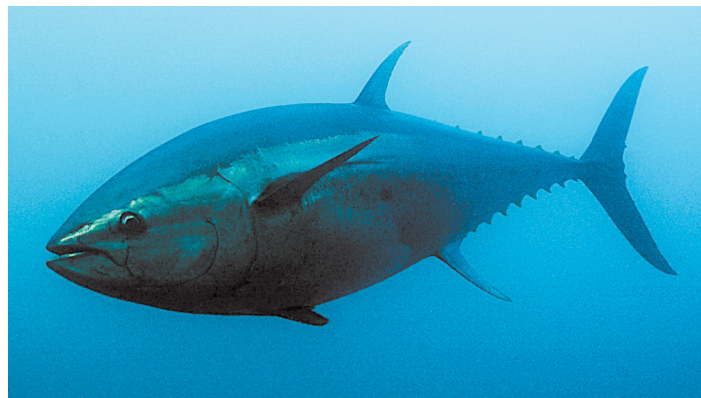


Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

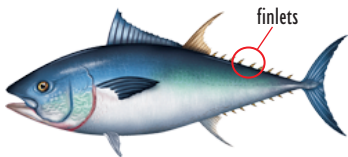
Thunnus thynnus



© NUNO VASCO RODRIGUES

Species Description

The Atlantic Bluefin Tuna is a fish that is compressed and stocky in the front, widest in the middle (spindle-shaped), and 1.5 to 3 m long. Its upper body is dark blue to black with a greyish green iridescence, and its undersides are silvery and marked with grey spots and bands. Its first dorsal fin is blue and its second is reddish-brown. It has small yellow fins (finlets) that are edged with black, both after the second dorsal fin (upper) and anal fin (lower). Its tail is forked and crescent-shaped.



Key ID Features: * spindle-shaped * small finlets

STATUS



Endangered COSEWIC

Not Listed

SARA

Highly migratory species of the North Atlantic and its adjacent seas. Found in Atlantic Canada from June to December and spawns in the Gulf of Mexico and Mediterranean Sea. It has declined by almost 70% over the last 40 years.

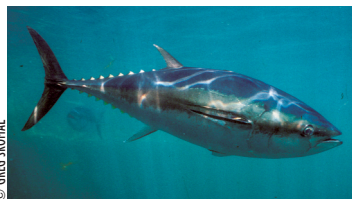
Population Range



Interesting Points

- Atlantic Bluefin Tuna can swim up to 70 km/hr.
- Tagging and ultrasonic telemetry studies have observed that this species often dives to depths of 500-1000 m!

© GREG SKOMAL



Threats

- Overfishing (historical and current).
- Fishing pressure on prey species.
- Industrial pollution, including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that occurred in its spawning grounds.

Learn how you can help on page 136.

© NOAA



A highly-valued commercial species under immense fishing pressure.

Contacts, Information & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: DFO Species at Risk 1-866-891-0771 or xmarsara@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Info: www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes, www.sararegistry.gc.ca

Stewardship: Ecology Action Centre: www.facebook.com/IamTinaTuna