
Proposed Rule to Adjust the HMS International Trade Permit Program

Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Management Division
NMFS/NOAA
April 2008



Background

HMS International Trade Permit

-- established in 2005 to consolidate/implement HMS international trade tracking programs

- **ICCAT:** bluefin tuna, swordfish, frzn bigeye tuna
- **IATTC:** frozen bigeye tuna
- **IOTC:** frozen bigeye tuna
- **CCSBT:** southern bluefin tuna

Background

Consignment Document Programs

- Statistical Documents are similar to “passports;”
(ICCAT Catch Document proposed in rule)
- Purpose
 - understand international market & impact on fisheries
 - monitor trade
 - serve as a proxy for catch in certain situations
 - (Catch Document – monitor catch)*

Proposed Rule

- **Permitting**
- **Reporting**
- **Regulatory Structure & Clarifications**

Proposed Rule

Permitting

- Foreign Importer
- Synchronization of Permit Issuance
- Permitting of Shark Fin Traders

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Proposed Rule

Reporting

- **“Received-by” date**
- **ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Document**
- **Reducing the Bluefin Tuna Export Reporting Burden**

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Proposed Rule

ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Catch Document

- Imports

- New Import BCD form
- All re-exports from US will require a re-export certificate
- Re-exports of untagged bluefin must be reported to the importing nation and ICCAT Secretariat

- Exports

- New U.S. BCD form
- Catch for each vessel must be listed on a separate form

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Proposed Rule

Regulatory Structure & Clarification

- **Definition of Import**
- **HTS Code Update**
- **Clarification of Reporting Responsibilities**

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Public Comment Period Ends May 5, 2008

**“Comments on Proposed Rule to Adjust HMS
International Trade Permitting & Reporting”**

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