

TUNA XXL

Medienberichte

Atlantic bluefin tuna discussed at Paris meeting

The 2010 annual meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) officially was held in Paris, France. Delegates from 48 contracting parties, including Canada, worked through 10 days of negotiations to strengthen the conservation of Atlantic bluefin tuna and other species under the organization's responsibility.

"I have said it many times before: ICCAT Members must not let up in their efforts to improve the management and conservation regime for Atlantic

bluefin tuna, they must adhere to the scientific advice, and they must comply with the rules," said Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. "Canada is following this path, has one of the best managed Atlantic bluefin tuna fisheries in the world, and is now seeing the results."

The Minister expressed regret that a proposal by Canada to strengthen reporting measures for all commercial and recreational fisheries of Western Atlantic bluefin tuna did not receive the support of all parties fishing in the western Atlantic.

These measures reflect what Canada has long done domestically.

ICCAT Members adopted the following total allowable catches for 2011, in line with the latest scientific advice:

- A reduced total allowable catch of 1,750t for Western Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2011 (including a modest reduction in the Canadian access to this fishery of approximately 11t), a catch level at which the stock is expected to continue to increase;

- A reduced total allowable catch of 12,900t for Eastern and Mediterranean Atlantic bluefin tuna (Canada does not fish this stock), [minus approximately 1,900t to be forfeited by Parties identified to have exceeded their 2010 quota]; and

- A renewed total allowable catch of 13,700t for North Atlantic swordfish (the Canadian quota is 1,348t, plus transfers of 25t and 100t from the United States and Senegal respectively) and a continuation of the

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existing North Atlantic Swordfish rebuilding plan, which reflects ICCAT's successful rebuilding efforts for this stock.

For more information about the Canadian bluefin tuna industry and Canada's work within ICCAT visit www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/tuna and www.iccat.int.



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