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Programme* (Rec. 23-21) and *Recommendation by ICCAT amending Rec. 21-18 on the application of the eBCD System* (Rec. 22-16), as well as other relevant recommendations. Norway has issued electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Documents in the eBCD system since 2015 and intends to continue this practice in 2026 in accordance with the recommendations mentioned above.

List of contact points:

- Sofie Munch Ellingsen, Adviser at the Ministry of Industry and Fisheries (sofie.munch-ellingsen@nfd.dep.no)
- Rune Baug Mjørnlund, Senior Adviser at the Directorate of Fisheries (rune.mjorlund@fiskeridir.no);
- Victor Fuglaas Holte-Nilssen, Adviser at the Directorate of Fisheries (vihni@fiskeridir.no).

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Not applicable. Norway does not participate in any international inspections in accordance with paragraphs 232-235 of Rec. 25-04 and Annex 7. Norwegian fishing vessels participating in the BFT-fishery are only allowed to fish within the Norwegian fishery jurisdiction.

6. Others

In the fall of 2026, Norway will continue with the pilot project of short-term live storage of bluefin tuna. We have allocated 30 t of our quota for this purpose. The quota will be designated to one single vessel. All activity carried out in relation to the pilot study will enjoy full control coverage, as both inspectors from the Directorate of Fisheries and personnel from the Institute of Marine Research will be on board the vessel at all times.

According to Rec. 25-04 para 211-218 the requirement of random controls embodied in Appendix 1 para 16 Res. 25-03, confirms that at least 10 percent of the number of cages utilized shall be subject to random controls. We can ensure that if the pilot project in 2026 is successful in capturing bluefin tuna, the cages will be under close supervision from the Directorate of Fisheries and possibly also from the Norwegian food safety authority, naturally the requirement of random control will be accommodated.

Norway will ensure that the project is conducted in line with Res. 25-03. The vessel will have 100% observer coverage from the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme. This observer will be able to monitor transfers from the purse seine to the transport cage. The catch of bluefin tuna, as well as the transfer and storage operations, will be closely monitored, and dead or dying bluefin tuna will be removed from the purse seine/transfer/storage cage, taken to land and deducted from the vessel quota. In addition to an ROP observer being present for all the phases of the operation, the CPC will inform ICCAT on the results of the short-term live storage in the annual report.

We have successfully explored the use of cameras during transport operations. We will continue to refine the camera usage, making a few adjustments so that the camera monitoring can be optimized in relation to Norwegian conditions, while also accommodating the requirements of Res. 25-03.

Norway will not allow commercial trade of bluefin tuna without an eBCD, thus following the regulation in Rec. 23-21. When the bluefin tuna is ready to be harvested from the storage cage, we will incorporate the catch in the eBCD system, and use the caging section in the system to issue and validate an electronic catch certificate as described in the discussion paper on the application of electronic bluefin catch documentation (eBCD) in the pilot project for the short-term live storage of bluefin tuna at the 16th Meeting of the Working Group on IMM in 2023.

Capacity Table

| Tuna vessel type | | Ref years | | | Number of vessels | | | | Ref years | | | Fishing capacity | | | |
|--|--|-----------|------|----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | | | | 141.4 | 141.4 | 141.4 | 282.8 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | 2 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | | | 99.56 | 298.68 | 248.9 | 248.9 | 298.68 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | 2 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 10 | | | 99.56 | 440.08 | 390.3 | 390.3 | 581.48 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | 1 | 4 | 10 | | | | | 25 | 100 | 250 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | 10 | | | | | | | 56.8 |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | 1 | 4 | 20 | | | | | 25 | 100 | 306.8 |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | 30 | 30 | 30 | 40 | | | | 40 | 40 | 40 | 40 |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | 2 | 38 | 38 | 41 | 70 | | | 99.56 | 480.08 | 455.3 | 530.3 | 928.28 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | 104 | 368 | 368 | 368 | 461.38 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | 383 | 386.4 | 386.4 | 534.98 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | 13.5% | 4.1% | 4.1% | 4.1% | 2.2% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 10 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | 18 | 33.4 | 33.4 | 34.98 |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | 90¹ | 340² | 328³ | 328⁴ | 480⁵ |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | 9.56 | 140.08 | 127.3 | 202.3 | 448.28⁶ |

¹ Available quota 2018: 104 t (2018 initial quota) - 14 t (bycatch) = **90 t**

² Available quota 2023: 368 t (2023 initial quota) + 15 t (carry over from 2022) - 15 t (bycatch) - 18 t (research) - 10 t (sports/recreational) = **340 t**

³ Available quota 2024: 368 t (2024 initial quota) + 18.4 t (carry over from 2023) - 15 t (bycatch) - 33.4 t (research) - 10 t (sports/recreational) = **328 t**

⁴ Available quota 2025: 368 t (2025 initial quota) + 18.4 t (carry over from 2024) - 15 t (bycatch) - 33.4 t (research) - 10 t (sports/recreational) = **328 t**

⁵ Available quota 2026: 461.38 t (2026 initial quota) + 73.6 t (carry over from 2025) - 10 t (bycatch) - 34.98 t (research) - 10 t (sports/recreational) = **480 t**

⁶ In accordance with Recommendation 25-04 paragraph 20 b) the adjustment of fishing capacity in paragraphs 15, 16 and 19 does not apply to Norway.

List of ports contained in CP24

ANDENES

ATLØY

AUSTEVOLL

BODØ

BORG

BREIVIKA

BREMANGER

BULANDET

BÅTSFJORD

BØVÅGEN

EGERSUND

ELLINGSØY

FISKARSTRAND

FLEKKERØY

FLEM

FLORØ

FOSNAVÅG

GLESVAER

GOTTEBERG

GUNHILDVÅGEN

HAMMERFEST

HARSTAD

HARØYSUND

HESTØYA

HJØRUNGAVÅG

HONNINGSVÅG

HUSØY KARMØY

VALER

KALVÅG

KARMSUND

KARMØY

KIRKENES

KJØLLEFJORD

KRISTIANSUND

KRISTIANSAND

KÅRVIK/KÅRVIKHAMN

KÅRVIKHAMN

LARVIK

LEIRVIK

LEKNES

(LOFOTTERMINALEN)

LIAVÅGEN

LØDINGEN

MELBU

MÅLØY

OSLO

RAUDEBERG

RYPEFJORD

SANDØY

SELJE

SENJAHOPEN

SIREVÅG

SKUDENESHAVN

SKUTVIK

SMØLA

SOLSTRAND

SORTLAND

STAVANGER

STAVERN

STOREBØ

TROLLEBØ

TROMSØ

TRONDHEIM HØVRINGEN

TRÆNA

UTHAUG

VADSØ

WARDØ

VEDDE

VÆRØY

ÅLESUND

PANAMA

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

In accordance with paragraph 4 of Recommendation 25-04, adopted at the 29th Regular Meeting of ICCAT, held in Seville from 17 to 24 November 2025, the Republic of Panama was allocated a quota of 55 t of bluefin tuna. Furthermore, pursuant to paragraph 8 of the above Recommendation, this quota was transferred by the Republic of Panama to the Kingdom of Morocco.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

Not applicable.

1 c) Destination of catch

Due to the transfer described in section 1a) of this document, Panama will not carry out any bluefin tuna fishing or farming activities under this allocation during the period covered by this plan, and therefore this section does not apply.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|---|--|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <p>The masters of fishing vessels shall maintain and use an electronic or bound logbook to record their operations in accordance with the provisions of Annex 2 throughout the period in which they are authorised to fish for bluefin tuna.</p> <p>Panama has designated ports where fishing vessels can land and/or tranship bluefin tuna. This list is provided in section 5 of this document.</p> <p>The landing or transhipment of bluefin tuna from catching vessels, processing vessels and</p> | <p>Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04.</p> <p>Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 008 of 5 February 2026 regulating the use, exploitation and transfer of the quota of fifty-five (55) tonnes of Atlantic bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) allocated to the Republic of Panama within the framework of ICCAT.</p> | <p>This shall apply to catching vessels when Panama develops its fishery and has vessels registered with ICCAT and authorised to catch bluefin tuna.</p> |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|---|---|
| | | <p>support vessels outside ports is prohibited.</p> <p>In compliance with the measures, cross-checking of inspection and observer reports, VMS data, eBCD where applicable, and consistency of logbooks and catch documents shall be carried out, where appropriate, during landings and transshipments.</p> | | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | Vessels shall comply with the closed season in accordance with ICCAT Rec. 25-04. | Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04 | This shall apply to catching vessels when Panama develops its fishery and has vessels registered with ICCAT and authorised to catch bluefin tuna. |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | <p>The capture, retention on board, transshipment, transfer, landing, storage, sale, display or offer for sale of bluefin tuna weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm is prohibited. Bycatch of up to 5% of the number of bluefin tuna caught weighing between 8 and 30 kg or measuring between 75 cm and 115 cm is authorised.</p> <p>Any bluefin tuna below the minimum size shall be recorded and deducted from the allocated quota.</p> | Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04 | This shall apply when Panama develops its fishery and has vessels registered with ICCAT and authorised to catch bluefin tuna. |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | Vessels fishing bluefin tuna as bycatch are authorised to retain, regardless of the time | Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the | The authorised bycatch, as well as the methodology for its calculation, shall |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | <p>of year, bluefin tuna that accounts for less than 20% of the total annual catch by weight or number of specimens.</p> <p>Bycatch shall be deducted from the allocated quota.</p> | <p>Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04</p> | <p>be determined in greater detail when Panama develops its fishery and has vessels registered with ICCAT and authorised to catch bluefin tuna.</p> <p>The procedure established in paragraph 89, the designation of ports in paragraphs 80 to 84, paragraph 94 (transhipments) and the trade measures in paragraph 231 shall also be considered.</p> |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | <p>Recreational and sport fishing for bluefin tuna is not permitted.</p> | <p>Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04</p> | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | <p>Transshipment on the high seas is prohibited.</p> <p>Transshipment is authorised only in ports designated for this purpose.</p> <p>All transshipments shall require prior authorisation and shall be notified by the master or representative to the flag authority at the times established for this purpose, in accordance with national regulations. Masters of fishing vessels carrying out transshipments shall complete the ICCAT transshipment</p> | <p>Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04.</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | declaration and submit it within the established deadlines in accordance with Annex 3. The transshipment declaration shall be linked to the eBCD to facilitate cross-checking. | | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | <p>Panama has a vessel monitoring system (VMS) for all its vessels with international commercial fishing licences and fishing-related activities. These vessels are required to transmit their positions via VMS every hour.</p> <p>Similarly, the transmission of VMS data to the ICCAT Secretariat by each authorised fishing vessel subject to the VMS requirement under Rec. 25-04 shall start at least five days before and continue at least five days after the authorisation period, unless the vessel is removed from the lists of authorised vessels.</p> | <p>Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04</p> <p>Law 204 of 18 March 2021 regulating fishing and aquaculture in the Republic of Panama</p> <p>Decree 13 of 1 November 2023, which regulates Law 204 of 2021</p> | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | Vessels flying the Panamanian flag are outside the fleet segments defined in paragraph 95 for the purposes of compliance with the coverage rates of the national on-board observer programme. | Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04. | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Not applicable. | Resolution ADM/ARAP No. 006 (of 4 February 2026) adopting and implementing in the Republic of Panama the conservation and management measures | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | | for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), in accordance with Recommendation 25-04 | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | There are general and specific national laws. | <p>Law 204 of 18 March 2021, regulating fishing and aquaculture in the Republic of Panama.</p> <p>Decree 13 of 1 November 2023, regulating Law 204 of 2021</p> <p>Res. ADM/ARAP No. 049 of 5 October 2021 Res. ADM/ARAP No. 092 of 18 November 2024, regulating the requirements for transshipments for commercial fishing vessels engaged in international service capture and fishing-related activities under the Panamanian flag.</p> <p>Res. ADM/ARAP No. 048 of 30 August 2023, which implements the mandatory use of e-LAND as the official electronic platform for recording the landing of fishing vessels and fishing-related activities under the national flag in international service, in authorised national ports or in third-country ports, as well as foreign-flagged vessels in authorised national ports.</p> | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | Panama does not conduct catch-and-release sport fisheries in the North-East Atlantic. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of main ports designated for landing and transhipment of bluefin tuna for the 2026 season is detailed below, without prejudice to compliance with the requirements of prior notification, inspection and validation by the port State:

- a) Japan: Shimizu, Yokosuka
- b) Malta: Valletta
- c) Republic of Korea: Busan
- d) Spain: Cadiz, Cartagena, Algeciras
- e) Cabo Verde: Mindelo
- f) Mauritania: Nouadhibou
- g) Kingdom of Morocco: Larache, Tangier
- h) Tunisia: Sfax, Sousse
- i) Ghana: Tema
- j) Greece: Perama Peiraia
- k) Türkiye: Izmir

Additionally, of the ports identified in this Annual Fishing Plan, we indicate that Panamanian-flagged vessels authorised to carry out activities related to bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, classified within the category ‘Other bluefin tuna vessels’, can land and/or tranship at any of the ports designated for landing and transhipment of bluefin tuna that are officially listed and current on the ICCAT Secretariat’s website.

Landing and transhipment operations can only be carried out in the above ports, and under the supervision of the competent authority of the port State and in accordance with the provisions of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and applicable national regulations.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Not applicable. Panama has not begun developing its fishery and has transferred its bluefin tuna quota to the Kingdom of Morocco, as informed to members in ICCAT Circular #00468-2026.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Not applicable. Panama is not a farm CPC.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Not applicable. Panama does not develop bluefin tuna farming activities.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC’s monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

Panama implements inspection, control and monitoring measures for fishing in accordance with its current national regulations and applicable ICCAT recommendations. These measures are implemented through the national monitoring, control and surveillance system for 2026.

Panama currently has twelve (12) vessels registered in the ICCAT Record of vessels in the category of ‘Other vessels’, including transport vessels and processing vessels, which are involved in activities related to bluefin tuna.

The Panama Aquatic Resources Authority (ARAP), through its General Directorate of Inspection, Surveillance and Control, is responsible for ensuring that Panamanian-flagged vessels and fishing-related activities comply with national and international provisions, including those relating to the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS).

The national regulatory framework is established in Law 204 of 18 March 2021 and its regulations through Executive Decree No. 13 of 1 November 2023, which include, among other measures:

- The obligation to install, maintain and operate a VMS system on board vessels subject to monitoring;
- The requirement for a Letter of No Objection issued by ARAP as a prerequisite for vessel registration or change of activity;
- The obligation to have a valid beacon certificate in order to obtain or renew international service fishing licences;
- The classification as a serious infringement of unjustified interruption of VMS transmissions for a period exceeding twenty-four (24) consecutive hours.

In accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, vessels subject to the VMS requirement shall transmit data to the ICCAT Secretariat at least five (5) days before and five (5) days after the authorisation period, without interruption during their stay in port, unless there is a formal system of notification of entry and exit.

Monitoring and control of transhipments

Transhipments of bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean shall only be permitted in ports designated by CPCs, in accordance with paragraphs 80 to 84 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 and applicable national regulations.

It is prohibited to land or tranship from catching vessels, processing vessels and auxiliary vessels any quantity of bluefin tuna fished in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean outside the ports designated by CPCs in accordance with paragraphs 80 and 81. However, as an exception, it is not prohibited to transport dead bluefin tuna, killed in a trap/cage, to a processing vessel using an auxiliary vessel.

All transhipments shall require prior authorisation from the flag CPC of the vessel carrying out the operation. The master or representative of the vessel shall complete and transmit the Transhipment Declaration to the ARAP Fisheries Monitoring and Control Centre (FMCC) and to the port State authority within the established deadlines.

The ARAP FMCC shall coordinate with the port State authority to receive the transhipment report within five (5) days of the completion of the operation.

The provisions of this Recommendation shall not affect the entry into port of a CPC fishing vessel, in accordance with international law, for reasons of force majeure or danger.

Monitoring and control of landings

Before entering any port, masters or representatives of vessels shall notify landings to the relevant port authorities at least 4 hours before the estimated time of arrival or within the deadline set by the CPC of the port of unloading.

The notification shall include: (a) the external identification number and name of the fishing vessel; (b) the estimated date and time of arrival at port; (c) the port of destination and the purpose of the call, such as landing, transhipment or access to services; (d) the estimated quantity of bluefin tuna retained on board; (e) information on the geographical area where the catch was made, as established in paragraph 85 of Rec. 25-04. In addition, the ARAP FMCC shall be informed at the same time by means of a copy of the email.

