



Juvenile Bluefin Tag a Tiny™ Program:

In June 2005, our team began implanting archival tags in juvenile bluefin tuna, with participants from UNH, UMass, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, working with recreational and commercial fishermen. This on-going research will help determine the migration patterns of northwest Atlantic bluefin tuna, and is in support of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Bluefin Year Program.

What are implanted archival tags?

Implanted archival tags are small data loggers that are placed inside the fish, either in the dorsal side (back muscle) or ventral side (belly cavity). Each logger has a long thin light stalk projecting out of the fish. Tag sensors record depth, temperatures, and light. The only way to recover the data stored in these tags is with your cooperation.

If you capture a bluefin with a light stalk and/or a green streamer tag please follow the directions below.

IMPORTANT: Retaining a bluefin tuna with an implanted archival tag <u>DOES NOT</u> count against a daily bag limit.

How do I get my reward?

- We would like to get back the whole fish (if possible) but fish must be intact.
- Tagged fish could be undersize, BUT even so, keeping the tagged fish (with its archival tag in place) will NOT count against your daily catch limit; NOAA fisheries enforcement personnel have been so informed.
- If keeping the whole fish is not an option, PLEASE DO NOT CUT THE LIGHT STALK OFF, but carefully remove the entire implanted archival tag with its light stalk (DO NOT CUT or PULL on the STALK).
- Stow the data logger tag and any ID streamer tag in a safe place.
- Please record the date, catch location, sea surface temperature, and length and weight of the fish. All information is important.
- Please call us immediately.

Please Call Immediately:

Large Pelagics Research Center

Gloucester, MA

603-767-2129 or 978-238-8208 Molly Lutcavage

Email: LPRCtunalab@gmail.com

ICAAT:

Phone +34 91 416 5600 (Spain)

(Only these individuals can provide official documentation for your catch and reward verification.)

Please Help. Your timely response is vital to this research. Thank you for being part of the Juvenile Bluefin CO-OP Tagging Project.