

East Atlantic and Mediterranean Fishing Capacity and Estimates of Catch

November 2009

A new ICCAT Secretariat report was released regarding east Atlantic and Mediterranean fishing capacity and estimates of catch. A total of 1,243 vessels caught BFT in 2009. This includes 77 large purse seines (> 40 meters), 203 medium purse seines (between 24 & 40 meters) and 57 small purse seines less than 24 meters. Also there are 57 large long liners, 40 medium and 388 small LL. The rest of the vessels are made up of trawlers, bait boats and 33 traps. According to the document, this capacity could have caught 68,601 mt in 2008 but for the "rebuilding plan".

42 farms are registered for all European Community nations. Croatia lists 7 farms with a capacity limit of 7,880 tons. It is reported that 2,947 tons were allocated to these farms which only have a 640 ton quota. It is possible they are buying other Med. countries quota. Turkey does not report its number of farms but has 58 catching vessels and 76 registered tuna tug boats. Tunisia reports 42 tuna boats in 2008 -- 41 purse seines and 1 longline.

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