These provisions apply without prejudice to compliance with national requirements on notification of entry into port and landing.

Contact points

| | |
|--|--|
| <i>Competent Authority for Control of Panama responsible for implement of this Surveillance, Control and Inspection Plan</i> | |
| General Directorate of Inspection, Surveillance and Control | |
| List of contact points | |
| Name and surname | Correo electrónico |
| Pablo Amaris - Director | pamaris@arap.gob.pa |
| Carlos Lacasa – Head of the Department of Inspection | clacasa@arap.gob.pa |
| Iván Terrado – Head of Monitoring Centre | iterrado@arap.gob.pa |
| cc. to the Directorate of Inspection | ivc@arap.gob.pa |
| cc. to the Centre for Fishery Monitoring | monitoreo@arap.gob.pa |
| cc. Unit for Surveillance of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (USOROP) | hsfs@arap.gob.pa |
| cc. General Administration of ARAP | administraciongeneral@arap.gob.pa |

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Not applicable.

6. Others

Not applicable.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|--|------|------------------|------|------|------|-------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Trap | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Small coastal vessels | Not applicable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 55 | | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

SENEGAL

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

Senegal does not have any vessels active in the bluefin tuna fishery to exploit the quota of fifty-five (55) tonnes allocated to it in 2026 and does not plan to introduce any vessel into this fishery. The quota will not be used for targeted fishing, but will be used to cover bycatch or accidental catches of bluefin tuna by its purse seiners and baitboats targeting tropical tunas. The current number of vessels is eight (08) purse seiners and five (05) baitboats authorised in the tropical tuna fisheries.

In addition, recreational and artisanal fisheries can (are authorised to) accidentally catch bluefin tuna in tropical fisheries.

The season for bycatch or accidental catches of bluefin tuna is authorised from 1 January to 31 December 2026.

Fishing activities, including those involving species under the mandate of ICCAT, are governed by the Maritime Fisheries Code and its implementing decree, as well as all relevant national regulations specific to these species, including those relating to reporting of catches.

In addition, ICCAT Rec. 24-05 has been transposed into the legal framework by Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing management measures for bluefin tuna for vessels flagged to Senegal.

All these texts will govern the operations of vessels and the use of the eastern bluefin tuna quota by Senegal.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

No carry over is requested.

1 c) Destination of catch

The fish are destined for landing

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | Bound fishing logbook and electronic fishing logbook, where applicable. All dead fish retained or discarded will be deducted from the quota. | - The Maritime Fisheries Code and its implementing Decree. - The Orders establishing the fishing logbook and electronic fishing logbook - Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the management measures for | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|---|-------------|
| | | | bluefin tuna for vessels flagged to Senegal. | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | The authorised fishing period for baitboats and purse seiners not targeting but able to catch bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic is from 1 January to 31 December 2026. | Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | A minimum size of 30 kg and 115 cm fork length for purse seiners and baitboats. | Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | The entire quota of 55 tonnes is destined for bluefin tuna bycatch by purse seiners and baitboats authorised to target tropical species. | Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | | | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Only transshipment in the port of Dakar is authorised under Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | National regulations require industrial fishing vessels, including tuna vessels, to have a VMS system on board. The VMS platform allows fishing vessels to be monitored with a transmission frequency of one (1) | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| | | hour, 24 hours a day. | | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | - There is 100% coverage of purse seiners targeting tropical species and able to catch bluefin tuna. - There will be 10% coverage of baitboats targeting tropical species. | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | None. | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | - The Maritime Fisheries Code and its implementing decree. - The Orders establishing the fishing logbook and the electronic fishing logbook. - Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing bluefin tuna management measures for vessels flagged to Senegal. | Rec. 24-05 is transposed by Order No. 033874 of 17 October 2025 establishing the management measures for bluefin tuna for vessels flagged to Senegal. Amendments will be made following the adoption of Recommendation 25-04. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The port of Dakar is the only port authorised for landing and transhipment of eastern bluefin tuna. The form is attached. (See form CP24 submitted in this plan.)

The list of designated ports for landing and transhipment:

| <i>Port</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Port Code</i> | <i>Latitude</i> | <i>Longitude</i> |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Dakar port | Senegal | SNDKR | 14°24'00"N | 017°15'36"E |

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Senegal does not have fishing vessels targeting bluefin tuna.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

None.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

None.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The monitoring, control and inspection plan will enable vessels to be monitored, their activities to be controlled and reliable catch declarations to be obtained in order to ensure that quotas are properly monitored.

The monitoring, control and inspection plan includes:

- VMS: vessels are equipped with VMS, which allows their positions to be controlled and monitored and at all times.
- Observer reports: all purse seiners targeting tropical species have 100% observer coverage. Baitboats will be subject to a 10% coverage rate.
- Port inspections: a permanent brigade is established at the port of Dakar, the only authorised landing/transshipment port for bluefin tuna.
- Catch declarations: electronic or paper logbooks comply with ICCAT requirements and are completed on board vessels.

The competent authority for monitoring, control and inspection is the Directorate for Fisheries Protection and Surveillance.

The contact point designated as responsible for implementing the monitoring, control and inspection plan is included in the revised CP24 form submitted.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

None.

6. Others

None.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|--|------|------------------|------|------|-------------------------|------|----------|--|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 55 | |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | N/A | |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 100% | |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 55 | |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | |

Syria**Fishing Plan Year: 2026****1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps****1 a) Overview (para 12)**

The Syrian Arab Republic hereby submits its fishing, inspection and capacity management plans for Mediterranean bluefin tuna.

Pursuant to with [Rec. 25-04](#) amending [Rec. 22-08](#) establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, Syria's national quota for 2026 is set at 238 tonnes of eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna.

Syria's quota for bluefin tuna fishing is allocated exclusively to purse-seiner vessels. Only purse-seiner vessels duly authorized under national legislation shall be permitted to fish against the Syrian bluefin tuna quota. Such vessels shall be issued Bluefin Tuna Fishing Authorizations, and the list of authorized vessels shall be transmitted to the ICCAT Secretariat at least 15 days prior to the commencement of fishing operations. Each purse-seiner vessel will get an individual quota.

Directed BFT fishing will be conducted using purse seiners only. No baitboats, longliners, handliners or traps are authorized to target bluefin tuna under the Syrian fleet registry. No authorizations for these gear categories are issued for BFT fishing. At present, no coastal fishing vessels are authorized to target bluefin tuna. However, Syria continues to assess the potential future participation of small-scale coastal fisheries in accordance with ICCAT conservation measures.

Bycatch of bluefin tuna shall not exceed 20% of the total catch on board at the end of each fishing trip, calculated in weight. Calculation in number of specimens shall apply only to tuna and tuna-like species managed by ICCAT. The bycatch reserve is established at 1.0 t. All dead bluefin tuna, whether retained or discarded, shall be deducted from the national quota and reported to ICCAT.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

No carry over from 2025 is requested.

1 c) Destination of catch

The designated destination for the catch will be (100%) landing, as farming facilities are not yet operational in Syria.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | The captain of the fishing vessel must keep a detailed, bound logbook of all fishing activities, following ICCAT guidelines. The fishing operator is required to report the daily bluefin tuna (BFT) catch, including days with no catch, using electronic or other reporting methods. Syria will provide ICCAT with catch reports every two weeks, along with the date when the fisheries are closed. Any dead fish, whether kept or discarded, will be counted toward the quota. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19/3/2023) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|---|---|-------------|
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | According to paragraph 28 of the Rec. 25-04 , Syria requests the fishing season for purse-seiners to extend from 15 May to 1 July 2026. | Fishing activities will be conducted in accordance with Syrian national fisheries regulations and licensing procedures issued by the General Commission of Fisheries and Aquaculture. | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | It is forbidden to catch, keep, land, transfer, sell, or display for sale any bluefin tuna (BFT) weighing less than 30 kg or with a fork length under 115 cm. Any undersized fish that are discarded dead will be counted against Syria's quota. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19 March 2023) | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | A quota of 1 ton is reserved for potential bycatches. No BFT bycatch was recorded previously, including in 2025. Based on this, a bycatch allocation of approximately 1% is set aside. The bycatch for the small-scale coastal fleet should be calculated annually. All bycatches, including discarded fish, must be counted against the quota. Any bycatch must also be reported to ICCAT. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19 March 2023) | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | No recreational or sport fishing activities targeting bluefin tuna are authorized in Syria. | Recreational and sports fishing for Atlantic bluefin tuna is prohibited under Syrian national fisheries regulations. | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | Fishing vessels are only allowed to transship bluefin tuna catches at ports designated by CPCs. Syria has not reported any transshipment operations. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19 March 2023) | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | All authorized vessels fishing for bluefin tuna are equipped with Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) transmitting position data to the competent authority at regular intervals in accordance with ICCAT requirements. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19 March 2023) | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | N/A | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|---|-------------|
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Syria will comply with the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme requirements applicable to purse seiner vessels. | Terms and Conditions of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture for BFT fishing (No. 1827, date 19 March 2023) | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Syria's domestic legislation on bluefin tuna (BFT) aligns with ICCAT recommendations. Each year, the legislation is updated to reflect the latest ICCAT measures. It covers all aspects of BFT fishing activities, including fishing seasons, VMS requirements, catch recording and reporting, minimum sizes, bycatch, and related provisions. | Fishing activities will be conducted in accordance with Syrian national fisheries regulations and licensing procedures issued by the General Commission of Fisheries and Aquaculture. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

LATAKIA port is the authorized port for any landing or transshipment of BFT.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Syria's quota for 2026 will be 238 t. As Syria allocates 1 t for bycatch, the total quota available for the purse seiners will be 237 t. The total fishing capacity of the Syrian purse-seiner fleet authorized to fish for bluefin tuna is 216.7 tons. Based on the allocated quota for directed fishing (237 tons), there is an undercapacity of 20.3 tons.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

N/A. No BFT farming facilities in Syria.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

Most of Syrian fleet is considered as small – scale coastal vessels and the possibility of catching bluefin tuna is negligible as no pelagic trawlers, longline vessels, baitboats or traps are operating in Syrian waters.

General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture is the control competent authority for controlling and monitoring of fishing activities in cooperation with the General Authority for Borders and Customs and the Director of International Cooperation of General Commission for Fisheries and Aquaculture. Mr. Ziyad Gharqan (ziadgharqan@gmail.com) is the contact point nominated as responsible for the implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

No Joint Scheme of International Inspection is applied.

6. Others

N/A.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | | 149.34 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 67.36 |
| Purse seine total fleet | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 216.7 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 33.68 | 0 | 216.7 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 66 | 129 | 129 | 129 | 238 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | NA | 1 | NA | 1 | NA |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.8% | 0.8% | 0.8% | 0.4% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 66 | 0 | 128 | 0 | 237 |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | -32.32 | 0 | -94.32 | 0 | -20.3 |

Tunisia

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

Tunisia has drawn up its Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing, farming, inspection and capacity management plans for 2026 in accordance with the provisions of *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean* (Rec. 25-04) for 2026.

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

The eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing quota allocated to Tunisia for 2026 is 3,508.85 t (paragraph 4 of Rec. 25-04). It is adjusted to 3,528.55 t to take into account the carryover of the underharvest of 19.7 t recorded for 2025; explained below.

76 purse seiners; strictly using purse seine will actively fish for bluefin tuna during the 2026 fishing campaign.

The Tunisian Administration will set individual quotas, consistent with the methodology established by ICCAT (catch levels and length ranges).

For this purpose, the Tunisian Administration will issue in a timely manner fishing authorisations for these vessels, a list of which will be transmitted to ICCAT within the established timeframes.

For compliance with ICCAT requirements, Tunisia has adopted several measures for constant and instantaneous monitoring in the course of the fishing season (paragraph 12 of Rec. 25-04) specifically including the reporting system between the fishing grounds and the competent authority. This system initially ensures:

- Establishment at central level of a database on all catches taken and the existence of a clear scheme for catch traceability.
- Compliance with quotas allocated to catching vessels.

In addition, the national regulation has taken into account management of bluefin tuna fishing through Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as amended and/or supplemented, in particular by Law No. 2013-34 of 21 September 2013 and Law No. 2018-30 of 23 May 2018 and their implementing texts, in particular, the Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

An underage of 19.7 t of a total of 30 t set aside for bycatch was recorded in 2025. For this purpose, Tunisia requests carryover of this underage (19.7 t) from 2025 to 2026 in accordance with paragraph 6 of Rec. 25-04. The total available quota for the 2026 fishing campaign will therefore be 3,528.55 t, distributed as follows.

- 3,493.26 t set aside for tuna purse seiners.
- 35.28 t set aside for bycatch in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 37 of Rec. 25-04.

1 c) Destination of catch

The estimated catch of 3,493.26 t for 2026 will be used for farming in Mediterranean fattening farms. However, an amount of 35.28 t may be landed in authorised Tunisian ports. Any additional information on this subject will be submitted to ICCAT on the relevant related forms.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT Requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Notes</i> |
|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (para 74-88) | <p>Tunisia has adopted an onboard catch documentation system covering all vessels involved in bluefin tuna activity (purse seiners, tugs and auxiliary vessels); Annex 2 of Rec. 25-04.</p> <p>In addition, catch data and data related to bluefin tuna fishing activities are recorded using bound logbooks (para 74 of Rec. 25-04). However, reporting on catches and prior transfer notification requests are made electronically between the captains of catching vessels and the competent authority (para 76 of Rec. 25-04).</p> <p>Representatives of fishing operators also transmit completed reports electronically to the competent authority in accordance with the requirements established in para 78 of Rec. 25-04.</p> | <p>- Law No 94-13 of 31 January 1994, on fishing.</p> <p>- Order of the Minister of Agriculture of 21 May 2008 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery, as amended by the Order of 10 June 2013 and the Order of 28 May 2019.</p> | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (para 28-32) | <p>The bluefin tuna purse seine fishing season begins on 19 May 2026 and ends on 1 July 2026 (para 28 of Rec. 25-04). However, the fishing period may be extended by an equivalent number of days on which the weather conditions are unfavourable, up to a maximum of 10 days (para 29 of Rec. 25-04). Weather and VMS reports should necessarily reflect the inactivity of vessels that have not yet exhausted their individual quotas.</p> | <p>Law No 94-13 of 31 January 1994, on fishing.</p> <p>Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 relating to the organization of bluefin tuna fishing and farming.</p> <p>An amendment to the decree of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources, and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening.</p> | |
| 3 | Minimum size (para 33-35) | <p>The authorised catch size for bluefin tuna is 30 kg (115 cm). Any undersized catch above 5% of the total volume of bluefin tuna caught must be released after a release order has been issued by the</p> | <p>Law No 94-13 of 31 January 1994, on fishing.</p> <p>Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries</p> | |

| | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|
| | | competent authority and in coordination with the regional observer. Specimens released dead will be deducted from the individual quota of the purse seiner concerned. | of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening. | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | For 2026, Tunisia authorises 1% of its quota i.e. 35.28 t for bycatch. This measure has been taken as a precaution and the method for calculating this proportion has taken into account previous bycatch statistics from vessels not actively fishing for bluefin tuna. In addition, if catches exceed 20% of the total volume reported during a fishing trip, these will be discarded and deducted from the Tunisian quota. | Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994, on fishing. Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening. | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (para 38-46) | No sport and recreational fishing authorisation will be issued for bluefin tuna. | Order of the Minister of Agriculture of 21 April 2025, on dive fishing and recreational underwater fishing. | |
| 6 | Transshipment (para 89-94) | It is prohibited to tranship bluefin tuna at sea. It is only permitted in the authorised ports following authorisation by the competent authority in accordance with the format established by ICCAT. | Law No 94-13 of 31 January 1994, on fishing. Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening. | |
| 7. | VMS (para 219-225 / paras 222-228) | All Tunisian vessels (catching, towing and support) involved in bluefin tuna fishing are equipped with VMS. The transmission of position data every hour begins 5 days before the authorisation date of the activity and continues up to 5 days after the end of the authorisation. In the event of a failure of the VMS system on board a towing vessel, the competent authority will intervene to replace the vessel and inform the Secretariat immediately. | Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as supplemented by Law 2013-34 of 21 September 2013 and Law 2018-30 of 23 May 2018. Order of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 26 June 2015 establishing the type of instruments for gathering instantaneous information on the positions of fishing vessels at sea and the type of vessels that must be equipped with them. | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|--|---|--|--|
| | | | Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 25 April 2024 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening. | |
| 8 | CPC observer programmes (para 95-100) | As in previous fishing seasons, the competent authority will maintain 100% coverage by national observers on board tugs. A training session for these observers will be held before they are deployed. | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (para 101-107) | The competent authority will ensure implementation of the regional observer programme to cover the following operations: -Activities on board purse seiners; -Transfers of live bluefin tuna to towed cages; - The first caging of live bluefin tuna in fattening farms; - Harvest of live bluefin tuna in fattening farms; - Control transfers of live bluefin tuna to fishing grounds; - Control caging of live bluefin tuna on fattening farms; - Inter-farm transfers of live bluefin tuna; - Releases from purse seines and fattening cages. | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | Tunisia continues to make appropriate efforts to manage the bluefin tuna activity responsibly through appropriate legislative texts, for compliance and consistency with ICCAT Recommendations. | Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as supplemented by Law 2013-34 of 21 September 2013 and Law 2018-30 of 23 May 2018. Order of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 26 June 2015 establishing the type of instruments for gathering instantaneous information on the positions of fishing vessels at sea and the type of vessels that must be equipped with them. | |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | Order of the Minister of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries of 7 April 2025 on organisation of the bluefin tuna fishery and its fattening. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: Scientific programme (para 44) etc.</i> | A national scientific programme has been set up and covers 10% of authorised catching vessels. In addition, all harvesting operations are carried out in the presence of representatives of the competent authority and research in order to carry out the sampling required under the provisions of Rec. 22-08 and to fulfil the statistical reporting requirements related to Task 2. | | |

1e) Designated ports (para 80)

Landing and transshipment of dead bluefin tuna is only authorised within designated ports, the list of which will be transmitted to ICCAT within the required deadlines. There are the 12 ports located in the North, East and South areas:

- Tabarka,
- Bizerte,
- La Goulette,
- Kélibia,
- Sousse,
- Monastir,
- Tébourba,
- Mahdia,
- La Chebba,
- Sfax,
- Gabès
- Zarzis

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

Tunisia's TAC has been adjusted to 3,528.55 t, of which 35.28 t is set aside for bycatch. The allowable quota for purse seiners is 3,493.26 t.

