

**ABTA IS SUPPORTED BY MANY  
OTHER FISHING ORGANIZATIONS  
THAT HAVE MEMBERS FROM  
MAINE TO FLORIDA**

Place  
Stamp  
Here

Blue Water Fishermen's Association

Boston Big Game Fishing Club

Connecticut Charter and Party Boat Association

East Coast Tuna Association

First Light Anglers Association

General Category Tuna Association

Green Harbor Tuna Club

New Inlet Boating Association

North Shore Community Tuna Association

Stellwagen Bank Charter Boat Association

**Visit [www.THEABTA.com](http://www.THEABTA.com) to see  
how ABTA is working to  
protect your bluefin fishery.**

**Any questions? Email us at  
[info@theABTA.com](mailto:info@theABTA.com)**

**ABTA**  
"PROTECTING YOUR FISHERY"  
P.O. Box 447  
Salmon, NH 03079



# JOIN THE ABTA

American Bluefin Tuna Association  
"PROTECTING YOUR FISHERY"

## Now!



**Loss of Bluefin Quota  
Affects Everyone**



**Protect your Bluefin Quota**

**[www.THEABTA.com](http://www.THEABTA.com)**

The American Bluefin Tuna Association (ABTA) was formed to protect Atlantic Bluefin Tuna fishermen's traditional access and quota share. ABTA will protect the domestic structure under the National Marine Fisheries Service Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (HMS FMP) and will focus on seeking or supporting changes to allow rod and reel, harpooners, charter boats, and private recreational fishermen and others to catch their quota.

### **"2009 AND 2010 THREAT Emergency OF QUOTA LOSS" Emergency**

The U.S. quota share is threatened by a scheduled ICCAT renegotiation of allocation shares that will, according to the 2008 Morocco agreement, occur in 2010. US fishermen are held to more restrictive fishing standards compared to other Western Atlantic fishing nations and ABTA feels that US fishermen should not be punished for years of conservation. ABTA is adamant that the future benefits of fishing conservatively belong to American fishermen and should not be allocated away.

Additionally, ICCAT 2008 reduced the Western Atlantic quota by 300 tons and then gave Mexico 95 tons and transferred 73 tons to Canada. In 2010, ICCAT and the United States government also agreed to transfer quota from our underages to Canada rather than allow US fishermen the opportunity to catch their own quota by implementing simple changes to the domestic fishing rules.

For the past four fishing years we have landed less than 50 percent of our USA allocation.

**That's A LOT OF BLUEFIN TO BE LEFT  
ON THE TABLE FOR ICCAT IN 2010.**

## **THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO US**

1. To protect the U.S. historical 57% share of the international western Atlantic quota mandated under agreements authored by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT);
2. To generally protect the traditional domestic program commercial and recreational categories under the Final Highly Migratory Species FMP.
3. To protect the forage base and ecosystem conditions that would provide adequate food source to attract and maintain tuna on Northeast fishing grounds.
4. To advocate balanced fishery policies regarding competitive or nuisance species abundance such as with spiny dogfish known to hinder effective fishing for bluefin tuna.
5. To assure that reasonable opportunities are provided to bluefin tuna fishermen to catch quota under the minimum number of regulations desirable under NMFS management.
6. To provide for a Board of Directors representative of the main fisheries today to decide specific policies, objectives and strategies.

**THE ANNUAL DUES FOR FISHERMEN ARE  
\$50.00 PAYABLE TO ABTA AT  
P.O. Box 447, SALEM, N.H. 03079**

[www.theabta.com](http://www.theabta.com)

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

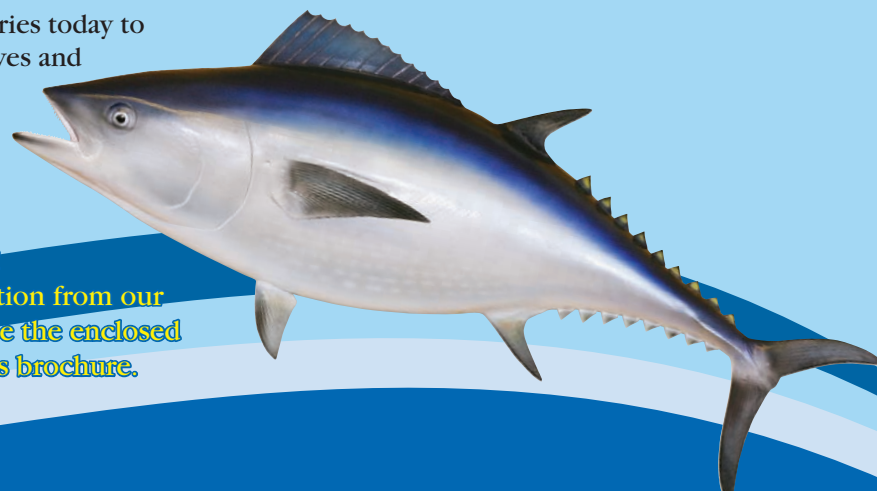
**Name of Boat:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business or Category that you Fish:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Joining ABTA is easy!**

Download a membership application from our website [www.THEABTA.com](http://www.THEABTA.com) or use the enclosed membership application on this brochure.