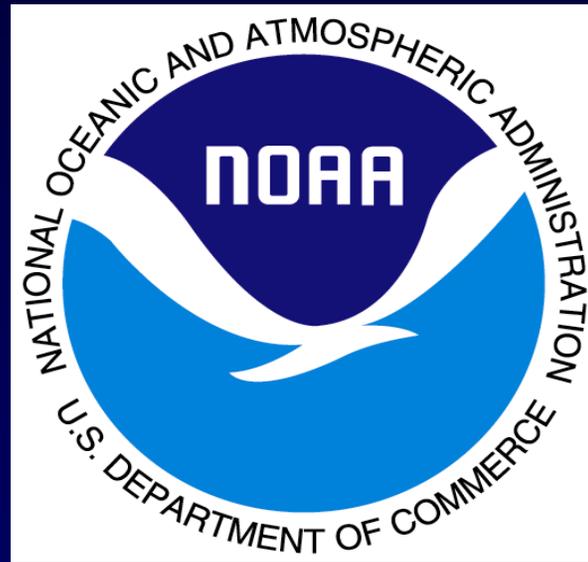


# Gear Authorization for Atlantic Tunas & Sea Turtle Control Device

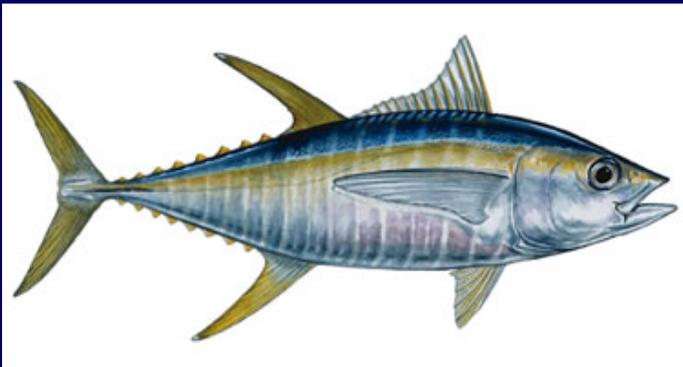


Highly Migratory Species Management Division  
Advisory Panel Meeting  
April 2008

# Green-Stick Gear Authorization

Alternative A1: No action/status quo.

*Alternative A2: Authorize green-stick gear for harvest of Atlantic tunas by Atlantic Tunas General category permitted vessels. (Preferred Alternative)*



# Green-Stick Gear Authorization

*Alternative A3: Authorize green-stick gear for harvest of Atlantic tunas by HMS Charter/Headboat permitted vessels. (Preferred Alternative)*

*Alternative A4: Authorize green-stick gear for harvest of Atlantic BAYS tunas, and BFT within existing target catch requirements, by Atlantic Tunas Longline category permitted vessels. (Preferred Alternative)*

# Green-Stick Gear Definition

- Actively trolled mainline attached to a vessel and suspended above the surface of the water
- No more than 10 hooks or gangions
- Retrieved by hand or mechanical means
- Not a pelagic or bottom longline

# Green-Stick Gear Data

NMFS considered several methods of green-stick gear specific data collection. We want your input...

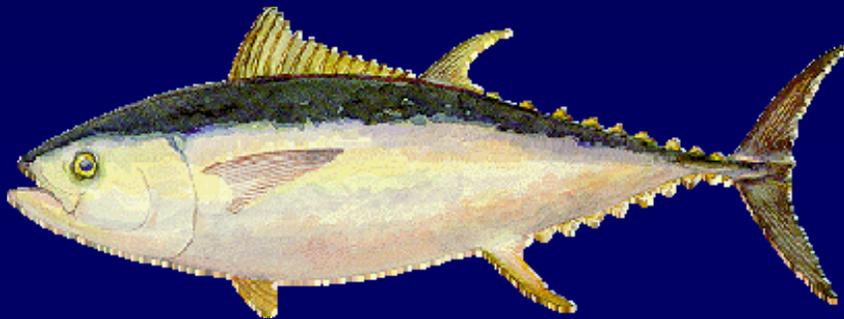
- Observers
- Vessel Logbooks
- Trip Tickets/Dealer Reporting
- Special Studies



# Harpoon Authorization

Alternative B1: (No action/status quo)

*Alternative B2: Authorize harpoon for Atlantic tunas fishing by HMS CHB permitted vessels. (Preferred Alternative)*



# Harpoon Authorization

Alternative B2a: Authorize harpoon for Atlantic tunas fishing by HMS CHB permitted vessels on all trips.

