

Improving post-release survival in **Atlantic bluefin tuna**



Rod and line.

Atlantic bluefin tuna are a prohibited species in UK waters and must not be targeted by commercial or recreational fishers. Should they be accidentally caught, they must be returned to the sea alive by following the guidelines below and all incidents reported to the MMO.



Bring the fish to the boat as quickly as possible - if there are bluefin in the area consider moving on.



Free the hook and lip-hook the fish quickly - if you can't free the hook, cut the line as close to the hook as possible. Fish can survive with fishing hooks left in the jaw, so don't spend too much time trying.



Tow the fish gently with its head in the water - secure the lip-hook to the gunwale, put the boat in gear and tow the fish until it shows signs of revival.



RELEASE the fish by 'Popping' off the lip-hook - ensure the tuna's head faces down when released. NEVER remove the fish from the water.

To report a sighting please call the bluefin hotline on 07432 873490 or visit:
www.thunnusuk.org/aim-1-a-baseline-understanding.

To report by-catch please contact the Hayle MMO office on 01736 757303