The capacity table attached to this report summarises fishing capacity by vessel type. There is an underharvest of 128.58 t.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Consistent with the provisions of paragraphs 22 and 23 of Rec. 25-04, Tunisia authorises a total input volume of bluefin tuna for 2026 of around 3,600 t.

Two (2) random checks on farms are planned, one after caging and the second before harvesting.

Six (6) farms are authorised to carry out fattening activities in 2026 (table below).

1. One carry over of live bluefin tuna from 2025 to 2026 is foreseen in the farm Tunisia Tuna. An updated statement in this regard will be submitted to ICCAT in accordance with para 210 of Rec. 25-04.

Nonetheless, any possible amendment to the farming plan will be notified to the ICCAT Secretariat within the required deadlines.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

No aquaculture bluefin tuna activities are envisaged for 2026. Any further information on this subject will be submitted to ICCAT in accordance with the relevant requirements.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10c)

Tunisian legislation has emphasized the need to monitor the traceability of all fishing products, particularly tuna, with the overriding aim of rationalising exploitation of bluefin tuna. Control of bluefin tuna fishing is carried out at several levels, from the point of capture to its harvest in fattening farms and transportation or processing for export.

- *Controls at fishing ports:* Daily inspections are carried out throughout the year by certified officers who are authorised to police the fishery and report to the regional services of the competent authority (Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and Fisheries) as well as by other bodies that come under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Finance (Law No. 94-13 of 31 January 1994 on fishing, as supplemented by Law 2013-34 of 21 September 2013 and Law 2018-30 of 23 May 2018). They are responsible for monitoring compliance and abidance with ICCAT management measures. In addition, all landings during the fishing season are subject to a control that includes fishing permits, catch declarations, fishing gear, etc.

Requests for entry into Tunisian ports by vessels flying foreign flags will be issued by the competent maritime and port authorities.

- *Control at sea:* During the fishing season, the competent authority will carry out joint control missions with other bodies that operate at sea, are authorised to police the fishery, and come under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Defence, and Ministry of Finance.

Officials from the central administration will also attend control operations in the case of sealed cages if the conditions referred to on para 128 of Rec. 25-04 are met.

- *Control during caging operations:* A representative of the competent authority will attend to view video footage from transfers of live bluefin tuna from towed cages to fattening cages for the first time or during control caging operations. All likely releases at this level will be documented.

In accordance with paragraphs 211-218 of Rec. 25-04, the competent authority will implement a random control programme for 10% of the number of cages in each farm after the completion of caging operations.

- *Control during harvest operations:* Officers from the regional fisheries services will be present at all bluefin tuna harvesting operations in farms and will ensure that the quantities harvested are consistent with the relevant eBCDs.
- *Control during trade of fresh bluefin tuna in farms:* Tunisia will authorise harvesting operations in its farms of up to 1,000 kg per day and a maximum of 50 t per farm to supply the market with fresh bluefin tuna, in the presence of national inspectors.

Designated contact points: The competent control authority in Tunisia is the General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DGPA), under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulic Resources and the Fisheries (MARHP).

The contact points designated as responsible for implementing the monitoring, control and inspection plan are as follows:

- The Director General of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr Ali.cheikh Sboui)
Email: bft@iresa.agrinet.tn
Tel No.: +216 71 892 253
Fax: +216 71 799 401
- The Director of the Preservation of Fisheries Resources (Mr. Himrit Ramzi)
Email : ramzi.hamrit@gmail.com
Tel. No. : +216 25916755
Fax : +216 71 799 401
- Assistant Director for the Conservation of Fisheries Resources, Directorate of the Preservation of Fisheries Resources (Ms. Dhekra Hayouni)
Tel No.: +216 29116249
Fax: +216 71 799 401
Email: hayouni.dhekra1@gmail.com

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Under the provisions of paragraphs 232-235 of Rec. 25-04, it is envisaged that the three control vessels i.e., *AMILCAR*, *HANNIBAL 3* and *HANNIBAL 4* will participate in the Scheme of Joint International Inspection during the 2026 bluefin tuna fishing season. Onboard inspectors will carry out inspection tasks for all Tunisian and foreign vessels in the Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishing area during the period from 1 May to 15 July 2026.

In accordance with the requirements set out in these recommendations, inspectors will carry out the inspection of all activities related to catching and towing of bluefin tuna. This essentially covers:

- Onboard documents
- ICCAT documents
- Video recordings from catch transfer operations
- VMS
- Infractions, if any, of ICCAT conservation and management measures
- Data reporting systems for receiving prior authorisations for transfer, release, etc.

6. Others

In addition to participation in the ICCAT GBYP programme, the competent authority is cooperating with the National Institute of Sea Sciences and Technologies (INSTM) to implement scientific monitoring programmes for the species *Thunnus thynnus*, including in particular:

- The scientific observers programme, which will cover 10% of the number of authorised purse seiners. The results on catches by gear, size, fishing grounds and bycatches will be reported to the SCRS;
- The sampling programme in fattening farms during caging, using data from video recordings from stereoscopic cameras;
- The sampling programme in fattening farms during harvesting to further monitor bluefin tuna reproduction and growth cycles.

INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2 – HYBRID / MADRID, MARCH 2026

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 70,7 | 70,7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | 24 | 24 | 29 | 34 | 45 | 42 | 50 | | 1194,72 | 1194,72 | 1443,62 | 1692,52 | 2240,100 | 2090,760 | 2489 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | 16 | 16 | 8 | 20 | 9 | 26 | 26 | | 538,88 | 538,88 | 269,44 | 673,600 | 303,120 | 875,680 | 875,680 |
| Purse seine total fleet | | 41 | 41 | 37 | 54 | 54 | 68 | 76 | | 1804,300 | 1804,300 | 1713,06 | 2366,120 | 2543,220 | 2966,440 | 3364,68 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total longline fleet | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Handline | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trawler | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Trap | 130 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 42 | 42 | 37 | 54 | 54 | 68 | 76 | | 1809,300 | 1809,300 | 1713,06 | 2366,120 | 2543,220 | 2966,440 | 3364,68 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | 2625 | 2254,48 | 2115 | 3000,000 | 3000,000 | 3000,000 | 3508,85 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | 2625 | 2364,48 | 2093,850 | 2990 | 3000 | 2.990,62 | 3528,55 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 1% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 21,15 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 35,28 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 3493,26 |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | -815,700 | -555,180 | -380,79 | -623.880 | -456,780 | -24,18 | -128,58 |

Adjustment table of farming capacity for Tunisia (2026)

| <i>Name of Farm</i> | <i>ICCAT No.</i> | <i>Farm Management</i> | <i>Farm Coordinates</i> | <i>Wild input (t)</i> | <i>Farming capacity (t)</i> |
|-------------------------|------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| VMT | AT001TUN00001 | VMT Sahbi Sallem | 36°00'18"N - 10°34' 36" E | 850 | 1,700 |
| | | | 36°00'18"N - 10°34' 55" E | | |
| | | | 36°00'15"N - 10°34' 00" E | | |
| | | | 36°00'15"N - 10°34' 37" E | | |
| TT | AT001TUN00002 | TT Abdelwaheb Ben Ramdhane | 35°25'00"N - 11°04' 40" E | 1,000 | 2,000 |
| | | | 35°25'00"N - 11°05' 04" E | | |
| | | | 35°24'38"N - 11°04' 40" E | | |
| | | | 35°24'38"N - 11°05' 04" E | | |
| SAGUN-DOUSS | AT001TUN00003 | Sagun-Douss Mehdi Douss, Ahmet Sagun and Sabrine Douss | 35°19'00"N - 11°09' 10" E | - | - |
| | | | 35°19'00"N - 11°08' 10" E | | |
| | | | 35°18'42"N - 11°09' 10" E | | |
| | | | 35°18'42"N - 11°08' 45" E | | |
| TFT | AT001TUN00004 | TFT Ridha Sallem | 36°01'49"N - 10°34' 00" E | 750 | 1,500 |
| | | | 36°01'38"N - 10°34' 00" E | | |
| | | | 36°01'49"N - 10°34' 37" E | | |
| | | | 36°01'38"N - 10°34' 37" E | | |
| | | | 35°18'10"N - 11°08' 40" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 56" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 40" E | | |
| SNB | AT001TUN00005 | SNB Jaouher Ben Hmida and Sami Neifer | 35°18'10"N - 11°08' 26" E | 500 | 1000 |
| | | | 35°18'10"N - 11°08' 10" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 26" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 10" E | | |
| THC | AT001TUN00006 | THC Taher Hajji and Mohamed Chiha | 35°18'10"N - 11°08' 56" E | - | - |
| | | | 35°18'10"N - 11°08' 40" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 56" E | | |
| | | | 35°17'53"N - 11°08' 40" E | | |
| Samaka tuna farm | AT001TUN00008 | SAMAKA tuna farm Boutheina Bouzouita | 36°30'00" N-10°55'000" E | 500 | 1000 |
| | | 36°30'000" N-10°55'500" E | | | |
| | | 36°29'630" N-10°55'500" E | | | |
| | | 36°29'630" N-10°55'000" E | | | |
| TOTAL (t) | | | | 3,600 | 7,200 |

Türkiye**Fishing Plan Year: 2026****1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps****1 a) Overview (para 12)**

Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04) shall be implemented as of 1 January 2026.

Türkiye's 2026 annual quota for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean is 3094,45 t as per ICCAT Rec. 25-04.

Notwithstanding, Türkiye will implement an adjusted quota of 3149,45 t for 2026. This quota will include 55 t transferred from Mauritania to Türkiye (as per paragraph 8 of Rec. 25-04) in addition to the annual quota.

In addition to the aforementioned adjusted quota, Türkiye may transfer quota from other CPCs (as per paragraph 8 of Rec. 25-04)¹.

Article 22 of the Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (No. 2024/20) set forth generic provisions on regulation of bluefin tuna fishery².

The rules established by Rec. 25-04 have been transposed into Turkish domestic regulation through "*Ministerial Circular on Bluefin tuna Fishing, Farming and Trading*". The Ministerial Circular on Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Farming and Trading includes all provisions of ICCAT Rec. 25-04 and is based on Article 22 of the Notification (No. 2024/20) as well as the Fisheries Law No. 1380³ and Regulation No. 4988 and thus contains binding legal provisions regarding bluefin tuna fishing for compliance with ICCAT rules⁴.

Fisheries and farming activities for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin tuna (BFT-E) will be conducted in the context of Türkiye's national quota and individual quotas shall be allocated for each BFT-E catching vessel in accordance with the Ministerial Circular.

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MoAF) shall announce the above-mentioned decision to all sector stakeholders in accordance with the Notifications and the Circulars on BFT-E.

MoAF shall issue fishing permits for all BFT-E fishing vessels to be authorized for 2026. All fishing vessels authorized by MoAF shall be reported to ICCAT in a timely manner. All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with an operational Vessel Monitoring System in line with the obligations stipulated under Section G of Rec. 25-04 (in accordance with Article 5 and 6 of the Ministerial Circular on Bluefin Tuna Fishing, Farming and Trading).

It is planned to carry out BFT-E fishery in the Eastern Mediterranean and in other parts of the Mediterranean, as it was applied in the previous years.

Türkiye requests the application of the derogation in para 28 of Rec. 25-04 for open season in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. Accordingly the open season in the eastern Mediterranean Sea (FAO fishing areas 37.3.1 and 37.3.2) shall be applied as 15 May - 1 July.

¹ If any, it will be submitted under a revised plan.

² Based on the Fisheries Law No. 1380 and Regulation No. 4988 has been issued to be applied for the period of 01/09/2024 - 31/08/2028.

³ The Law on Fisheries (No. 1380) is the main legislation that covers matters related to the protection, production and control of fisheries and fishery products.

⁴ Regulation of fisheries, minimum qualifications and conditions regarding fishing gear, general prohibitions, limitations and obligations for species, regions and times are determined through Fisheries Regulation (No. 4988), the Ministerial Notification (No. 2024/20) and related secondary legislation issued by reference to these regulations that are creating binding obligations for the operators and allowing prosecution of any possible non-compliance.

In addition, it is expected that some purse seine BFT-E fishing operators may prefer to carry-out fisheries activities in the high seas of the Mediterranean Sea (possibly within area 37.2). For those purse seine vessels; fishing for bluefin tuna shall be permitted during the period from 19 May to 1 July in line with para 28 of Rec. 25-04.

Fishing permits issued by MoAF shall be mandatory for BFT-E fishing vessels to operate for the 2026 fishing season. Leaving a margin for a potential change in total number and length distribution of vessels to be authorized until the reporting deadline, with a view to fulfil the relevant capacity adjustment provisions of Rec. 25-04 and taking into account domestic process applied by the Ministry; fishing permits are expected to be granted to 48 purse seiners as BFT catching vessels for 2026 BFT fishing season. Similarly, around 90 BFT-E other vessels (towing, support and auxiliary) and one (1) processing vessel are planned to be authorized by MoAF (in accordance with the Ministerial Implementation Directive)⁵.

In accordance with the Ministerial Implementation Directive MoAF plans to allocate the total quota for each authorized vessel based on a national criteria on activities and track records of the fishing vessels involved. Automatic carry-over of any unused quota shall not be authorized by MoAF.

Taking into account the catch trends pertinent to previous seasons, it is decided to allocate a specific quota level as 3,5 t for artisanal, coastal, recreational and sport fisheries and 12 t for bycatch in 2026. All by-catches shall be deducted from the total quota (Ministerial Order on Individual Quotas to be Allocated for the period 2026-2028).

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

No carry over of underharvest from the year 2025 is requested by Türkiye.

1 c) Destination of catch

Farming: 3133,95 t (plus live BFT to be imported)⁶

Landing: Approximately 12 t as BFT bycatches + 3,5 t for artisanal, coastal, recreational and sport fisheries

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|---|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | Recording/reporting requirements shall be implemented in line with paras 74-88 of Rec. 25-04. Both electronic and bound logbook shall be used for the recording of catch data. Dead fish (retained or discarded) will be counted against the quota. | Ministerial Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 9, 11, 13 and 21 Annex 13/1). Article 9 and Annex 17/2 of Ministerial Circular on BFT-E fishing and farming for recording of dead fish | |

⁵ Within the framework of the mentioned regulatory measures, special fishing permit (or certificate) of the bluefin tuna fishing vessels that engage in fisheries activities contrary to the rules and procedures determined by the Ministry shall be cancelled and a new fishing permit shall not be issued for the concerned fishing period.

