**IDENTIFICATION**

**SCIENTIFIC NAME**
Thunnus albacares

**SPECIES NAME(S)**
Yellowfin tuna

**COMMON NAMES**
Yellowfin tuna

**STOCK IDENTIFICATION**
Despite the identification of distinct spawning grounds within the Atlantic Ocean, observed transatlantic movements and catch data suggest the existence of a unique stock which is used for stock assessment purposes (ICCAT, 2011). A new research study about the genetic variation in the region is being developed (Antoni et al., 2014).

**ASSESSMENT**

**SCORES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Quality</th>
<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**STOCK HEALTH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Health</th>
<th>Future Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIPS**

- Eastern Atlantic tuna - purse seine:
  - Stage 2, Type Fip, Evaluation Start Date: 22 Jun 2017

**MSC**

No related MSC fisheries

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CATCHERS & REGULATORS**

1. Encourage member countries to comply with all conservation and management measures (CMMs) of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), including measures aimed at both target and bycatch species, and all other mandated obligations. Member countries must make information on monitoring and compliance with all ICCAT obligations publicly available, including actions being taken to address any identified non-compliance with ICCAT CMMs. Ensure compliance with the current total allowable catch (TAC) for yellowfin tuna.

2. Promote the adoption by the ICCAT and member countries of precautionary management measures, including target and limit biological reference points, harvest control rules, increased observer coverage for all fisheries, national management measures and monitoring efforts adequate to ensure harvest strategy objectives are being met. Promote the adoption of management measures aimed at reducing mortality rates of juvenile yellowfin tuna caught in purse seine sets made on fish aggregating devices (FADs).

3. Improve data collection and reporting to ensure complete data sets (i.e. catches, effort, size), which are needed for robust stock assessments. For example, catch and catch-at-age data needs to be reported at a smaller scale, data on present samples of size frequency data needs to be recovered and identifying ways of improving catch estimates from logbook data are all needed.

4. Conduct studies, increase monitoring and publish information to assess longline interactions with protected, endangered and threatened (PET) and other bycatch species. Identify and mandate best practices bycatch mitigation techniques. Demand compliance with ICCAT management measures prohibiting the retention of oceanic white-tip, silky, thresher and hammerhead sharks.

**RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN**

Encourage the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) to adopt and implement effective bycatch reduction techniques, including the use of observer programs and the installation of bycatch mitigation devices.
1. Urge ICCAT and individual member countries to adopt precautionary and ecosystem-based management measures. Demand that member countries comply with all ICCAT’s Conservation and Management Measures.

2. Explore implementation of control documents to ensure supplier compliance with ICCAT’s conservation and management measures (CMMs) (e.g. around bycatch) such as: recording and reporting interactions, use of dehooking devices and line cutters for sea turtles, sea bird mitigation measures and prohibition on retaining silky, oceanic whitetip, hammerhead and thresher sharks. Source from vessels registered on the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Proactive Vessel Register (PVR).

3. Encourage the ICCAT and member countries to conduct studies, increase monitoring and publish information to assess longline interactions with protected, endangered and threatened (PET) and other bycatch species. Explore opportunities to support studies and data gathering.

4. Contact SFP to learn more about fishery improvement projects (FIPs) and SFP’s Supplier Roundtables.