## Bluefin tuna protection fundamentally flawed

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An international system of tracking tuna - a vital tool in the preservation of stocks - has been found to be full of gaps. A conference in Paris starting on 17 November could decide the fate of the endangered Atlantic bluefin tuna. The Washington-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) - which has spent months analysing the bluefin tuna trade - calculates that more than one in three bluefins caught in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean between 1998 and 2007 was fished illegally. The illegal catches gave rise to an off-the-books trade in bluefin tuna, conservatively valued at \$4 billion, according to ICIJ. A <a href="video clip">video clip</a> from a BBC program titled Life on the Edge: Looting The Seas illustrates how the bluefin tuna protection system is full of holes.

TAGS: bluefin tuna, endangered, ICCAT, overfishing, illegal fishing, sustainable, fishing, fisheries, International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, ICIJ

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