

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** As required under the Fisheries Act of 1995, NMFS is publishing final statistics on the level of U.S. recreational and commercial landings of Atlantic yellowfin tuna (YFT) in metric tons (mt) since 1981. Preliminary statistics were published in March 1996, and NMFS received considerable public comment. NMFS is publishing these final statistics to inform the public of updated data on landings trends in the YFT recreational and commercial fisheries.

**ADDRESSES:** To request a copy of the scientific paper which forms the basis for these revised YFT statistics, contact Pasquale Scida at 978-281-9208.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Regulations implemented under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) governing the harvest of yellowfin tuna by persons and vessels subject to U.S. jurisdiction are found at 50 CFR part 635.

NMFS is required under the Fisheries Act of 1995, Title III, Atlantic Tunas Convention Act, section 309(a) to publish **Federal Register** documents with preliminary and final/revised statistics on the commercial and recreational yellowfin tuna landings for the past 10 years. NMFS published preliminary data on YFT landings in a **Federal Register** document to inform the public of trends in YFT recreational and commercial landings (61 FR 10319, March 13, 1996). In order to meet the intent of the Fisheries Act of 1995, given the complexity of the issues involved with a complex data recovery of YFT landings, NMFS deemed it preferable to at least publish preliminary data within the 140-day deadline and requested public comment over a 2-month time period.

These preliminary data and data issues have been discussed at meetings of the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) in recent years. Comments received from both the general public and from the ICCAT Advisory Committee (IAC) resulted in extensive reexamination of the data by NMFS scientists to gather the best available data on commercial and recreational YFT landings for publication and subsequent revisions to the preliminary statistics. At the November 1998 IAC meeting, a copy of a draft report to be

used as the basis for submitting revised estimates of YFT landings to ICCAT was circulated to the IAC. After further refining the information, NMFS provided a draft scientific paper detailing YFT data revisions to the IAC at its March 1999 meeting.

The source of the YFT data and revisions made to the historical database are described in a paper that has been submitted to the ICCAT Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) at its 1999 meetings. As noted in the summary of this SCRS paper, a variety of commercial landings databases were examined for the purpose of evaluating the possible need for revising reports of U.S. landings of Atlantic bigeye, albacore, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna to ICCAT. This SCRS paper updates, with appropriate revision and additions, a previous review of U.S. commercial landings of Atlantic yellowfin as presented in an earlier SCRS paper. In addition, various sources of recreational landing tallies and estimates are examined and landings values are presented. To obtain copies of this SCRS paper, see

**ADDRESSES.**

In presenting these revised data to the SCRS, the United States is formally revising historical landings statistics. These revised statistics have been submitted through the ICCAT reporting process, after incorporating the review comments received from both the IAC and the SCRS, and will be published in future reports of the SCRS. Because this review and revision of YFT statistics included extensive research of all sources of YFT data and a variety of estimation techniques, NMFS considers these historical data as the best data available at this time. NMFS, therefore, does not intend to consider further revisions to these data unless new, verifiable data become available.

NMFS is exploring and, in some cases, implementing new measures designed to improve the quality of YFT commercial and recreational landings data. The Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks, adopted in April 1999, includes new permitting and reporting requirements for recreational vessels, including logbooks for Highly Migratory Species charter/headboats, if selected. Through efforts implemented under the Atlantic Coast Cooperative Statistics Program, NMFS is working with states and other fishery management authorities to ensure uniform, non-redundant, and consistent data collection systems. These and other efforts should contribute to improved quality of YFT data in coming years.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*

Dated: October 22, 1999.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

TABLE: YELLOWFIN TUNA COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL LANDINGS, 1981-1998, IN METRIC TONS ROUND WEIGHT

Year	Commercial Landings	Recreational Landings
1981	1886	1274
1982	819	912
1983	358	2196
1984	1775	405
1985	6342	3394
1986	5102	4836
1987	5710	3952
1988	9166	1899
1989	6530	1930
1990	5121	545
1991	5495	1418
1992	5982	957
1993	4386	1898
1994	3775	4522
1995	4395	4157
1996	3788	4498
1997	4105	3569
1998	2693	2927

[FR Doc. 99-28104 Filed 10-27-99; 8:45 am]

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Notice of Establishment of the Technology Advisory Committee

