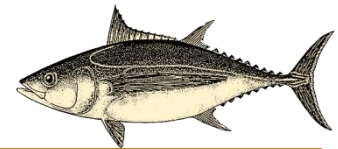


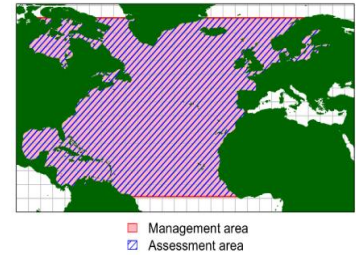
NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE TUNA

North Atlantic



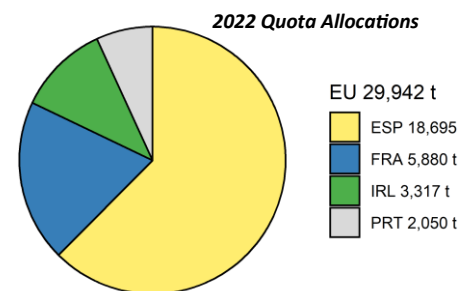
ADVICE FOR 2023

The interim harvest control rule (HCR) was adopted by the Commission in 2017 (Rec. 17-04). Based on the 2020 assessment, application of the HCR gives a TAC of 37,801 t for 2021-2023.



KEY POINTS

ICCAT advice basis	Quantitative assessment and HCR (from MSE framework)	
Management Plan	ICCAT management plan Catch=37,801 t	
Ranges	F_{MSY} Range Lower	Catch=35,761 t
	F_{MSY}	Catch=36,816 t
	F_{MSY} Range Upper	Catch=38,039 t
Landing Obligation	From 2015	Area and gear specific <i>de minimis</i> exemption of 5%



* Commission delegated regulation EC 2020/2015

MANAGEMENT IN 2022

- The stock assessment and management area for North Atlantic albacore tuna covers the Atlantic, north of 5°N line, and excluding the Mediterranean Sea.
- ICCAT recommendation 98-08 limiting fishing capacity to the average of 1993-1995, remains in force. This limits the number of Irish vessels that may fish for tuna to a maximum of 50 vessels.
- ICCAT recommendation 16-06 sets the objective of maintaining the fishing pressure below F_{MSY} and stock biomass state above B_{MSY} , while maximizing average catch and minimizing inter-annual fluctuations in TAC levels.
- The maximum allowed carryover is 25% of the initial quota. ICCAT undertakes to implement additional measures if carried over quota leads to a TAC in excess of 33,600 t.

KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS

- The stock was last assessed in 2020, following the same approach as the previous assessment in 2016. The 2020 assessment uses data up to, and including 2018. ICCAT usually set a 3-year constant annual TAC. The next stock assessment is planned for 2023.
- In 2021 Irish vessels had a total catch of 2,879 t and landed mainly into France and Spain.
- The primary Irish fishery is with pair pelagic trawlers in the Bay of Biscay, there can be some late season catches to the south west of Ireland.
- Irish observer and self-sampling data suggest that bycatch of sharks, seabirds, turtles and mammals are near zero. Bluefin tuna and swordfish are potential choke species for the fishery and the Irish fleet are known to avoid such catches.