⁶ Since the amount of live BFT to be imported may not be clear before the fishing season starts, if any, this information will be submitted under a revised plan.

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | <p>Paras 28-32 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>Türkiye requests the application of the derogation in para 28 of Rec. 25-04 for open season in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, as follows:</p> <p>Fishing for BFT-E by purse-seiners shall be allowed for the period 15 May - 01 July in the eastern Mediterranean Sea (for fishing areas 37.3.1. and 37.3.2).</p> <p>It is expected that some BFT-E fishing operators may prefer to carry-out fisheries activities in line with Rec. 25-04 in the high seas of the Mediterranean Sea (possibly within area 37.2) within the period 19 May - 1 July.</p> | Ministerial Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 4) | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | <p>Paras 33-35 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>It is prohibited to catch, retain on board, transfer, land, transport, store, sell, display or offer for sale of BFT-E less than 30 kg or with fork length of less than 115 cm.</p> <p>Bycatch of bluefin tuna under the tolerated size and weight or over the limit referred to above are to be released. Dead and</p> | Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (Article 17 and 18) / Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading Article 11(6), Annex 13) | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | undersized specimens shall be discarded at sea and deducted from Türkiye's quota. | | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | <p>Para 37 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>A 12 t (0.4%) specific quota shall be allocated for bycatch in 2026.</p> <p>Level of bycatch in 2025 = 10 tons (0.4%) 2024 = 10 tons (0.4%) 2023 = 9 tons (0,4%) 2022 = 2.8 tons, (0.1%) 2021= 35 tons, (1.5%) 2020 = 05 tons, (0.2%) 2019 = 50 tons, (2.7%)</p> <p>The level of bycatch shall not exceed 5% of the total catch on board at the end of each fishing trip and shall be calculated in relation with the total catches on-board as "in weight" (or "in number of species" in case of tuna and tuna like species fishery).</p> <p>All bycatches including discards shall be deducted from the total quota.</p> | Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (Article 18)/ Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 4, 11)), Ministerial Order on Individual Quotas to be Allocated for the period 2026-2028. | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|---|--|-------------|
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | <p>Paras 38-46 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>Recreational and sport fisheries on BFT-E is subject to authorization for each vessel. Catch and retention on board, transshipment or landing of more than one BFT-E individual per vessel per day is prohibited.</p> <p>The marketing of BFT-E caught in recreational and sport fishing is prohibited.</p> <p>Catch data obtained from the recreational fishery shall be submitted to the Ministry, all recreational catches shall be counted against Türkiye's total quota dedicated for recreational and sports fisheries.</p> | Notification No. 6/2 Regulating Amateur & Recreational Fisheries (Article 15)/ Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 11(5)). | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | <p>Paras 89-94 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>Transshipment at sea operations of BFT-E shall be prohibited.</p> <p>BFT-E fishing vessels shall only transship/land BFT-E catches in the ports designated for that purpose.</p> <p>List of designated BFT-E Landing and Transshipment Ports:</p> | Ministerial Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 9, Annex 9). | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>1. Adana Province: Karatlas fishing port</p> <p>2. Antalya Province: Antalya fishing port Alanya fishing port</p> <p>3. Mersin Province: Erdemli fishing port</p> <p>4. Hatay Province: Çevlik fishing port Işıklı-Konacık fishing Port</p> <p>5. Canakkale Province: Yeniköy fishing port Gülpınar fishing port</p> <p>6. Istanbul Province: Gürpınar fishing port Tuzla fishing port</p> <p>7. Izmir Province: Karaburun fishing port</p> | | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | <p>Paras 222-228 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required.</p> <p>Fishing vessels requesting any of the BFT-E fishing vessel permits for the 2026 fishing season shall be equipped with a full-time operational satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS) onboard, as required by MoAF.</p> <p>The transmission of VMS data to ICCAT shall be started at least 5 days before their period of authorisation and shall be continued at least 5 days after their period of authorisation.</p> | Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (Article 22)/ Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 6). | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | Position reporting in every one hour shall be required from the authorized BFT-E fishing vessels, including BFT-E towing vessels. | | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | Paras 95-100 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required. Presence of “CPC Observers” on all BFT-E Towing Vessels shall be ensured during the whole period of authorization. | Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries (Article 22) / Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 7, Annex 5). | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Paras 101-107 of Rec. 25-04 shall be implemented as required. 100% Coverage of “ICCAT Regional Observers” on BFT-E Catching Vessels and at BFT-E Farming Facilities (at the time of caging and harvest operations) shall be mandatory. | Notification Regulating Commercial Fisheries (Article 22)/ Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading (Article 7, Annex 3). | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | The rules established by ICCAT Rec. 25-04 have been transposed into Turkish domestic regulation through “Ministerial Circular on Bluefin tuna Fishing, Farming and Trading”. | Ministerial Circular on BFT-E Fishing, Farming and Trading Ministerial Notification No. 6/1 Regulating Commercial Fisheries, Directives, Ministerial Order on Individual Quotas to be Allocated for the period 2026-2028. | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | Türkiye will continue to support ICCAT GBYP Programme in 2026. Larval surveys conducted in 2025 and planned to be continued in 2026. | | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|---|--|-------------|
| | | Tagging programme is also planned to be continued in 2026 under GBYP Programme. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of designated ports for landing and transhipment is provided below. Türkiye has also submitted a CP24 Form with this plan.

List of Authorised ports

1. Adana - Karataş
2. Antalya
3. Antalya-Alanya
4. Mersin - Erdemli
5. Hatay – Çevlik
6. Hatay-Işıklı Konacık
7. Çanakkale - Yeniköy
8. Çanakkale-Gülpınar
9. İstanbul - Gürpınar
10. İstanbul - Tuzla
11. İzmir - Karaburun

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The number of fishing vessels and the corresponding fishing capacity using the template provided by the Secretariat has been provided in the last page of the plan.

Fishing permits are planned to be granted to 48 purse seine vessels as BFT catching vessels by MoAF. This figure is the ceiling for BFT Catching Vessels that can be authorized in 2026. 90 BFT-E other vessels (towing, support and auxiliary) are planned to be authorized by MoAF. A viable amount of quota shall be allocated to the authorized BFT-E catching vessels acquiring valid fishing permits for the 2026 BFT-E fishing season.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

All farm activities shall be subject to regular monitoring, control and inspections by MoAF in 2026. These will be conducted on a quarterly basis in general or on caging operation, transfer operation, harvesting operation basis, whichever is applied in the context of Rec. 25-04. The inspections to be carried out by the Ministry throughout the year are planned on a farm basis and taking into account risk-based prioritization. Results of conventional and stereoscopic camera systems will be utilized by MoAF to estimate quota uptake.

Random controls will be carried out on the basis of risk assessment and in line with paras 211-218 of Rec. 25-04. A 10% of the number of cages in each farm shall be covered in 2026 and documented data/information (cage content declared, farm schematic plans in the inventory of MoAF, related ITD(s), ICD(s), BCD, etc) will be cross-checked.

MoAF will establish protocols for the sealing of transport cages and farm cages, and require that the farm cages containing bluefin tuna will be sealed at all times in 2026.

With reference to paras 10, 22-24 of Rec. 25-04, annual farming management plan for the year 2026 is provided below:

| Farming Capacity for the year 2026* | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Country</i> | <i>FFB*</i> | <i>Active/ Inactive</i> | <i>Input Capacity (t)**</i> | | <i>FFB Coordinates</i> |
| Türkiye | Sagun Tuna Farming | Active | 800 | | 38 29 16,73 N, 26 23 23,12 E 38 29 22,41 N, 26 23 23,08 E 38 29 22,37 N, 26 23 15,85 E 38 29 16,69 N, 26 23 15,90 E |
| Türkiye | Akua Group Orkinos Besiciligi Projesi | Active | 800 | | 38 27 24,00 N, 26 27 18,00 E 38 27 12,00 N, 26 27 18,00 E 38 27 12,00 N, 26 27 09,00 E 38 27 24,00 N, 26 27 09,00 E |
| Türkiye | BASARANLAR ORKINOS BESICILIGI PROJESI | Active | 900 | | 38 07 49, 03N, 26 39 28,19 E 38 07 48, 05N, 26 39 33,81 E 38 07 40, 26 N 26 39 25,20 E 38 07 39, 28 N 26 39 30,83 |
| Türkiye | KILIÇ Orkinos Besiciligi Projesi | Active | 1,840 | | 38 24 40,00 N, 26 23 14,00 E 38 24 40,00 N, 26 23 20,00 E 38 24 34,00 N, 26 23 20,00 E 38 24 34,00 N, 26 23 14,00 E |
| Türkiye | Sagun Orkinos Besiciligi Projesi | Active | 1,000 | | 38 24 59,00 N, 26 24 44,00 E 38 24 59,00 N, 26 24 52,00 E 38 24 46,00 N, 26 24 52,00 E 38 24 46,00 N, 26 24 44,00 E |
| Türkiye | AK-TUNA ORKINOS BESICILIGI PROJESI | Active | 1000 | | 38 23 29,00 N, 26 26 10,00 E 38 23 23,00 N, 26 26 10,00 E 38 23 23,00 N, 26 26 31,00 E 38 23 29,00 N, 26 26 31,00 E |
| TOTAL | | | 6,340 | | |
| | | Inactive | 500 ⁽¹⁾ | | |

*In case of any changes, final version of farming capacity plan shall be reported by 1 June.

** The figure of 6,340 t represents the maximum farming input capacity for 2026. This figure encompasses the maximum input of wild-caught bluefin tuna estimated by individual farming facilities, based on: The domestically allocated quota shares; Türkiye's annual catch limit as established by paragraph 8 of Rec. 25-04; potential quota transfers from other CPCs; and the imports of live bluefin tuna intended for farming purposes in 2026.

⁽¹⁾ Without any prejudice to the right of utilization at any time, the farm capacity of 500 t shown in the table above that belongs to Türkiye will not be used for the year 2026.

An annual carry-over declaration report for all farms will be submitted as an Annex to the revised farming management plan, when all carryover assessment transfers are completed.

Information on the farm CPC competent authority and the list of contact points nominated as responsible for the implementation national caging activities and their control are provided as follows:

Farm CPC Competent Authority: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry / General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

List of Contact Points:

Mr. İlhan ÜZE, Head of Department, ilhan.uze@tarimorman.gov.tr
Mr. Hüseyin KARCI, Coordinator, huseyin.karci@tarimorman.gov.tr
Mr. Semih SAYIN, Engineer, semih.sayin@tarimorman.gov.tr

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A. Türkiye has not such activity.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The CPC control competent authority and the list of contact points nominated as responsible for the implementation of this monitoring, control and inspection plan are provided as follows:

CPC Competent Authority: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry / General Directorate of Fisheries and Aquaculture

List of Contact Points:

Mr. İlhan ÜZE, Head of Department, ilhan.uze@tarimorman.gov.tr
 Mr. Hüseyin KARCI, Coordinator, huseyin.karci@tarimorman.gov.tr
 Mr. Semih SAYIN, Engineer, semih.sayin@tarimorman.gov.tr

Monitoring, control and inspection of BFT-E fishing and transfer operations

All vessels shall be equipped and monitored with an operational Vessel Monitoring System. The Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) operated by the Ministry shall continue to be utilized during the whole fishing campaign.

In collaboration with Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC), comprehensive at-sea inspection coverage shall be ensured by MoAF during 2026 BFT-E fishing season. To that end, an autodyne research vessel - namely AKDENİZ ARAŞTIRMA 1- will be commissioned by MoAF to carry out inspections at sea.

A continuous monitoring, control and inspection shall be ensured at potentially active landing ports through the assignment of MoAF inspectors. Additionally, random inspections by MoAF shall continue even before/after the fishing season at the landing ports, transport vehicles and fish markets to check and record any landing, transport or storing of BFT-E. Artisanal, coastal fisheries, recreational and sportive fisheries shall be inspected in scope of the scheduled annual inspections to be undertaken by MoAF and TCGC in territorial waters.

If the video footage does not meet the minimum standards, the donor operator will conduct voluntary transfer(s), and MoAF shall order a control transfer in case determination of the number of fish being transferred cannot be estimated through voluntary transfers.

Monitoring, control and inspection of BFT-E caging operations

MoAF inspectors shall control proper implementation of caging programmes at farming facilities on a regular basis. All transfers from towing vessels to farm cages shall be monitored by stereoscopic cameras as well as conventional cameras and the records of each transfer shall be provided to MoAF for assessment. Farm operator shall communicate the results of the caging programme to ministerial inspector and ICCAT Regional Observer. Those results shall also be communicated to the catching CPC, when applicable.

In accordance with the related provisions of Rec. 25-04; farm operators shall be allowed to carry-over of non-harvested bluefin tuna prior to the beginning of the 2026 purse seiner fishing season through carry over assessment transfers of non-harvested bluefin tunas to another empty cage(s) by using stereoscopic control cameras. The carry-over assessment shall be made under the presence of ministerial inspectors and reported to ICCAT. Carry-over declaration will be transmitted as an annex to the revised farming management plan within 15 days after the end of the assessment operation.

As provided in Section 3 above, MoAF shall carry out random controls at each of the farms before the first caging of 2026 in line with the procedures set out in paras 211-218 of Rec. 25-04.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Türkiye plans to continue its longstanding voluntary contribution to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection in 2026. In this respect, Turkish Coast Guard Command (TCGC) schedules to designate 77 inspection boats, 17 air control assets (helicopters / planes) and 394 inspectors on the field during the 2026 BFT-E fishing campaign. Additionally, Turkish Naval Forces Command is expected to join the inspection scheme of 2026 through assigning 47 inspection vessels and 132 inspectors during the 2026 BFT-E fishing campaign. Also, it is planned by MoAF to include around 150 Ministerial inspectors in the joint inspection scheme during the campaign.

Furthermore, an additional inspection vessel - namely AKDENİZ ARAŞTIRMA 1- that has been assigned by MoAF will also contribute to the activities under the ICCAT Scheme of Joint International Inspections in the region.

Based on a risk analysis approach, the locations where the fishing vessels were mostly concentrated during previous seasons is planned to be focused on 2026. In this context, BFT-E fishing and transferring activities, as well as Mediterranean swordfish fishing activities will continue to be inspected on a regular throughout the upcoming fishing campaign.

The records of the VMS signals will regularly be monitored at the premises of MoAF and at Coast Guard Main Operation Centre in Ankara, as well as, at regional operation centres of TCGC.

TCGC shall take into account the probable position data of the fishing vessels which will be obtained from the VMS during the ICCAT inspections.

The inspections shall be conducted in territorial waters of Türkiye, high seas of Mediterranean and high seas of the Aegean Sea. ICCAT inspections by the TCGC assets shall be carried out during the whole period of BFT-E Fishing Season.

The means of at-sea inspections shall be deployed mainly at BFT-E and Med-SWO fishing grounds which are determined based on 2025's risk assessment data.

6. Others

Türkiye will continue to support the ICCAT GBYP Programme.

It is planned to continue to carry out activities under the research project named "*Investigation of reproductive and migration behaviours of Atlantic tunas (Thunnus thynnus) that breeding in the eastern Mediterranean (I. Period) (TAGEM/HAYSUD/T1/24/A7/P1/7275)*" in cooperation with various universities, between 2024-2028.

In this research project, ichthyoplankton surveys will be conducted to determine the spawning areas and the spawning stock biomass of the spawning aggregation in the eastern Mediterranean.

These surveys will be continued in 2026.

It is planned to conduct tagging programme as part of the ICCAT Atlantic Wide Research Programme on Bluefin Tuna (GBYP) research activities.

Capacity Table

| Tuna vessel type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | Ref years | | | | | | | Ref years | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 ^a | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | 41 | 16 | 23 | 24 | 32 | 33 | | 2899 | 1131 | 1626 | 1697 | 2264 | 2331.8 |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | 49 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 15 | | 2439 | 299 | 299 | 299 | 199 | 746.7 |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 101 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | 93 | 22 | 29 | 30 | 36 | 48 | | 5439 | 1430 | 1925 | 1996 | 2463 | 3078.5 |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | 3 ^b | 3 ^b | 3 ^b | 3,5 ^b |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | 93 | 22 | 30 | 30 | 36 | 48 | | 5439 | 1430 | 1928 | 1999 | 2463 | 3082 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | 887 | 1414 | 2600 | 2600 | 2600 | 3094.45 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | 3284.17 ^c | 3200.64 ^e | 2728 ^g | 3149.45 ⁱ |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 0.4% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12 |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | 3271.17^d | 3187.64^f | 2715^h | 3133.95^j |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | 4552 | -16 | -1343.17 | -1188 | -252 | -51.95 |

^a Numbers of vessels to be authorized and their length distributions are provisional based on presumptions. The definite number and breakdown of vessels will be added up by 30 April.

