

**SUPPLEMENTAL RECOMMENDATION BY ICCAT TO AMEND THE REBUILDING
PROGRAM FOR NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH**

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

1. The Contracting Parties, and non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities whose vessels have been actively fishing for swordfish in the North Atlantic shall implement a 10-year rebuilding program, starting in 2000 and continuing through 2009, with the goal of achieving BMSY, with greater than 50% probability.
2. For this purpose, a total allowable catch (TAC) of 14,000 t shall be set for years 2007 and 2008.
3. The catch limits for 2007 and 2008 shall be as indicated below:
 - a) 2,690 t of the unused portion of the United States quota at the end of the previous management period (2003-2006) will be added to the TACs in the new management period as specified below:

2007	1,345 t
2008	1,345 t
Total	2,690 t

- b) "Other Contracting Parties and Others" receive quotas of 2,530 t for 2007 and 2008 as detailed below:
- c) Quotas of 12,815 t for 2007 and 2008 shall be shared as follows:

European Community	52.42%
United States	30.49%
Canada	10.52%
Japan	6.57%

CATCH LIMITS

(Unit: t)

	2007	2008
Contracting Parties		
European Community	6,718	6,718
United States (1) (2)	3,907	3,907
Canada (2)	1,348	1,348
Japan	842	842
Other Contracting Parties		
Morocco (3)	850	850
Mexico (3)	200	200
Brazil	50	50
Barbados	45	45
Venezuela	85	85
Trinidad & Tobago	125	125
UK (Overseas Territories) (4)	35	35
France (St. Pierre et Miquelon) (4)	40	40
China	75	75
Senegal (3)	400	400
Korea	50	50
Belize (3)	130	130

Philippines	25	25
Cote d'Ivoire	50	50
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	75	75
Vanuatu	25	25
Others		
Chinese Taipei	270	270

(1) The United States may harvest up to 200 t of its annual catch limit within the area between 5 degrees North latitude and 5 degrees South latitude.

- (2) For each year of this catch quota allocation, the United States will transfer 25 t to Canada. This transfer does not change the relevant shares of Parties as reflected in the above allocation.
- (3) When the catch limit is exhausted in a given year during 2007–2008, the Commission shall make a decision to adjust the catch limit to accommodate the need of the CPC while ensuring that the actual total catch does not exceed the TAC.
- (4) For each year of this catch limit allocation, 20 t of UK (Overseas Territories) catch limit is transferred to France (St. Pierre & Miquelon). This transfer does not change the relevant shares of parties as reflected in the above allocation.

- 4 Any unused portion or excess of the annual quota/catch limit may be added to/shall be deducted from, according to the case, the respective quota/catch limit during or before the adjustment year, in the following way:

	Catch Year	Adjustment Year
North Atlantic swordfish	2007	2009
	2008	2010

However, the maximum underage that a party may carryover in any given year shall not exceed 50% of the original quota.

5. Provisions of the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Compliance in the Bluefin Tuna and North Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries* adopted at the 1996 Commission Meeting, and of paragraph 4 above, shall be applied to the implementation of the individual quotas in paragraph 3 and for over-harvests that occurred in 2005 and/or 2006, for each Contracting Party, non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity. Each year is considered a separate management period, as that term is used in the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding Compliance in the Bluefin Tuna and North Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries*, except for Japan, for which the management period is two years (2007-2008).
6. If Japan's landings exceed its quota in any year, the overage shall be deducted in subsequent years so that total landings for Japan shall not exceed its total quota for the two-year period commencing in 2007. When annual landings by Japan are less than its quota, the underage may be added to the subsequent years' quota, so that total landings by Japan do not exceed its total for the same two-year period. Any underages or overages from the 2002-2006 management period shall be applied to the two-year management period specified herein.
7. Japan shall be allowed to count up to 400 t of its swordfish catch taken from the part of the North Atlantic management area that is East of 35°W and South of 15°N, against its uncaught South Atlantic swordfish quota;
8. Japan shall implement a national observer program on 8% of vessels operating in the North Atlantic by the end of 2008.
9. All Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities catching swordfish in the North Atlantic shall endeavor to provide annually the best available data to the SCRS, including catch, catch at size, location and month of capture on the smallest scale possible, as determined by the SCRS. The data submitted shall be for broadest range of age classes possible, consistent with minimum size restrictions, and by sex when possible. The data shall also include discards and effort statistics, even when no analytical stock assessment is scheduled. The SCRS shall review these data annually.
10. In year 2009, and thereafter every three years, SCRS shall conduct a stock assessment and provide advice relative to paragraphs 2 and 3.
11. In order to protect small swordfish, Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities shall take the necessary measures to prohibit the taking of and landing of swordfish in the entire Atlantic

Ocean weighing less than 25 kg live weight, or in alternative, 125 cm lower jaw fork length (LJFL); however, the Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities may grant tolerances to boats which have incidentally captured small fish, with the condition that this incidental catch shall not exceed 15 percent of the number of swordfish per landing of the total swordfish catch of said boats.

12. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 13, any Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities may choose, as an alternative to the minimum size of 25 kg/ 125 cm LJFL, to take the necessary measures to prohibit the taking by its vessels in the Atlantic Ocean, as well as the landing and sale in its jurisdiction, of swordfish (and swordfish parts), less than 119 cm LJFL, or in the alternative 15 kg, provided that, if this alternative is chosen, no tolerance of swordfish smaller than 119 LJFL, or in the alternative 15 kg, shall be allowed. A Party that chooses this alternative shall require appropriate record keeping of discards.

The SCRS should continue to monitor and analyze the effects of this measure on the mortality of immature swordfish.

13. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VIII, paragraph 2, of the Convention, with respect to the annual individual quotas established above, the Contracting Parties, non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities whose vessels have been actively fishing for North Atlantic swordfish shall implement this recommendation as soon as possible in accordance with the regulatory procedures of each Contracting Party, non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity.
14. Notwithstanding the *Recommendation by ICCAT Regarding the Temporary Adjustment of Quotas* [Rec. 01-12], in between meetings of the Commission, a CPC with a TAC allocation of North Atlantic swordfish, as per section 3(c) may make a one-time transfer within a fishing year of up to 15% of its TAC allocation to other CPCs with TAC allocations, consistent with domestic obligations and conservations considerations. Any such transfer may not be used to cover over harvests. A CPC that receives a one-time quota transfer may not retransfer that quota.
15. This Recommendation replaces the 2002 *Recommendation by ICCAT Relating to the Rebuilding Program for North Atlantic Swordfish* [Rec. 02-02].