**IDENTIFICATION**

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**
Thunnus alalunga

**SPECIES NAME(S)**
Albacore

**COMMON NAMES**
Albacore

**STOCK IDENTIFICATION**
For assessment purposes it is assumed there are three populations of albacore in the Atlantic (north, south and Mediterranean). There may be intermingling between immature fish from the Indian and Atlantic Oceans (ICCAT 2012).

**RELATED LINKS:**
- International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

**ASSESSMENT**

**Strengths**
ICCAT has been abiding by scientific advice in recent years in terms of setting the total allowable catch (TAC). Catches have been below TAC levels in recent years, except for two years. A recovery plan was put into place in 2009 and updated in 2013 and 2017. The most recent assessment indicates the recovery plan is likely to be successful if catches are maintained at the current TAC. Overfishing is not occurring and the population is no longer overfished.

**Weaknesses**
The current management recommendation allows for potential overages in the total allowable catch (TAC). Although work has continued with regard to developing reference points and a harvest control rule, none have been formally adopted. Observer coverage is low (5%) in longline fisheries and interactions with PET and other non-target species continue to occur.

**SCORES**

**Management Quality:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock Health</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>≥ 8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future</td>
<td>≥ 8</td>
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</tbody>
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**FIPS**
No related FIPs

**MSC**
No related MSC fisheries

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN**

- Work with ICCAT Contracting Parties and Cooperators to:
  - Develop and implement comprehensive, precautionary harvest strategies with specific timelines for all tuna stocks, including the adoption and implementation of limit and target reference points, harvest control rules, monitoring strategies, operational objectives, performance indicators, and management strategy evaluation.
  - Strengthen compliance processes and make information on non-compliance public and continue to provide evidence of compliance with all ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures in a timely manner.
  - Implement a 100% observer coverage requirement for all tuna fishery transshipment activities, as well as other measures that ensure transparency and transparency processes.
  - Increase compliance with the mandatory minimum 5% longline observer coverage requirement in a timely manner.
  - Adopt effective measures for the use of non-warting FAD designs as a precautionary measure to minimize the entanglement of sharks and other non-target species, and support research on biodegradable marine debris.
  - More effectively implement, and ensure compliance with, existing RFMO bycatch requirements and take additional mitigation action.
  - Ensure all products are traceable back to legal sources. Verify source information and full chain traceability through traceability best practices and third-party traceability certification for fisheries without traceability systems in place. Implement meaningful improvements to bring the fisheries and supply chain in compliance with best practices.