*Alternative B2b: Authorize harpoon for Atlantic tunas fishing by HMS CHB permitted vessels on non-for-hire trips only. (Preferred Alternative)*

# Sea Turtle Control Device

Alternative C1: (No action/status quo)

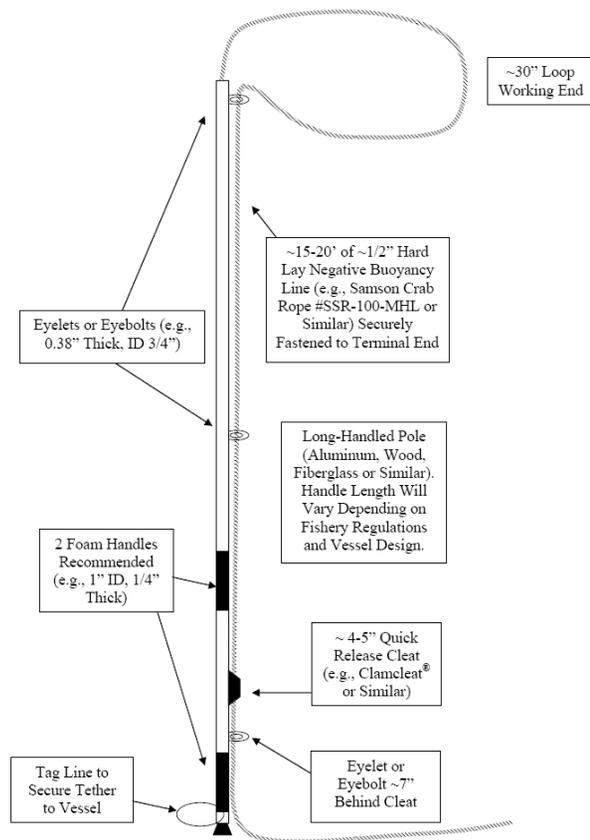
*Alternative C2: Require possession and use of a sea turtle control device as an addition to the already existing requirements for sea turtle bycatch mitigation gear.  
(Preferred Alternative)*



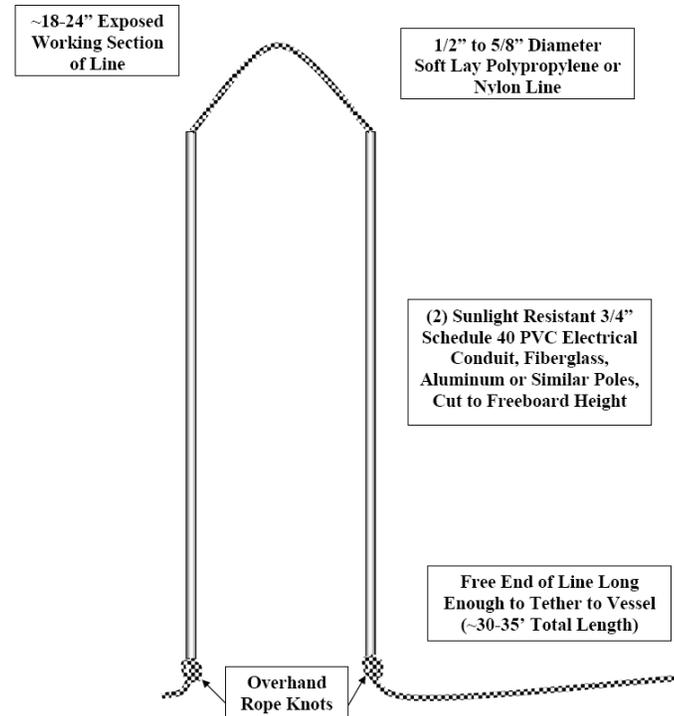
- Turtle tether or ninja sticks

# Turtle Tether & Ninja Sticks

## TURTLE TETHER



## T&G Ninja Sticks



# Timeline for Rulemaking

Proposed rule published later this month.