^b Allocated for the purposes of artisanal and coastal, recreational and sport fisheries.

^c Adjusted quota for 2023 = 2600 t (Quota) + 48.3 t (overcarried over amount) +635.87 t (quota transferred from Egypt and Syria in line with para 8 of Rec. 22-08) = 3,284.17 t.

^d Available quota for 2023 = 3284.17 t (Quota) - 10 t (Bycatch quota) - 3 t (allocation for the purposes of artisanal and coastal fisheries, recreational and sport fisheries) = 3,271.17 t.

^e Adjusted quota 2024= 2600 t (quota) - 35,13 (overharvest amount in 2023) +507.87 t (quota transferred from Egypt in line with para 8 of Rec. 22-08) +128 t (quota transferred from Syria in line with para 8 of Rec. 22-08) = 3,200.64 t.

^f Available quota 2024 = 3200.64 (adjusted quota) - 10 t (bycatch quota)- 3 t (allocation for the purposes of artisanal and coastal fisheries, recreational and sport fisheries) = 3,187.64 t.

^g Adjusted quota 2025: 2,600 t (2025 initial quota) + 128 t (quota transferred from Syria in line with para 8 of Rec. 24-05) = 2,728 t.

^h Available quota 2025: 2,728 t (2025 adjusted quota) - 10 t (bycatch) - 3 t (allocation for the purposes of artisanal and coastal fisheries, recreational and sport fisheries) = 2,715 t.

ⁱ Adjusted quota 2026: 3094.45 t (2026 initial quota) + 55 t (quota transferred from Mauritania in line with para 8 of Rec. 25-04) = 3,149.45 t

^j Available quota 2026: 3149.45 t (2026 Adjusted quota)- 12 t (bycatch) - 3,5 t (allocation for the purposes of artisanal and coastal fisheries, recreational and sport fisheries) = 3,133.95 t

United Kingdom

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

The UK has an initial quota of 230.56 t for 2026 as set out in ICCAT Recommendation 25-04, adjusted to 243.16 t (see below). We will use this quota to further develop our fishing activities in 2026, building on previous years. In particular:

- The UK will expand commercial BFT-E fisheries.
- The UK will expand recreational catch and release BFT-E fisheries.
- Some Fisheries Administrations within the UK will continue to operate scientific Catch and Release Tagging programmes (CHART), which will be jointly delivered by specially trained skippers and scientists.
- The UK will continue to permit some limited opportunities for sale of BFT-E bycaught in commercial fisheries using certain gear types.

The UK will only permit commercial targeting of BFT-E with rod and reel. No other commercial gears are permitted. The vessels involved in this fishery will be small-scale coastal vessels.

Our management approach will be kept under close review during the year. Any refinements to the approach that require adjustments to our Fishing Plan will be notified to ICCAT in line with Paragraph 13 of Recommendation 25-04.

In 2025 the UK's membership of ICCAT was extended to the Bailiwick of Jersey. In 2026 Jersey intends to expand its recreational BFT-E fishery. The process of extending the UK's membership of ICCAT to the Bailiwick of Guernsey is currently underway and is expected to conclude in 2026. The UK will notify the ICCAT Secretariat once the process is complete. Upon completion of the process Guernsey intends to open a small recreational BFT-E fishery. Vessel operators in Jersey and Guernsey will also be eligible to apply for commercial bluefin tuna fishing licences.

Bycatch coverage

All bycatches of dead BFT-E will be deducted from UK quota. In 2026, the UK will reserve 10 t for accidental bycatch by vessels that are not targeting BFT-E. Taking into account bycatches of BFT-E by UK commercial vessels in previous years (4.10 t in 2024 and 3.31 t in 2025), but also noting that BFT-E is being seen in UK waters in significant numbers and over an increasing geographical area, leading to a greater likelihood of interactions with fishing vessels, the UK considers 10 t to be sufficient to ensure we can properly account for all BFT-E bycatch.

To avoid incentivising the targeting of BFT-E by vessels that are not part of the BFT-E commercial fishery, commercial UK vessels which are not authorised to target BFT-E will continue to be permitted to land, and sell, a maximum of one bycaught fish per trip. This will also ensure they do not exceed the 20% maximum set out in paragraph 37 of Recommendation 25-04. Any further BFT-E that are caught will be required to be released alive if possible. If dead, the vessel operator will be required to notify the relevant authorities and may be required to retain the specimen for scientific sampling, but will not be able to offer it for sale.

If UK quota is exhausted, all BFT-E that are caught that are alive will be required to be released. Under the UK Landing Obligation, any BFT-E that are caught that are dead and above the minimum conservation reference size will be required to be retained. Any such retained dead fish may be sent for scientific sampling but cannot be offered for sale to human consumption markets. In this scenario, landings would be accounted for by adjusting the UK's quota for 2027.

All bycaught BFT-E will be subject to the requirements of the ICCAT electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Scheme (eBCD).

Commercial fishery

Interest in further developing commercial BFT-E fisheries in the UK remains significant, with demand for licences far exceeding the number made available in 2024 and 2025. The UK intends to expand its commercial BFT-E fisheries in a staged manner over the course of the 2026-28 TAC/management cycle. In 2026 we will increase the number of commercial licences from 15 to 30, and allocate 120t of our quota to commercial vessels targeting BFT-E. All eligible operators within the UK, Jersey and (once UK membership is extended to it) Guernsey will be able to apply for commercial licences, and if successful will be able to prosecute commercial fishing activities.

We intend to further increase the number of commercial licences and proportion of our quota allocated to commercial vessels in 2027, and again in 2028. This stepped approach is intended to ensure that the UK's risk-led control and inspection regime is effective in managing our BFT-E fisheries as they grow and allow for review and refinement of the regime each year. The approach will result in full allocation of the UK's quota by 2028.

Commercial BFT-E fisheries will be open from 13 July to 31 December (6 months). Fishing will be conducted by small-scale vessels (of no more than 12 m in length). The vessels will only operate within UK's Exclusive Economic Zone, and primarily within territorial waters (0-12 nm). Their fishing trips will each be less than 24 hours. They will utilise rod and reel gear (with no chumming of bait permitted) to maximise selectivity in the fishery and also maximise the possibility for safe live release of any undersized fish that are caught. Participating vessels will therefore fall into the 'small-scale coastal vessel' category as defined in Recommendation 25-04 (para 2(dd)).

Catch and Release Tag Programmes and BFT-E Research Programmes

In 2026 the UK will set aside 5 t of quota for the continuation of the 'Catch And Release Tagging' (CHART) programme for BFT-E and for any other anticipated research programmes on BFT-E to be carried out in UK waters. The anticipated research programmes are currently in their preliminary stages of development and commissioning.

5 t of quota is considered suitably precautionary and more than sufficient to cover the envisaged activity, noting that in 2025 there were no reported mortalities in the CHART programme. If the anticipated research programmes referenced above proceed, an assessment of the activities' expected quota needs will be made and the 5 t quota allocation to science will be split between them and CHART accordingly.

Quota allocated for these purposes will be used to account for any at-boat incidental mortality associated with CHART or other programmes to be carried out. This figure was established taking into consideration envisaged programme duration, number of vessels participating and our estimates of average days fished per month, Catch Per Unit Effort, weight, and at-vessel mortality. The quota will not be allocated on a vessel-by-vessel basis but will instead cover the whole of CHART and any other programmes.

The CHART programme and any other programmes will be carried out in accordance with paragraph 44 of Recommendation 25-04, including providing a report to the SCRS. All programmes will be authorised by the relevant UK Fisheries Administrations and fishing will be carried out under strict monitoring and reporting conditions.

The fishing season for the 2026 CHART programme is envisaged to be August to mid-December 2026.

Recreational fishery

In 2025 the UK continued catch and release recreational fisheries (CRRFs) for BFT-E. Interest in further developing recreational fisheries remains significant: in 2024 and 2025 the number of applications for recreational BFT permits in England was much higher than the number of permits made available.

In 2025, the level of fishing activity and reported mortality rate were significantly lower than anticipated, leading to very limited quota use. There were 14 reported mortalities in the recreational fishery in 2025, which equates to approximately 1.75 t. Data on size/weight of individuals, CPUE and mortality data collected from the 2025 recreational fishery will be made available to ICCAT.

The UK intends to expand its recreational fisheries in a staged manner over the course of the 2026-28 TAC/management cycle. For 2026, the UK will increase the cap on the number of recreational permits to be made available from 185 to 230. This includes permits to be made available by Jersey and Guernsey as well as the rest of the UK. Jersey intends to expand its recreational fishery in 2026 allowing recreational vessels to participate as well as charter vessels. Upon completion of the membership process Guernsey also intends to open a small recreational BFT-E fishery. Both will be accounted for under the total number of UK vessel permits to be issued and any incidental mortality will be accounted for using UK BFT-E quota.

The UK will allocate 20 t of its quota to cover estimated incidental mortalities. The key mechanism for ensuring quota is not exceeded is to limit the number of permits issued. Fisheries Management Authorities monitor quota usage on a weekly basis and have the powers to vary permit conditions or close the fishery early if quota is likely to be exceeded. Fishery modelling has been used to determine the average amount of quota which could be used by each permit holder. The model has been informed by data from the English BFT CRRF in 2024 and 2025 and expertise from scientists, regulators and the recreational sector. The model is based on the following assumptions:

1. Average weight of BFT captured
2. Overall BFT capture mortality rate
3. Expected fishing effort

These figures are used to calculate the average amount of BFT mortality that each permit could be expected to generate.

Electronic tagging programmes

Depending on funding the UK may continue its electronic tagging programmes supporting GBYP (Grand Bluefin Year Programme) with mortality covered by the Research Mortality Allowance rather than national quota.

Fisheries science is a devolved matter in the UK and if any UK Fisheries Administration expresses an intention to run a scientific study which is substantively different to those outlined above, the UK will if necessary notify ICCAT via a modification of its fishing plan.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with paragraph 4 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 the UK's quota for 2026 is 230.56 t. In 2025, the UK had a small underharvest of BFT-E, with 22.35 t of our initial quota unfished. In accordance with paragraph 6 of Rec. 25-04 the UK would like to carry over 12.6 t (20% of our initial quota) from 2025 to 2026. The adjusted quota for the UK in 2025 would therefore be 243.16 t.

1 c) Destination of catch

All of the UK's commercial related BFT-E catches that are above the minimum conservation reference size will be landed. The UK does not have any bluefin tuna farming activity.

1 d)

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <p><i>Commercial fishery and bycatch</i> All commercial vessels authorised to target BFT-E will be required to keep a record of all their catches in a logbook. These logbooks will meet the requirements set out in Annex 2 of Recommendation 25-04.</p> <p>Any vessel which catches a BFT-E will be required to alert the relevant authorities four hours prior to arrival into port, or if this is impossible for practical reasons, as soon as possible.</p> <p>The UK will submit biweekly catch reports of BFT-E in accordance with para 86 of Recommendation 25-04.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART) and scientific programmes</i> Skippers participating in scientific programmes will be required to record specified fishing and capture data by electronic or paper-based means within 24 hours of capture. Data will include (among other things) date, time, location of effort and capture, number of bluefin tuna caught and tagged, their lengths, and any incidental mortalities.</p> <p>It will be a requirement to alert the relevant authorities of any incidental mortalities of BFT-E four hours prior to arrival at port or as soon as possible to arrange for collection or disposal. Any incidental BFT-E mortality that occurs will be counted against the UK's 2026 BFT-E quota.</p> | Retained Regulations 1224/2009, 404/2011 and 2016/1627 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|--|---|-------------|
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | <p><i>Commercial bycatch</i> Commercial bycatch will be accounted for against the UK's 2026 BFT-E quota.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART) and scientific programmes</i> CHART is planned to be open between August and end of December 2026. All mortalities from scientific programmes will be accounted for within the UK's 2026 BFT-E quota.</p> <p><i>Commercial Fishery</i> The commercial fishery using rod and reel will be open between 13 July and 31 December 2026. All activity will occur in UK waters. Once the quota is exhausted this fishery will be closed.</p> | | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | <p><i>Commercial fishery and bycatch</i> UK commercial fishing vessels will be required to release any accidentally caught undersized live BFT-E (i.e. those below 30 kg or with a fork length of less than 115 cm).</p> <p>Undersized fish will not be allowed to be marketed or retained. All retained BFT-E and dead discards will be deducted from the UK's 2026 BFT-E quota and reported to ICCAT.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART) and scientific programmes</i> As no BFT-E will be landed as part of CHART, no minimum size has been established for the programme. All anticipated research programmes will follow the minimum size requirements of 24-05.</p> | Retained Regulation 2016/1627 Landing Obligation Regulation 2013/1380 Article 15 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|--|-------------|
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37, including % to be set aside) | <p><i>Commercial fisheries for other species</i> All UK landings of BFT-E will be deducted from the UK's 2026 BFT-E quota.</p> <p>10 t of UK quota will be set aside to account for accidental bycatch by commercial fishing vessels targeting other species. This equates to 4.34% of the UK's initial quota. In 2025 3.31 t of BFT-E was caught as bycatch in UK fisheries targeting other species.</p> <p>Calculations of bycatch will be based on the proportion of BFT-E as compared to live weight of all other species on board.</p> <p>Any bycaught BFT-E that are retained for marketing will be subject to eBCD requirements.</p> <p>Only commercial fishing vessels licensed to fish other species and likely to interact with BFT-E will be permitted to sell bycaught BFT-E. They will be limited to selling a maximum of one BFT-E per trip.</p> <p>If more than one fish is caught, additional fish will be released if alive. If dead, the fish will be retained but will not be allowed to be sold. All retained fish will count against UK quota.</p> <p>If UK quota is exhausted, vessels will still be required to retain dead BFT-E above the minimum conservation reference size. These fish cannot be sold but may be sent for sampling.</p> | S.23 of Fisheries Act 2020 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|---|---|---|-------------|
| | | <p>All catch data will be provided to ICCAT.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release tagging programme (CHART) and anticipated research programmes</i></p> <p>5 t will be allocated to account for incidental mortality for research programmes.</p> | | |
| 5 | <p>Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46)</p> | <p><i>Non-tagging related recreational and sports fishing</i></p> <p>The UK has put in place legislation to enable its fisheries authorities to issue vessels with authorisations to fish for BFT-E recreationally. The UK currently expects to issue no more than 230 authorisations in 2026. However, we will keep this under review and ICCAT will be updated as appropriate.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART) and research programmes</i></p> <p>Some UK Fisheries Administrations will carry out a CHART programme for BFT-E in UK waters in 2026. This will be carried out in accordance with Paragraph 44 of Recommendation 25-04. These activities will be monitored by the UK Fisheries Administrations' relevant authorities.</p> <p>A maximum of 25 vessels will be authorised to participate in the CHART programme. Any incidental mortalities arising as a result of CHART activity in 2026 will be taken from the 5 t quota allocated to science activities. All obligations stated under Paragraph 44 of ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 will be complied with.</p> | <p>The Sea Fisheries (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024</p> | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | UK vessels are prohibited from transshipping at sea. Additionally, the UK does not allow in-port transshipment. | Article 20 of retained Regulation 1224/2009 (Commercial vessels) | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 219-225 / paras 222-228) | <p><i>Commercial fisheries</i> UK commercial fishing vessels of 12 m and over in length must have an operational Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) system to operate in UK waters, third country and/or international waters. Vessels' VMS systems must report their position every 2 hours.</p> <p>England intends to introduce a requirement that all commercial fishing vessels under 12 m, regardless of nationality, must have an operational VMS when operating in English waters. This measure is already in place in Welsh and Jersey waters.</p> <p><i>Catch and Release tagging programme (CHART) and research programmes</i> Vessels will be required to keep a record of their activity for each tuna fishing day and submit those to the relevant fisheries authorities or nominated scientific bodies responsible for the research programme e.g. for the CHART programme in Northern Ireland Agri-food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI), in Scotland the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) and the University of Exeter, and in Jersey Marine Resources and Fisheries</p> | Article 9 of retained Regulation 1224/2009 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|---|--|-------------|
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | <p><i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART)</i> The CHART programme aims to observe up to 5% of tagging activity to ensure best practice catch, tag and release protocols are observed.</p> <p><i>Commercial fishery</i> The UK's commercial fishery for BFT-E will be limited to vessels under 12 m which will be using rods and reels. They will not be permitted to chum bait.</p> <p>ICCAT Recommendation 25-04 Paragraph 95 does not require vessels under 15 m to deploy observers. However, UK vessel activity is closely monitored.</p> | | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | N/A - The UK does not plan to allow any purse seiners to fish for BFT. The UK will also not permit any traps, caging, transfers from one cage to another or farming for BFT-E. | | |
| 10 | Domestic legislation | <p>The UK has in place Retained EU Regulations: Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 September 2016 on a multiannual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.</p> <p>The UK has completed the process of updating domestic legislation and in 2024 adopted: the Sea Fisheries (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 No. 439 to make the use of electronic catch</p> | UK SI No.439 UK SI No. 655 | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|--|---|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>documents in the Eastern Atlantic bluefin fishery mandatory and update elements of retained EU legislation relevant to the implementation of ICCAT measures. These additional amendments include a prohibition on bluefin tuna farming and the use of bluefin tuna traps in Met UK waters or by Met UK vessels in the Convention area.</p> <p>The UK also adopted the Sea Fisheries (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas) (Amendment) (No.2) Regulations 2024 No. 655 to facilitate commencement of a recreational fishery for BFT-E.</p> | | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | <i>Catch and Release Tagging programme (CHART)</i> Conventional floy and satellite tagging will be undertaken in the CHART programme by trained skippers. | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The list of UK designated ports can be found in **Annex 1**. UK vessels will not be permitted to land BFT into foreign ports.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

