

[03-08]

**RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT CONCERNING THE
STOCK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE FOR WESTERN ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA**

NOTING the nature of mixing between western and eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna;

RECOGNIZING the need to develop comprehensive conservation measures over the entire Atlantic Ocean;

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

Notwithstanding paragraph 7 of the *Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Rebuilding Program for Western Atlantic Bluefin Tuna* [98-07], the SCRS shall conduct a stock assessment of western Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2005 in conjunction with the scheduled stock assessment of eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna and thereafter every two years.