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission has determined to establish the "Technology Advisory Committee" As required by Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act 5 U.S.C. app. 2, § 9(a)(2) and 41 CFR 101-6.1007, the Commission has consulted with the Committee Management Secretariat of the General Services Administration. The Commission certifies that the creation of this advisory committee is necessary and is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Commission by the Commodity Exchange Act, 7 U.S.C. 1 *et seq.*, as amended. This notice is published pursuant to Section 9(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, § 9(a)(2) and 41 CFR 101-6.1015.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Fox, Legal Counsel to Commissioner James E. Newsome, at 202-418-5052, or Marcia K. Blase, Committee Management Officer, at 202-418-5138. Written comments should be

submitted to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20581.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Sophisticated communication technology has expanded access to markets and market users. The rise of electronic screen-based trading is changing the face of the financial services industry and along with it, the regulatory concerns of the Commission, of other regulators and of the United States Congress. As electronic trading platforms become more prevalent and in some markets, directly compete with or displace traditional open-outcry trading pits, it is imperative that the Commission keep informed of the ever evolving technological environment, the impact of technology on our markets, market professionals and other market participants, and to consider regulatory reform as appropriate.

The Technology Advisory Committee's charter directs the committee to assist the Commission in: (1) Reviewing emerging technologies utilized by financial services and commodity markets and their participants, (2) identifying technology providers for the financial services and commodity markets, (3) analyzing the impact of emerging technologies on financial services and commodity markets, as well as on market professionals and market users, particularly in the areas of system capacities and readiness, order flow practices, and clearing and payment activities, (4) reviewing the Commodity Exchange Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder to assess their applicability to electronic issues and to ensure the Commission's ability to exercise appropriate fraud and manipulation authority, and (5) examining ways that the Commission may respond to the increasing use of technology in financial services and commodity markets through appropriate legislative proposals and/or regulatory reform.

The Commission anticipates that the Technology Advisory Committee will provide a valuable forum for information exchange and advice on these matters. The reports, recommendations and general advice from the committee will enable the Commission to assess more effectively the need for possible statutory, regulatory, policy or programmatic initiatives to address the challenges posed by a technology driven marketplace. The committee's membership will include

representatives of those markets, firms and market users most directly involved in and affected by the technological evolution of the industry and will be balanced in terms of points of view represented. Toward that end, the Commission is considering for membership a broad cross-section of persons representing technology providers, exchanges, regulatory organizations, financial intermediaries, end-users, traders and academics.

The Commission has found that advice on such specialized matters is best obtained through the advisory committee framework rather than through other more costly, less flexible and less efficient means of assembling persons from all sectors of the financial services industry. The Commission has also found that the Technology Advisory Committee will not duplicate the functions of the Commission, another existing advisory committee, or other means such as public hearings. The Commission has concluded, therefore, that the creation of the Technology Advisory Committee is essential to the accomplishment of its mission and is in the public interest.

Fifteen days after publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, a copy of the charter of the Technology Advisory Committee will be filed with the Chairman of the Commission, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and the House Committee on Agriculture. A copy of the charter will be furnished to the Library of Congress and the Committee Management Secretariat and will be posted on the Commission's website at <http://www.cftc.gov>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 20, 1999, by the Commission.

**Jean W. Webb**,  
*Secretary of the Commission.*

[FR Doc. 99-28105 Filed 10-27-99; 8:45 am]

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**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:**  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 5, 1999.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., NW, Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance Matters.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5111.

**Jean A. Webb**,  
*Secretary of the Commission.*

[FR Doc. 99-28342 Filed 10-26-99; 1:40 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:**  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 12, 1999.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., NW, Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance Matters.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

**Jean W. Webb**,  
*Secretary of the Commission.*

[FR Doc. 99-28343 Filed 10-26-99; 1:40 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-001-M

**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING**

**Sunshine Act Meeting Commission**

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:**  
Commodity Future Trading Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 19, 1999.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., NW, Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance Matters.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Jean A. Webb, 202-418-5100.

**Jean A. Webb**,  
*Secretary of the Commission.*

[FR Doc. 99-28344 Filed 10-26-99; 1:40 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:**  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11 a.m., Friday, November 26, 1999.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 9th Floor Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance Matters.