The UK will license a maximum of 30 vessels under 12 m to part take in the commercial fishery in 2026. Details are set out in the Capacity Table. The increase in capacity reflects the development and expansion of the UK's commercial BFT-E fisheries as described in 1. *Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps*, above.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

N/A: the UK does not farm BFT-E.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

N/A: the UK does not aquaculture BFT-E.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

UK fisheries enforcement authorities - the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for England, the Marine Directorate of the Scottish Government, the Northern Irish Sea Fisheries Inspectorate and the Welsh Government's Control and Enforcement team – focus inspection activity on BFT-E landings into designated BFT-E landing ports and monitor any landings of bycatches into other commercial ports. Each authority also has enforcement presence at sea. For completeness, the UK does not permit transshipment of BFT-E. The competent authorities can be contacted by emailing MCS@defra.gov.uk.

Inspections are risk-based, intelligence-led, and annual target rates are reviewed on a regular basis. Monitoring, control and surveillance activities cover recreational and commercial fishing activity and downstream market activity, ensuring that no unauthorised marketing takes place and that catches are fully documented. Fisheries officers focus efforts on the compliant landing and traceability of fish.

Mandatory training is delivered to all commercial BFT-E vessel operators. This training covers reporting requirements including catch documentation (eBCD) requirements, minimum fish sizes, gear requirements and selling only to registered buyers. Vessel masters are also provided with a wheelhouse instruction card; this contains all relevant reporting requirements as well as fisheries administration contact details to report landings.

Recreational fishers in England are subject to mandatory reporting of activity times, locations and the number of fish caught, including their lengths and fight times. Recreational fishers are also strongly encouraged to comply with a BFT Code of Conduct (<https://ukbfta.co.uk/>) which sets out best practice for the fishery; this covers fish handling to ensure maximum survivability of any fish that are released. The BFT-E Code of Conduct has been developed through close collaboration between the UK Government, Cefas, Natural England and stakeholder representatives. Training on the code of conduct is under development and the intention is for this to be mandatory for all recreational fishers in England in 2026. Other UK administrations are also considering whether to introduce mandatory training for recreational fishers.

Any incidental mortality associated with the CHART programme must be notified to the relevant UK Fisheries Administration immediately and any dead BFT-E may be required to be brought to shore for biological sampling in support of research. It will not be permitted to offer any such fish for sale. A suite of monitoring measures will be in operation as part of the programme, including aiming for observer coverage of up to 5% and where possible video of the capture event. Mechanisms will be in operation to pause, refine and if necessary close the programme if there is a risk of incidental mortalities exceeding the allocated quota. Data from the CHART programme are to be reported within 24 hours so catches and incidental mortalities can be evaluated in near real-time.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

The UK does not participate in the joint inspection scheme. UK enforcement authorities have conducted a risk assessment and have found the risk of non-compliance on the high-seas by UK BFT-E vessels to be nil. This is because all UK BFT-E commercial vessels perform day trips and therefore routinely operate within the UK's territorial waters (within 12 nautical miles of the coast); there is no activity outside of the UK EEZ. Our enforcement activity is focussed on the waters where UK BFT-E vessels operate and the ports they land into.

As detailed above in the UK's monitoring, control and inspection plan, the UK has a robust inspection presence within its BFT-E fisheries. In the first and second year of the UK's commercial BFT-E fishery - 2023 and 2024, inspection rates of BFT-E landings in England were 30% and 15%, respectively. Inspections rates of individual fish in 2023 were 19% and in 2024 they were 34%. These figures demonstrate that the UK is committed to careful management, with inspection rates of BFT-E landings in England decreasing due to increased numbers of fish landings, increased industry compliance and enforcement resource being deployed in line with a risk-based approach as the UK's fishery has been developing.

In 2025, the inspection rate of BFT-E landings in England was 32%, and the inspection rate for individual fish was 34%. Additionally, in 2025 there were five at sea inspections of recreational vessels and two at sea inspections of commercial vessels conducted, with no infringements found. In 2026, the UK plans to deploy enforcement resource in line with a risk-based approach as the fishery grows, with similar inspection coverage as has been attained for the last three years.

6. Others

The UK is considering its capacity to continue research that will generate information and understanding of the residency, migrations and behaviour of bluefin tuna found in UK waters. Any tagging and sampling work under this programme will be conducted in accordance, and consistent with, ICCAT GBYP protocols and techniques, and contribute to the GBYP's research goals. The UK will request coverage from the ICCAT Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) to account for any mortality associated with this research.

Capacity Table

| <i>Tuna vessel type</i> | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Number of vessels</i> | | | | | <i>Ref years</i> | | | <i>Fishing capacity</i> | | | |
|--|--|------------------|------|------|--------------------------|------|------|------|--|------------------|------|------|-------------------------|---|---------|----------|
| Type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | 10 | 13 | 15 | 30 | | | | | 39 t | 39 t | 45 t | 120 t |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 t for tagging activity not related to CHART Programme | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | 48.4t | 63t | 63t | 230.56t |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | 66.42 t | 66.15 t | 66.15 t | 243.16 t |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 41% | 23% | 15% | 4.34% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | 14t | 9.15 t | 7.15 t | 10 t |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 t | 1 t | 1 t | 5 t |
| Allowance sports/recreational (if applicable) for | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 t | 10 t | 16 t | 20 t |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | | | | | 46.42 | 40 t | 45 t | 208.16 t |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

UK designated ports

| <i>PortName</i> | <i>Country</i> | <i>PortCode</i> | <i>Latitude</i> | <i>Longitude</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Brixham | GB-ENG | GBBRX | 50.401 | -3.509 |
| Coverack | GB-ENG | GBCOV | 50.022 | -5.093 |
| Falmouth | GB-ENG | GBFAL | 50.161 | -5.073 |
| Fleetwood | GB-ENG | GBFLE | 53.922 | -3.008 |
| Folkestone | GB-ENG | GBFOL | 51.078 | 1.190 |
| Grimsby | GB-ENG | GBGSY | 53.579 | -0.074 |
| Harwich | GB-ENG | GBHRW | 51.945 | 1.280 |
| Hayle | GB-ENG | GBHAY | 50.190 | -5.4292 |
| Hull | GB-ENG | GBHUL | 53.742 | -0.280 |
| Immingham | GB-ENG | GBIMM | 53.636 | -0.185 |
| Ilfracombe | GB-ENG | GBILF | 51.210 | -4.112 |
| Liverpool | GB-ENG | GBLIV | 53.422 | -3.008 |
| Lowestoft | GB-ENG | GBLOW | 52.474 | 1.736 |
| Looe | GB-ENG | GBLOE | 50.354 | -4.455 |
| Lyme Regis | GB-ENG | GBLYR | 50.720 | -2.934 |
| Mevagissey | GB-ENG | GBMVG | 50.269 | -4.783 |
| Mylor | GB-ENG | GBMYL | 50.177 | -5.054 |
| Newhaven | GB-ENG | GBNHV | 50.786 | 0.058 |
| Newlyn | GB-ENG | GBNYL | 50.104 | -5.547 |
| Newquay | GB-ENG | GBNQY | 50.419 | -5.083 |
| North Shields | GB-ENG | GBNSH | 55.009 | -1.439 |
| Padstow | GB-ENG | GBPAD | 50.540 | -4.936 |
| Plymouth | GB-ENG | GBPLY | 50.372 | -4.150 |
| Port Issac | GB-ENG | GBISA | 50.594 | -4.834 |
| Port Navas (Helford River) | GB-ENG | GBHDR | 50.106 | -5.141 |
| Porthleven | GB-ENG | GBPLV | 50.086 | -5.315 |
| Portsmouth | GB-ENG | GBPME | 50.803 | -1.102 |
| Rye | GB-ENG | GBRYE | 50.945 | 0.747 |
| Scarborough | GB-ENG | GBSCA | 54.283 | -0.390 |
| Shoreham | GB-ENG | GBSHO | 50.830 | -0.233 |
| St Helier | GB-ENG | JESTH | 49.183 | -2.117 |
| St Ives | GB-ENG | GBIVS | 50.210 | -5.476 |
| St Mary's (Isles of Scilly) | GB-ENG | GBISC | 49.918 | -6.317 |
| St Mawes | GB-ENG | GBSMV | 50.158 | -5.014 |
| Whitby | GB-ENG | GBWTB | 54.485 | -0.612 |
| Whitehaven | GB-ENG | GBWHV | 54.551 | -3.594 |
| Holyhead | GB-WLS | GBHLY | 53.318 | -4.629 |
| Milford Haven | GB-WLS | GBMLF | 51.700 | -5.003 |
| Ardglass | GB-NIR | GBAGL | 54.261 | -5.605 |
| Bangor | GB-NIR | GBBNG | 54.666 | -5.668 |
| Belfast | GB-NIR | GBBEL | 54.619 | -5.898 |
| Kilkeel | GB-NIR | GBKLK | 54.059 | -5.995 |
| Londonderry | GB-NIR | GBLDY | 55.045 | -7.254 |
| Portavogie | GB-NIR | GBPVG | 54.458 | -5.437 |
| Warrenpoint | GB-NIR | GBWPT | 54.100 | -6.260 |
| Aberdeen | GB-SCT | GBABD | 57.143 | -2.079 |
| Buckie | GB-SCT | GBBUC | 57.681 | -2.957 |
| Campbeltown | GB-SCT | GBCBT | 55.426 | -5.600 |
| Cullivoe | GB-SCT | GBCUV | 60.700 | -1.001 |
| Eyemouth | GB-SCT | GBEYM | 55.873 | -2.087 |
| Fraserburgh | GB-SCT | GBFRB | 57.693 | -2.000 |

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| | | | | |
|---------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| Kinlochbervie | GB-SCT | GBKBE | 58.457 | -5.049 |
| Kirkwall | GB-SCT | GBKWL | 58.987 | -2.959 |
| Lerwick | GB-SCT | GBLER | 60.168 | -1.152 |
| Lochinver | GB-SCT | GBLOV | 58.148 | -5.247 |
| Mallaig | GB-SCT | GBMLG | 57.006 | -5.825 |
| Oban | GB-SCT | GBOBA | 56.414 | -5.478 |
| Peterhead | GB-SCT | GBPHD | 57.498 | -1.782 |
| Pittenweem | GB-SCT | GBPWM | 56.211 | -2.727 |
| Portree | GB-SCT | GBPRT | 57.411 | -6.190 |
| Scalloway | GB-SCT | GBSWY | 60.135 | -1.277 |
| Scrabster | GB-SCT | GBSCR | 58.611 | -3.544 |
| Stornoway | GB-SCT | GBSTO | 58.207 | -6.384 |
| Troon | GB-SCT | GBTRN | 55.548 | -4.680 |
| Ullapool | GB-SCT | GBULL | 57.893 | -5.155 |
| Dundee | GB-SCT | GBDUN | 56.463 | -2.947 |
| Grangemouth | GB-SCT | GBGRG | 56.029 | -3.705 |
| Greenock | GB-SCT | GBGRK | 55.948 | -4.743 |
| Invergordon | GB-SCT | GBIVG | 57.687 | -4.161 |
| Leith | GB-SCT | GBLEI | 55.982 | -3.171 |
| Leverburgh | GB-SCT | GBLVR | 57.766 | -7.026 |
| Methil | GB-SCT | GBMTH | 56.184 | -3.005 |

Chinese Taipei

Fishing Plan Year: 2026

1. Details of annual fishing plan for catching vessels and traps

1 a) Overview (para 12)

The Fisheries Agency of Chinese Taipei (TFA) has completed the legislative process to resume the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna (BFT-E) fishery. One large-scale tuna longliner from Chinese Taipei's existing Atlantic longliner fleet¹ is authorized to catch and retain BFT-E in the 2026 fishing season (from 1 August 2026 to 31 January 2027). The authorized fishing area is the area delimited by west of 10° W and north of 42° N. Any BFT-E bycaught by other fishing vessels shall be discarded/released immediately.

The adjusted quota for the 2026 fishing season will be 71.2 t = 101 t of initial quota - 50 t transferred to Korea (Rep.) + 20.2 t of carryover from 2025 to 2026 in accordance with para 6 of Rec. 25-04 and subject to the endorsement of Panel 2.

Of the 71.2 t, 1 t is set aside for bycatch, which is enough considering the minimal possibility of bycatching BFT-E in the ICCAT Convention area other than the authorized fishing area as abovementioned. The available quota for 2026 fishing season will therefore be 70.2 t, which will all be allocated to the one authorized BFT-E longliner.

The Act for Distant Water Fisheries (DWFA) and the Regulations for Tuna Longline Fishing Vessels Proceeding to Atlantic Ocean for Fishing Operation (the Atlantic Regulations) are the main legislation governing Chinese Taipei's longliners operating in the ICCAT Convention area. Applicable ICCAT measures regarding BFT-E fishery are transposed into the Atlantic Regulations. The authorized BFT-E longliner is required to install an operational vessel monitoring system (VMS) and transmit its positions to Chinese Taipei's Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) every hour. Data/information on BFT-E catch shall be reported daily through the electronic logbook system (ELB). Landing and transshipping any BFT-E shall be conducted only at the three designated ports, and shall follow the relevant requirements such as submitting the required declarations within the timeframe.

TFA ensures the respect of quota, including the individual vessel quota, by monitoring the catch / discard data reported daily through the ELB. TFA will also ensure the 20% observer coverage for the 2026 fishing season.

1 b) Carry over (para 6)

In accordance with para 6 of Rec. 25-04, Chinese Taipei would like to request carryover of 20% of its 2025 initial quota to the 2026 fishing season.

The unused quota in 2025 is 51 t (101 t of initial quota – 50 t transferred to Korea (Rep.), no records of BFT-E retention nor discards by Chinese Taipei's longliners), resulting in 50.5% of underage. Hence, 20% of 2025 initial quota, 20.2 t, is requested to be carried over to the 2026 fishing season.

1 c) Destination of catch

Farming: No
Landing: Yes

1 d)

¹ Chinese Taipei has only longliners operating in the ICCAT Convention area.

