

History

The American Bluefin Tuna Association (ABTA) was formed to protect the 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, private recreational fishermen and others to catch their quota.

Examples of ABTA Activities

- Representation at ICCAT Meetings
- Representation at Herring and Forage related Meetings
- Representation on HMS Advisory Panel
- Working relationships with NMFS, NOAA and State Regulatory Agencies
- Advocacy and working relationships with local politicians
- Ongoing support of the best science for stock assessments
- Working relationships and collaboration Bluefin Scientists
- Fisherman and Public Education on US Bluefin Fishery
- Over 300 years of Bluefin Industry Experience with ABTA Leadership

www.theabta.com

Mission Statement

Issues 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 for the bluefin fisheries within the 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.

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ABTA Membership

Annual Membership to ABTA is awarded either through selling a Bluefin tuna to an ABTA sponsoring dealer in the prior season or by joining for an annual fee of \$50. Membership forms are available on our website.

To join ABTA visit

www.theabta.com

ABTA Mailing List

If you sold a fish in the prior season and would like to receive periodic updates on ABTA actions or issues impacting our fishery please email us at

info@theabta.com



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If you fish for Bluefin Tuna you should join ABTA

ABTA protects the domestic fishery for all four groups of artisanal fishermen who fish for Bluefin Tuna

- General Category
- Harpoon Category
- Charter Boat Category
- Angling Category

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ABTA

"PROTECTING YOUR FISHERY"

ABTA Dealers

Compass Seafood

PJ Mead
401-787-4686

Maguro

Robert Fitzpatrick
508-364-0350 cell

Nantucket Fish

Andy Baler
508-385-9094 office
508-958-9649 cell

North Atlantic Traders

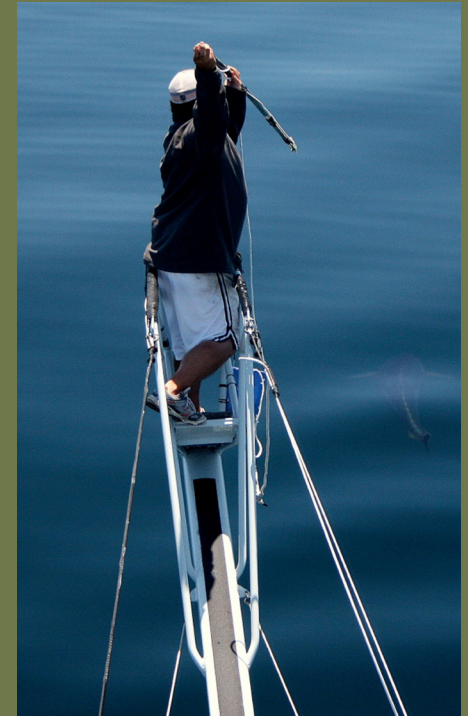
Robert Kliss
781-581-5180 office
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The American Bluefin Tuna Association



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