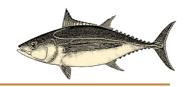
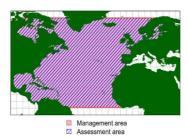
# NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE TUNA

### **North Atlantic**



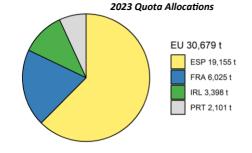
#### **ADVICE FOR 2024**

The interim harvest control rule (HCR) is being adopted by ICCAT in 2023 (Rec. 23-04). Based on the 2023 assessment, application of the HCR gives a TAC of 47,251 t for 2024-2026. This represents a 25% increase with respects to the previous TAC.



#### **KEY POINTS**

ICCAT advice basis	Management Plan	
Management Plan	ICCAT management plan Catch=47,251 t	
Ranges	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Lower	Not Available
	F <sub>MSY</sub>	Not Available
	F <sub>MSY</sub> Range Upper	Not Available
Landing Obligation	From 2015	Area and gear specific de minimis exemption of 5%



## **MANAGEMENT IN 2023**

- 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 annual carryover is 25% of the initial quota. ICCAT undertakes to implement additional measures if carried over quota leads to a TAC in excess of 50,000 t.

## **KEY STOCK CONSIDERATIONS**

- ICCAT usually set a 3-year constant annual TAC. The next stock assessment is planned for 2026.
- In 2022 Irish vessels had a total catch of 3,374 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 indicate that they avoid areas with known high by-catches.

<sup>\*</sup> Commission delegated regulation EC 2020/2015