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| 1 | Catch recording and reporting (paras 74-88) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All longliners operating in the ICCAT Convention area shall daily report catch-related data/information, including bycatch, to the FMC via ELB. Paper logbook is also required to be kept onboard. 2. The information required to be reported include date, time, position (lat/lon), numbers, and amounts of catch, including BFT-E retained, discarded, and released. 3. All dead fish (retained or discarded) will be counted against Chinese Taipei's 2026 quota. | Article 38 and 40 of the Atlantic Regulations | |
| 2 | Fisheries openings (paras 28-32) | 1 August 2026 to 31 January 2027 | Article 4 of the Atlantic Regulations | |
| 3 | Minimum size (paras 33-35) | BFT-E less than 30 kilograms or 115 centimetres fork length shall be discarded / released, and such amount shall be recorded on paper logbook and ELB. The dead discard amount will be counted against Chinese Taipei's 2026 quota. | Article 40 of the Atlantic Regulations | |
| 4 | Bycatch (para 37) | 1. Only one longliner is authorized to retain BFT-E. For other longliners, any BFT-E bycaught shall be discarded or released immediately. | Article 40 of the Atlantic Regulations | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------|
| | | <p>2. There was no record of bycatch in 2025. Still, Chinese Taipei sets aside one ton for BFT-E bycatch in the 2026 fishing season.</p> <p>3. The amount of discarded bycatch will be counted against Chinese Taipei's quota.</p> | | |
| 5 | Recreational and sports fisheries (paras 38-46) | Not applicable. Chinese Taipei does not have recreational and sports fisheries in the ICCAT Convention area. | Not applicable | |
| 6 | Transshipment (paras 89-94) | The authorized BFT-E longliner shall only land and /or tranship the BFT-E catch in the designated ports. At-sea transshipment of BFT-E is not allowed. | Article 50 and 57 of the Atlantic Regulations | |
| 7 | VMS (paras 222-228) | The authorized BFT-E longliner is equipped with a functional VMS and is required to transmit its positions every hour to the FMC, which then transmits such VMS data to the ICCAT Secretariat. | Article 33 and 34 of the Atlantic Regulations | |
| 8 | CPC observers programme (paras 95-100) | TFA will ensure coverage by observers 20% of the time that the authorized longliner is active in the BFT-E fishery for the 2026 fishing season in accordance with para 96 of Rec. 25-04. | N/A | |
| 9 | Regional observers programme (paras 101-107) | Not applicable, as Chinese Taipei does not operate purse seiners nor farming in BFT fishery in the ICCAT Convention area. | N/A | |

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-04)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|-------------|
| 10 | Domestic legislation | TFA has transposed the relevant ICCAT recommendations, including the applicable BFT-E measures, into the domestic regulations. | The Atlantic Regulations | |
| | <i>Other requirements, such as: tagging programme (para 44), etc.</i> | | | |

1 e) Designated ports (para 80)

The domestic port for transshipment and landing is Chienchen Fishing Harbor. The third-party ports for transshipment and landing are port Mindelo of Cabo Verde and port Las Palmas of Spain.

2. Annual fishing capacity management plan (paras 14-21)

One longliner is authorised to engage in BFT-E fishery. Please see the Capacity Table for details.

3. Annual farming management plan (paras 22-23), as applicable

Not applicable.

4. Annual aquaculture plan (para 10 e in Rec. 25-04 in accordance with Rec. 24-07), as applicable

Not applicable.

5. Monitoring, control and inspection plan

5 a) CPC's monitoring, control and inspection (para 10 c)

The competent authority is the TFA, and the contact points are:

1. Ms. Yen-ju LIN, Distant Water Fisheries Division of TFA, yenju@ms1.fa.gov.tw
2. Mr An-chiang HUANG, Distant Water Fisheries Division of TFA, anchiang@ms1.fa.gov.tw
3. Mr Huang-wei HSU, Distant Water Fisheries Division of TFA, huangwei0510@ms1.fa.gov.tw

TFA monitors and controls its BFT-E fishery through the following ways:

- i) VMS: TFA monitors locations of its longliners operating in the ICCAT Convention area, to ensure that fishing vessels without BFT-E authorization do not operate in the BFT-E fishing ground, and that the authorized BFT-E longliner only enters the BFT-E fishing ground within the opening fishing season.
- ii) Catch report: All Chinese Taipei's longliners operating in the ICCAT Convention area shall daily report catch-related data / information to the FMC via ELB. TFA ensure the respect of quota, including individual vessel quota, by closely monitoring catch and discard amount reported. In addition, should the BFT-E catch amount of the authorized BFT-E longliner reach 95% of the individual vessel quota, TFA will order the longliner to stop catching BFT-E.

- iii) Observer program: TFA will dispatch an observer onboard the authorized BFT-E longliner to ensure 20% coverage of the time the longliner is active in the BFT-E fishery.
- iv) Landing and transshipment: Such activities shall be conducted only at the three designated ports. For each landing and transshipment, the BFT-E longliner shall obtain prior authorization from TFA and, after the completion of landing and transshipment, submit a declaration to the TFA. All must be done within the required timeframe. In addition, the BFT-E longliner shall also notify and submit to the port CPC authority a landing declaration within the required timeframe in accordance with para 85 of Rec. 25-04. Landing and transshipment in port shall be subject to port inspection by port CPC and/or TFA. Landing of BFT-E conducted by the BFT-E longliner in the designated domestic port will be 100% inspected by TFA.
- v) Cross-check: TFA crosschecks data and information reported through all these channels to detect anomalies. If suspicion is raised, investigations will be launched and any potential non-compliance will be dealt with in accordance with the DWFA and the Atlantic Regulations.

5 b) Joint Scheme of International Inspection (JIS) (paras 232-235)

Not applicable, as Chinese Taipei has only one BFT-E longliner.

6. Others

N/A.

Capacity Table

| Tuna vessel type | Best catch rates defined by the SCRS in 2009 (t) | Ref years | | | Number of vessels | | | | Ref years | | | Fishing capacity | | | |
|--|--|-----------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------|-----------|--------|------|------------------|------|------|-------|
| | | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2006 | 2008 | 2018 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
| Purse seiner over 40m | 70.66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner between 24 and 40m | 49.78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seiner less than 24m | 33.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Purse seine total fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner over 40m | 25 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 |
| Longliner between 24 and 40m | 5.68 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Longliner less than 24m | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total longline fleet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Baitboat | 19.75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Handline | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trawler | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trap | 130 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Small coastal vessels | N/A | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total fleet/fishing capacity | | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 |
| Initial Quota | | | | | | | | | 480 | 68.71 | 79 | 101 | 101 | 101 | 101 |
| Adjusted Quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 51 | 51 | 51 | 71.2 |
| Percentage allocated to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | * | * | * | * | 1% |
| Allocation to bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | * | * | * | * | 1 t |
| Scientific research quota (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allowance for sports/recreational (if applicable) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Available quota | | | | | | | | | 480 | 68.71 | 29 | 51 | 51 | 51 | 70.2 |
| Under/ overcapacity | | | | | | | | | -280 | -68.71 | -29 | -51 | -51 | -51 | -45.2 |

* Chinese Taipei voluntarily prohibited BFT-E fishery in those years. The adjusted quota was therefore all reserved for bycatch.

Draft template for the western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing/management plan

CP62-WBFTPlan

Western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishing/management plan

Name of CPC: XXX

Fishing Plan Year: XXXX¹

As specified in paragraph 3 of Rec. 25-05, “Each CPC holding a quota >50 t for a directed bluefin tuna fishery shall submit a fishing/management plan to the Commission by 15 September each year.

Such a plan shall include the following elements, as applicable:

- *Fleet quotas for all sectors and the method used to allocate and manage those quotas;*
- *Fisheries control and bycatch measures; and*
- *Any additional measures used for the purposes of enforcement or for monitoring, control, and inspection.”*

1. Fleet quotas for all sectors and the method used to allocate and manage those quotas

1 a) Overview

CPCs are invited to describe their fishing plans.

1 b) Fleet quotas for all sectors (para 3)

| <i>Fleet sector</i> | <i>Quota allocated (t)</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| ... | ... |
| Total | |
| Quota | |
| Adjusted quota (if applicable, including carry forward, overharvest, and transfers) | |
| Recreational | |
| Bycatch reserve (if any) | |

1 c) Method used to allocate and manage those quotas (para 3)

1 d) Adjustment for overharvest and underharvest (para 8)

Please indicate whether or not the CPC adjusted its quota for underharvest or overharvest and if so, the amount and how it has been calculated.

2. Fisheries control and bycatch measures (para 3)

¹ CPCs shall submit a fishing plan for the previous year.

The Secretariat suggests that the CPCs complete the following table, as well as include any other relevant information they may consider appropriate under this section:

| | <i>ICCAT requirement (per Rec. 25-05)</i> | <i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i> | <i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i> | <i>Note</i> |
|----------|---|--|--|---|
| 1 | Effort and capacity limits (para 2) | | | <i>This entry does not apply to CPCs who only hold quota in the West.</i> |
| 2 | Data and reporting requirements (paras 18-19, 21, 23) | | | |
| 3 | Area and time restrictions (para 13) | | | |
| 4 | Minimum size and protection of small fish (paras 9-10) | | | |
| 5 | Bycatch (para 6) | | | <i>Please explain the actual usage of the bycatch quota.</i> |
| 6 | Recreational [and sports] fisheries (para 11) | | | |
| 7 | At-sea transshipment (para 14) | | | |

3. Additional measures used for the purposes of enforcement or for monitoring, control, and inspection (para 3)

This section should include any additional measures used for the purposes of enforcement or for monitoring, control, and inspection.

Requests for clarification of Rec. 25-04 by the ICCAT Regional Observer Programme for Bluefin Tuna (ROP-BFT) Consortium

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| Observer role in monitoring further transfers Rec. 25-04: Paras 2k) and 2l); and Para 101 – second bullet point. Annex 6 Paras viii-xvi | New request for clarification | Can the consortium clarify if the regional observer has any role in monitoring further transfer operations, noting that these may occur simultaneously with the first transfer, and the Recommendation appears to explicitly limit the observer’s role to monitoring the 1st transfer only. Are there any situations whereby a further transfer shall be monitored as if it was a first transfer? | Further transfers are carried out under the responsibility of the CPC Observer. In the current practice, the involvement of the ROP BFT Observer has not been considered necessary with respect to further transfers. Need of ROP BFT Observer’s existence for further transfer never required until now. | Yes, there are. Operations that are taking place from PS to TW1 and TW2 simultaneously. The bluefin tuna crosses from TW1 to TW2 as a tunnel. Finally, the bluefin tuna is transferred to both cages in a single operation. The bluefin tuna in TW2 has passed directly from PS, as it was not previously in TW1. In this case, the regional observer (ROB) would need to know the amount in TW2 and would therefore need to review the video of the bluefin tuna entering TW2. Otherwise, the ROB would only be aware of the bluefin tuna | There may be and are instances when 2 first transfers, one after the other, are undertaken from the net to the cage. Both cages are attached to the net one after the other. In these cases the observer does monitor both and 2 separate ITDs are produced. However, this is distinct to situations whereby the catch is initially transferred to the cage by first transfer, then a smaller amount transferred to a second cage attached to the first by further transfer. By definition it is impossible to transfer fish from the net to 2 | The CPC shall inform the Consortium how the transfer operation to more than one cage will be considered: – When two first transfers are undertaken from the net to the cage, one after the other, and both cages are attached to the net sequentially. In these cases, the ROP monitors both transfers and two separate ITDs are produced. – When the catch is initially transferred to a first cage through a first transfer, and then an amount is transferred simultaneously to a second cage |

¹ Some comments from the ROP-BFT Consortium were specifically addressed to the response by the EU to the relevant request for clarification. This has been noted where applicable.

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|
| | | | | <p>passing from PS to TW1, not of the amount 'retained' in TW1.</p> | <p>cages by one transfer operation. There either has to be a second first transfer from the net to the 2nd cage, or a further transfer from the first cage to the second. This second scenario is actually discussed in the annual report with an image (PA2_601/2025, Annex 1 – ROP-BFT: Implementation Report from the Consortium. Section 3.2.1.1.1, “Multiple Transfers”, on page 14).</p> <p>In the scenario the EU describe, how would the operation be recorded in the ITD?</p> <p>If this situation of 2 physical transfers of fish into separate cages is to be completed as one, then it is important that it is clear on how this should be recorded.</p> | <p>attached to the first within the same transfer, in this case, two first transfers are considered for both cages and the process must be fully monitored by the ROP.</p> |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| | | | | | <p>Comments to the response by the EU: This is an interpretation which is not supported by the Recommendation. TW1 to TW2 is a further transfer. The observer is not responsible for estimating how much fish remain in the cage, only how many fish were transferred.</p> | |
| <p>Minimum standards for video recording procedures: Display of the cage number Rec. 25-04: Annex 8 Para 1a.</p> | <p>New request for clarification</p> | <p>Annex 8 applies to transfer, caging and release operations. Paragraph 1a of requires that the cage number (as indicated in the ITD) is displayed at the beginning and/or the end of the video. In the case of cagings and prior to release segregations, considering no ITD is produced, shall the consortium assume the cage number shown should be the recipient cage?</p> | <p>The recipient cage number may be displayed in the video for caging operations and prior to release segregations where no ICCAT Transfer Declaration (ITD) is produced.</p> | <p><i>1 a) At the beginning and/or the end of each video, where requested, the ICCAT transfer or caging authorization number or release order and the cage(s) number (as indicated in the transfer declaration - ITD) shall be displayed;</i></p> <p>The aim is to identify unequivocally the video recording with the operation. To ensure consistency with transfers, both cages (donor and recipient) must be identifiable in the</p> | | <p>The identification numbers of both cages, donor and recipient, must be visible in the video footage.</p> |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | video footage. | | |
| Observer estimates of tuna caged and transferred during prior to release segregations. Rec. 25-04 Annex 6, Para xx. | New request for clarification | There is no explicit guidance on acceptable difference between observer estimates and farm estimates for cagings and prior to release segregations (as there is for transfers). Should the consortium consider any difference of over 10% to be inconsistent with their own observations and therefore not sign the caging declaration, eBCD or release order in line with Para xx of Annex 6? | Observer should not sign caging declaration and eBCD when the difference is over 10%. Also release order should not be signed over 10% difference. | ROP has a role analysing video footage. Possible differences of more than 10% are matter of investigation by the CPC authorities as laid down in para 171 and 172. This should be noted by the ROP as it is the case for the ITD. The relevant operation is not in accordance with the ICCAT conservation and management measures, so the documents should not be signed in such cases. | Comments to the response by the EU: These relate to stereoscopic video review by the CPC authorities not the ROP. However, we are happy to continue applying the same principle. | If the difference between ROP estimates and farm estimates for caging, prior to release segregations is over 10%, the ROP should not sign the caging declaration, eBCD or release order. |
| Prior to release segregation operations Rec. 25-04 Annex 6 Para xxii Annex 10 Para 3 | New request for clarification | Prior to release segregations often involve several operations back and forth between the donor and towing cage. Should the observer consider, in order to be consistent with their observations, that the final number calculated to be in the towing cage, | First caging operation should be completed and caging declaration/eBCD finalised/signed. Then, based on the final counts release segregation and release operations should be completed. | Yes, the figures referring to the transport cage are the ones to be used for the release report. (As para 5 of Annex 10 does not establish that the release of bluefin tuna from transport cage within the sea should be in accordance with minimum standards set out in Annex 8, the | Comments to the response by the EU: The ROP-BFT Consortium is not sure that this has addressed the question. The question is, should the comparison of figures be based on final amount estimated, based on the various backward and forward | The answer to the question raised by the Consortium is “yes”. |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---|--|---|---|
| | | considering inputs and outputs over the course of prior to release segregation operations, are the number to be compared with the amount recorded on the release report? | It is considered that, by applying this procedure there will not be any confusion about numbers/counts. | number to be compared shall be the final in the towing cage. It is very likely that the recording of the release operation does not permit accurate figures. | movements or on an operation-by-operation basis. | |
| Logbook recording requirements Para. 25-04 Para 74 and Annex 2 Minimum specification for fishing logbooks Para 2 | New request for clarification | Annex 2 requires that the logbook is completed each day before midnight. Considering that details of fishing operations may not be known before the subsequent transfer operation which may occur the following day/s, shall the observer consider that logbook records for fishing operations shall be completed before midnight the same day that the series of operations are completed, i.e., transfer is completed? | In such circumstances, where relevant details become available only at a later stage, the vessel operator and the observer should be allowed to update or correct the records accordingly, provided that such amendments are duly justified and documented. | To comply with the reporting obligation before midnight, logbook catch reporting should be based on estimations from carried out by the operator. | Comments to the response by the EU: The issue here is that these estimations are not always available until the following day, which is the reason for this clarification. | In accordance with Rec. 25-04, paragraph 112, the master of the vessel shall complete the logbook with the number and estimated weight of bluefin tuna to be transferred before midnight on the day of fishing. These figures may be amended after the review of the first transfer video recordings. |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|---|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Reverse transfers from the trap to the cage. Rec. 25-04 Para 2i second bullet point Annex 4 | New request for clarification | <p>The Recommendation does not anticipate a transfer returning fish transferred from the trap, back from the connected farm to the trap.</p> <p>As has happened in the past, in such a case, a bespoke transfer declaration was produced documenting this operation, with the observer signing to confirm the presence without necessarily confirming that the operation was in conformance with ICCAT CMMs, which do not appear to cover this.</p> <p>If such a case arises again, shall the observer continue to follow this course of action? Is there any need to submit a PNC considering this operation is not foreseen by the Recommendation?</p> | N/A for Türkiye | Despite this definition not being considered in the Recommendation and the operation is a transfer moving fish from a farm cage to a trap, the presence of the ROP should be required for consistency with all farm operations. | | <p>In such a case, not covered by the relevant Recommendation, a bespoke transfer declaration should be produced documenting this operation, with the observer signing to confirm their presence without necessarily confirming that the operation was in conformity with ICCAT CMMs. It shall not be considered a PNC.</p> |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| Farm releases Rec. 25-04 Annex 10 Para 9 | New request for clarification | Are there any circumstances, outside of those farms directly connected to trap, that releases may occur directly from the farm rather than be towed the minimum distance to sea. | N/A for Türkiye | The EU is not aware of such circumstances. In any case, the minimum distance to sea is relevant to enhance the possibilities of returning to wild stock. In addition, releases close to coast could impact on the fishing activities carried out by other coastal fleet segments. | Comments to the response by the EU: There have been several PNCs for this sent to the EU, whereby fish are released directly from the farm. | In accordance with Rec. 25-04, Annex 10, paragraphs 9 and 14, apart from farms directly connected to a trap, all release operations from farms must be executed at a minimum distance. Otherwise, it will be considered a PNC. |
| Seals in Farms during Harvest deployment Rec. 25-04 Para 159 | New request for clarification | The Recommendation does not anticipate the seals on the farm, nor during the harvest and caging operations. Can the consortium stop making the seals available to the ROP observer during these operations, knowing that the CPC seals will still be present with the national observer on the farm? | It is acceptable for Türkiye, since Turkish competent authority provides CPC cage seals for farm operations as known by the Consortium. | Control authorities are the ones in charge of control in farms. They are in charge for the sealing and unsealing cages. | Comments to the response by the EU: Previous guidance has been, as transfers may occur from farms, which by definition may require ICCAT cage seals. Previously guidance has also been that observers may be requested to provide seals outside of situations set out in Rec. However, happy to go with this interpretation. | Yes, the Consortium can stop making the seals available to the ROP observer during these operations, as the national control authorities are responsible for control in farms and will provide CPC cage seals for farm operations. |

INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2 – HYBRID / MADRID, MARCH 2026

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Status</i> | <i>Clarification</i> | <i>Response by Türkiye</i> | <i>Response by the EU</i> | <i>ROP-BFT comments¹</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | | | |

Appendix 6

Clarifications requested on Recommendations 24-05 and 25-04

During the 29th Regular Meeting of the Commission, the Secretariat presented document “Clarifications Requested on Recommendation 24-05” [PA2_606/2025]. Due to the need to discuss more pressing matters in Panel 2, these clarifications were not addressed during the Panel 2 sessions.

In light of the above, the ICCAT Secretariat again requested comments from the Panel 2 members through ICCAT Circular #00652/2026 and received submissions within the established deadline from the European Union and Egypt on this matter.

The new comments have been incorporated into the revised document, together with those already presented in document PA2_606/2025, which is available as **Table 1** of this document.

Please note that the pending questions are also applicable to the *Recommendation by ICCAT replacing Recommendation 24-05, establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean (Rec. 25-04)*, which, following consultation with the Chair of Panel 2 and in accordance with ICCAT Circular #12095/25, will be used as the sole reference for the bluefin tuna eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean 2026 fishing season.

Table 1

Clarifications requested on Recommendations 24-05 and 25-04

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1. BFT Caging Reports | <p>With regard to the deadlines and data reporting under requirements M:BFT02 and M:BFT04, it should be noted that following the adoption of Recommendation 21-08, which replaced Recommendation 06-07, there is no longer a specific deadline for reporting caging and farming data.</p> <p>According to the <i>Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean</i> (Rec. 24-05), paragraphs 24 and 188:</p> <p>“24.The ICCAT Secretariat shall compile statistics on the annual amount of caging</p> | <p>While the ICCAT website currently indicates a deadline for M:BFT02, this may seem vague or redundant, as caging and release operations are already addressed under M:BFT04. The lack of a clearly defined deadline in the current Recommendation could lead to confusion.</p> <p>The Secretariat should be grateful if the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and/or Panel 2 should provide guidance on</p> | <p>Türkiye supports the definition of a deadline for reporting caging and farming data as implemented in the former recommendations.</p> | | <p>The EU believes it is important to collect and publish general information about farming activities, (i.e. the information established in paragraph 24 which can even be supplemented with other info extracted from the eBCD, to provide a complete view of the different farming stages). However, sending individual reports on each caging operation and each release,</p> | <p>Egypt agrees with the Secretariat that there is a lack of clarity regarding the deadlines for reporting caging and farming data under the current Recommendation. To avoid confusion and ensure consistent implementation, we support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly distinguishing between M:BFT02 (farming operations) and M:BFT04 (caging reports). - Establishing a specific deadline for M:BFT02, similar to the 15-day deadline already applied to M:BFT04. | <p>Consensus on setting deadlines for reporting caging and farming data. To be included in the next amendment or replacement of the current BFT-E Recommendation.</p> |

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|---|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|------------------------------|
| | <p>(input of wild caught fish), harvesting, and export, by farm CPC, using the data in the eBCD system. The Standing Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDS WG) shall consider the development of such a data extraction functionality, and until such functionality becomes available each farm CPC shall report these statistics to the ICCAT Secretariat. These statistics shall be made available on the ICCAT website subject to confidentiality requirements.</p> <p>Caging report</p> <p>188. Within 15 days after the completion of the release orders, the farm CPC competent authority shall issue a caging report for each single caging operation, or in the case of a JFO or traps of the same CPC/EU Member State,</p> | <p>clarifying the specific data required for each requirement, and on establishing an explicit deadline for these additional operations in the new BFTE Recommendation to be developed this year.</p> | | | <p>or sending the information contained in the CP09 template, creates a significant and unnecessary burden on CPCs. This would be a duplication of reporting obligations for CPCs since they already report this information in the eBCD. The ICCAT Secretariat has access to all the required information through the eBCD, even if it is not yet technically possible to extract this from the system. However, the EU does not</p> | <p>Including these clarifications in the upcoming revised BFT management Recommendation.</p> | |

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|--|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| | <p>for the complete set of caging operations related to that JFO or those traps. The caging report shall include the information referred to in Annex 9 paragraph 3 and be communicated to the catching flag or trap CPC competent authority and to the ICCAT Secretariat.”</p> <p>The Secretariat considers that M:BFT02 and M:BFT04 represent related but distinct reporting requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M:BFT04 - Bluefin tuna caging report, refers solely to caging information, which includes both release and subsequent caging operations or caging alone where no release takes place. The deadline is explicitly stated as 15 days after the completion of the release, or if there is no release, it implies 15 days after the caging operation. - M:BFT02 - Bluefin tuna | | | | agree that this means CPCs should bear the significant administrative burden which would entail a double reporting. | | |

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|--|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| | <p>farming reports, refers to other farming activities within the farm, such as intra-farm transfers, carry-over, harvests, etc., as listed in the CP09 form events table. These are not explicitly covered by the current Recommendation with a defined deadline.</p> | | | | | | |

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|---|--|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| 2. BFT quotas for catching vessels over 24 m | <p>According to the <i>Recommendation by ICCAT amending the Recommendation 22-08 establishing a multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean</i> (Rec. 24-05), paragraph 3:</p> <p>“3. Each CPC shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the fishing effort of its catching vessels and its traps are commensurate with the bluefin tuna fishing opportunities available to that CPC in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, including by establishing individual quotas for its catching vessels over 24 m included in the list referred to in paragraph 48 a) of this Recommendation.”</p> <p>In light of the above, the Secretariat interprets that all catching vessels over 24 m in length overall (LOA) fishing actively for bluefin tuna, meaning</p> | <p>The Secretariat should be grateful if the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and/or Panel 2 should provide guidance on how to proceed and whether a null or zero quota is acceptable as an individual quota for catching vessels over 24 m.</p> | | <p>Japan understands that although catching vessels shall be registered with valid quota in the ICCAT Record of BFT Catching vessels, the vessels can be retained in the Record even after the allocated quota is fully consumed or transferred in order for the vessels to receive future quota transfers.</p> <p>Japan designates, at the beginning of the fishing season, the vessels that will engage in BFT fishing for that year, in accordance with Paragraph 52 of Rec. 24-05. All the vessels have valid quotas, however, some vessels may need to transfer their quota before the end of fishing campaign. Since Paragraph 53 of Rec. 24-05 restricts retroactive vessel registrations, recipient vessels must be registered before the</p> | <p>Regarding bluefin tuna quotas for catching vessels over 24m, the EU agrees with the interpretation provided by the ICCAT Secretariat that catching vessels over 24m that are in the ICCAT Record of Vessels, should have a quota assigned, which should not be zero. Not following this interpretation makes the register an unreliable tool for determining who is authorised to target bluefin tuna. When a vessel is in the</p> | <p>Egypt understands the need for flexibility in vessel registration and quota management.</p> <p>We support the view that: Vessels should be allowed to remain in the ICCAT Record of BFT Catching Vessels even if their individual quota is temporarily zero, provided they are expected to receive quota transfers later in the season.</p> <p>This is consistent with the need for operational flexibility and avoids unnecessary administrative burden.</p> <p>However, safeguards should be in place to</p> | No consensus |

| | <i>Issue</i> | <i>Request</i> | <i>Comments by Türkiye</i> | <i>Comments by Japan</i> | <i>Comments by the EU</i> | <i>Comments by Egypt</i> | <i>Response from Panel 2</i> |
|--|--|----------------|----------------------------|---|---|--|------------------------------|
| | <p>those that target bluefin tuna during a given fishing season and are therefore active in the ICCAT Record of BFT Catching Vessels, must have a valid quota assigned, which should not be null or equal to zero. The latter may have implications, particularly given the interconnections with other systems linked to the Record of Vessels, such as the eBCD.</p> <p>However, some CPCs have requested that the Secretariat maintain in the aforementioned list vessels whose quota is equal to zero.</p> | | | <p>beginning of the fishing activity. In some cases, the vessels which fully consumed/transferred their quota want to receive such transfer. Such vessels should be allowed to be listed in the Record even after having used up all the initial quota, i.e., zero quota.</p> | <p>register, we assume that it can fish for bluefin tuna, and to do so it must have an allocated quota. This is especially important in case of a joint inspection scheme where it is essential to know whether a vessel can or cannot target bluefin tuna.</p> | <p>ensure that vessels with zero quota do not engage in fishing activities until a valid quota is transferred to them.</p> <p>We encourage the Panel to provide clear guidance on this matter to ensure harmonized application across CPCs.</p> <p>We believe this will improve compliance and data quality.</p> | |

Review of Commission’s requests to the SCRS

| <i>Requests of Panel 2</i> | <i>Response of the SCRS and/or comment</i> |
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| <p>19.5 The SCRS shall assess the occurrence of ECs and the Commission shall act in accordance with the Exceptional Circumstances Protocol sets out in Annex 2, Rec. 21-04, para 4</p> <p>The SCRS shall assess the occurrence of exceptional circumstances (ECs) and the Commission shall act in accordance with the Exceptional Circumstances Protocol sets out in Annex 2.</p> | <p>Comment: This is a routine task and shall be kept.</p> |
| <p>19.6 The SCRS shall provide an updated assessment of the state of the stock on the basis of the most recent data available, Rec. 24-08, para 11</p> <p>In 2026, or in any subsequent year identified by the SCRS in 2025 due to data limitations that prevent it from proceeding with its work, the SCRS shall provide an updated assessment of the state of the stock on the basis of the most recent data available.</p> <p>It shall assess the effectiveness of this rebuilding plan and provide advice on possible amendments to the various measures within this plan. The SCRS shall advise the Commission on the appropriate characteristics of the fishing gear, the closure period in paragraph 9, as well as the minimum size to be implemented for Mediterranean albacore.</p> | <p>In 2025, the SCRS advised that the next full assessment be scheduled not before 2027 and when these major uncertainties are addressed.</p> <p>Comment: The SCRS can repeat this phrase in its 2026 report.</p> <p>The SCRS considered that changes to fishing gear would provide little benefit, as most catches are above the size at first maturity, and noted that the fall-winter closures adopted in 2022 may be contributing to reduced fishing effort, though their effect cannot yet be quantified. On minimum size, the Committee reiterated that such a measure would be of limited or no benefit given current catch composition and likely high discard mortality. The effectiveness of the rebuilding plan cannot yet be evaluated, as the available data do not reflect its recent implementation.</p> <p>Comment: While the SCRS stated that it shall wait for more years to see the effects of the current rebuilding plan, it clearly stated that no minimum size requirement is necessary as most catches are above the size at first maturity. Thus, the SCRS does not have to respond to this point in 2026 and thereafter.</p> |

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| <p>19.10 According to the timeline set out in Annex 3, the SCRS shall run the MP specified in Annex 2 and advise the Commission of the resulting TAC for both the western management area and the eastern management area, Rec. 23-07, para 7</p> | <p>Comment: The next MP calculation is 2028. The SCRS does not have to refer to this point in its 2026 report.</p> |
| <p>19.12 The SCRS should consider reviewing and updating the growth table published in 2022, as soon as possible and present those results to the Commission, Rec. 24-05, para 25; the SCRS shall evaluate the accuracy of video analysis software that incorporates AI and estimates the bluefin tuna length and provide advice to the Commission for its consideration, Rec. 24-05, para 173</p> <p>Para 25: Based on new available scientific information, including where relevant the result of the trials on Artificial Intelligence (AI) referred to in paragraph 167, the SCRS should consider reviewing and updating the growth table published in 2022, as soon as possible and present those results to the Commission.</p> <p>Para 173: As soon as the technological developments are considered robust and ready for commercial scale-up, as well as the SCRS establishes the technical criteria, and guidelines for their selection, the SCRS shall evaluate the accuracy of video analysis software that incorporates AI and estimates the bluefin tuna length and provide advice to the Commission for its consideration.</p> | <p>Comment: The SCRS should review and update the growth table in 2022. Please note that in the 2025 SCRS Report (19.12), the SCRS recommended using the upper 75% confidence interval, corresponding to the 87.5th percentile, as a flag for outlier growth. This should be used until the SCRS updates the table.</p> <p>The SCRS has already evaluated the accuracy of video analysis software that incorporates AI and estimates the bluefin tuna length and provided advice to the Commission for its consideration. The SCRS does not consider that further evaluation is necessary.</p> |
| <p>19.13 Farm CPCs shall endeavor to ensure that the growth rates derived from the eBCDs are coherent with the growth rates published by the SCRS in 2022. If significant discrepancies are found between the 2022 SCRS tables and growth rates observed, that information should be sent to the SCRS for analysis, Rec. 24-05, para 26</p> <p>Farm CPCs shall endeavor to ensure that the growth rates derived from the eBCDs are coherent with the growth rates published by the SCRS in 2022. If significant discrepancies are found between the 2022 SCRS tables and growth rates observed, that information should be sent to the SCRS for analysis. Import CPCs and farm CPCs shall be encouraged to cooperate in monitoring the growth rates in a comprehensive manner through exchange of relevant data, without prejudice to applicable rules on the protection of personal data, and to report the result of the monitoring to Panel 2, as appropriate.</p> | <p>The SCRS stated that it had not received any data that allows evaluation that the growth rates derived from the eBCDs are coherent with the growth rates published by the SCRS in 2022.</p> <p>Comment: If this tendency continues, para 26 should be deleted from Rec. 24-05 (now Rec. 25-04).</p> |
| <p>19.14 Requests of Panel 2 to the SCRS, 2025 Intersessional Meeting of Panel 2 (whether or not 20% carry-over is OK)</p> | <p>Comment: This was answered in 2025. No further action is required.</p> |