



Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAPE COD COMMERCIAL HOOK FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION STRONGLY SUPPORTS BLUEFIN TUNA DECISION

North Chatham, MA: The [Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association](#) issued the following statement after [CITES - the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora](#) - voted today to oppose a ban on international trade of bluefin tuna at a meeting in Qatar. [Executive Director Susan Nickerson](#) said:

"Many Cape Cod fishermen depend on the bluefin tuna fishery, and we share their relief in hearing that the committee opposed the international trade ban," said Nickerson. "We certainly recognize the grave conservation and management issues facing the bluefin fishery in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean. [But we joined many local fishermen in strongly opposing the addition of this species to the CITES list](#) because this measure would have had a disproportionate negative impact on fishermen in those nations that have been most proactive and responsible in the conservation and sustainable harvest of this resource.

We look forward to working with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and to continuing our advocacy for strict enforcement of catch limits that is necessary to protect bluefin tuna. Enforcement is the answer, not an ineffective trade ban that would be ignored by those countries who most egregiously over-harvest Bluefin."

The Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association is a non-profit organization comprised of responsible fishermen working towards sustainable fisheries.

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For press inquiries, please contact:

Anna Haigh, Communications Coordinator
Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association
210-E Orleans Road, North Chatham, MA 02650
anna@ccchfa.org - Office 508.945.2432 - Cell 603.440.9006

Website: www.ccchfa.org
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ccchfa>
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/6wPTag>

CAPE COD COMMERCIAL HOOK FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

The Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association is a nationally recognized, non-profit organization that aligns protection of the oceans with the interests of our historic fishing community. We support stewardship of coastal ecosystems through education, research, and policy programs. Started in 1991 by the local fishing fleet, the Hook Association is now the

leading community fisheries organization in the region. We are taking action now to make sure there are fish for future generations.

~ Protecting a Resource, a Tradition, and a Way of Life ~

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