Public comment period and hearings:  
Late April – May 2008

Final Rule Expected: Summer 2008



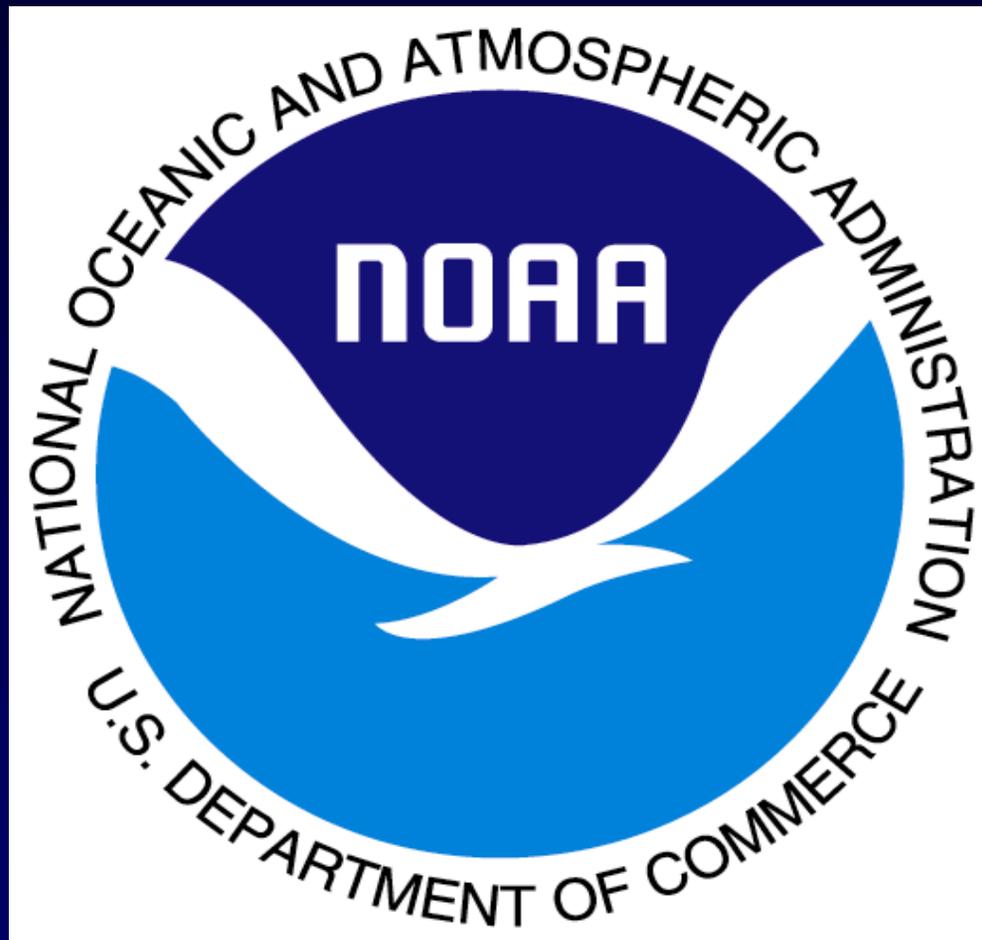
# Public Comments

Please identify comments with "0648-AV92"

Federal eRulemaking Portal -  
<http://www.regulations.gov>

Fax: 727-824-5398

Mail: Randy Blankinship, Highly Migratory Species  
Management Division, National Marine Fisheries  
Service, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg,  
FL 33701



## Green-Stick Gear Definition

“Green-stick gear means an actively trolled mainline attached to a vessel and elevated or suspended above the surface of the water with no more than 10 hooks or gangions attached to the mainline. The suspended line, attached gangions and/or hooks, and catch may be retrieved collectively by hand or mechanical means. Green-stick does not constitute a pelagic longline or a bottom longline as defined in this section or as described at § 635.21(c) or § 635.21(d), respectively.”

# Green-Stick Gear

