

– RECOMMENDATION –
**BLUEFIN CATCH LIMITS IN E. ATLANTIC
 & MEDITERRANEAN**

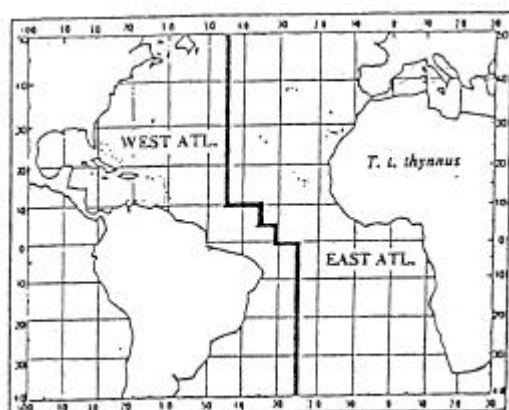
**TITLE: *Recommendation by ICCAT for the Management of Bluefin Tuna Fishing
 in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea***

(Entered into force: **October 2, 1995**)

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
 FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS (ICCAT)
 RECOMMENDS:

That each Contracting Party fishing bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea shall take the following conservation measures regarding bluefin tuna:

- 1 Take the necessary measures to prevent any increase in the fishing mortality rate for the years 1995 and beyond;
- 2 Take the necessary measures to prevent any catch by vessels under their jurisdiction in 1995 in excess of the level of catch in 1993 or 1994 (whichever is higher);
- 3 Starting in 1996, take the necessary measures to reduce by 25% (or such lower amount which may be specified by the SCRS) their catches from the catch level specified in point 2 above, such reduction to be accomplished by the end of 1998;
- 4 Cooperate in the development, by 1998, of a long-term recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean;
- 5 Comply with the Contracting Parties' obligations to implement the 1974 recommendation to take the necessary measures to prohibit the taking and landing of any bluefin tuna weighing less than 6.4 kg.
- 6 Take all necessary measures to prevent catches of age 0 fish (less than 1.8 kg).*
- 7 Report annually to ICCAT the steps taken to implement the above measures.
- 8 Provide sufficient data requested by the SCRS to improve stock assessment.
- 9 Inform all the non-Contracting Parties and the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM) of this Recommendation and request their cooperation.



Division of bluefin tuna stocks for management purposes.

NOTE: The phrase “of age 0 fish (less than 1.8 kg)” has been changed to “fish less than 3.2 kg” (see Recommendation 98-4, adopted by the 1998 Commission Meeting, and which entered into force on June 21, 1999).