



Summary of proposed in-season increase to the total allowable catch for southern bluefin tuna

Details of the consultation process and copies of the full discussion papers are available here:

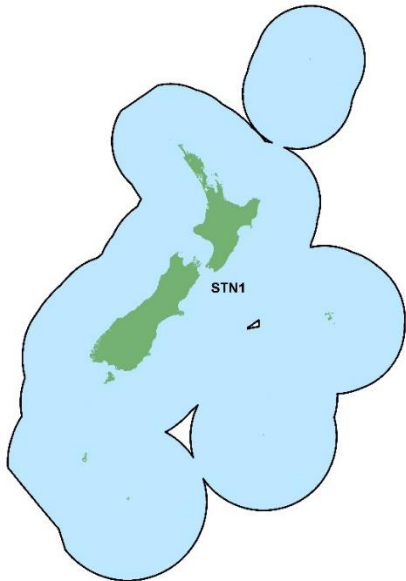
www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations/?opened=1&cat=8

Southern bluefin tuna (STN 1)

An in-season increase to the TAC for southern bluefin tuna is proposed to utilise the increased country allocation assigned to New Zealand by the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). The CCSBT is the regional fisheries management organisation responsible for the management of southern bluefin tuna. CCSBT sets the global TAC based on a management procedure, which is then allocated to individual countries, including New Zealand. The most recent management procedure recommended an increase to the global TAC of 3,000 tonnes per annum for the three year period 2018-2020. Based on allocation agreements reached at the CCSBT, New Zealand's share of the increase is 88 tonnes per annum. An in-season increase would allow New Zealand to apply the increased country allocation granted at the most recent meeting in time to be utilised when fishing commences (April), and realise the economic and social benefits from the additional catch.

Three options are proposed. Option 1 retains the *status quo*, while Options 2 and 3 apply the 88 tonne increase to the TAC. It is proposed that the suggested 88 tonne increase to the TAC will be applied either entirely in the form of additional Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE) for commercial fishers (Option 2), or to a combination of 76 tonnes of additional ACE and a 12 tonne increase to the allowance for recreational fishing (Option 3).

The public consultation will take place for four weeks from 12 January 2018.



Stock	Option	TAC	TACC	Additional Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE)	Allowances		
					Customary	Recreational	Other mortality
STN 1	1 (<i>status quo</i>)	1,000 t	971 t	0 t	1 t	8 t	20 t
	2	1,088 t ↑	971 t	88 t ↑	1 t	8 t	20 t
	3	1,088 t ↑	971 t	76 t ↑	1 t	20 t ↑	20 t