

2. Albacore Tuna

(Thunnus alalunga)

➤ **Family:** *Scombridae*.
Genus: *Thunnus*.

➤ **Life span:** up to 15 years.

➤ **Temperature:** eggs and larvae, about 24°C. Adults, from 10 to 28°C.

➤ Can swim at an estimated average speed of 4 km / h.

➤ **Also known as** longfin tuna.

➤ *Alalunga* comes from the Latin *ala longa*, "long wing".

The name *Thunnus alalunga* refers to its long pectoral fins.

It can be identified by a white line along the outer edge of its caudal fin.



Did you know that

- albacore tuna is a very cosmopolitan oceanic species that we still have a lot to learn about?
- female albacores are smaller than males?
- fishermen sometimes find them where there are fin whales, feeding on the same prey –krill?



REPRODUCTION

Age of first reproduction: 2 years for the Mediterranean population and 5 years for oceanic albacore.



Spawning season: They breed in the spring and summer, during 6 months in tropical ocean waters and 3-4 months in the Mediterranean.



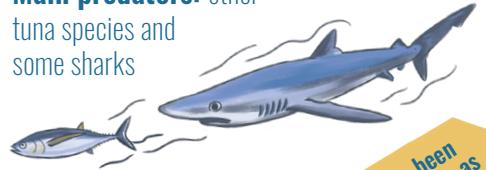
PREY

Larvae: small planktonic crustaceans



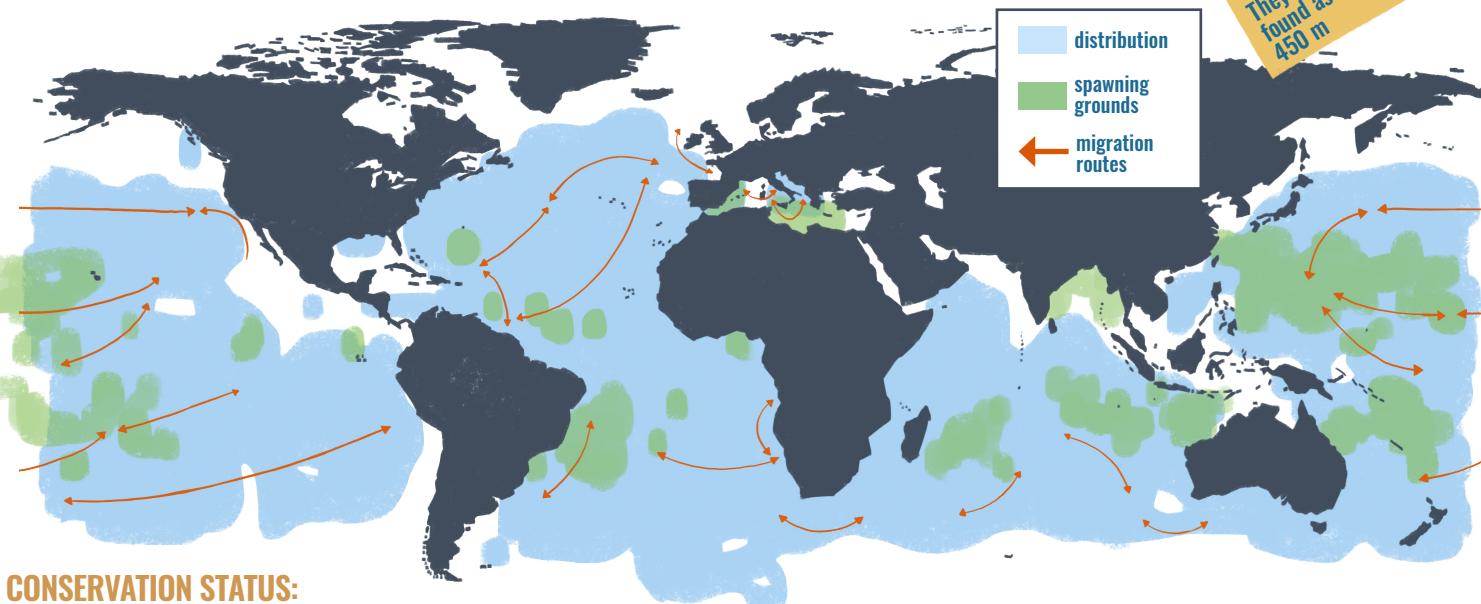
Juveniles and adults: krill, squid, and small fish

Main predators: other tuna species and some sharks



Adults as far down as 200 m

They have been found as deep as 450 m



CONSERVATION STATUS:

NOT OVERFISHED

Because albacore are present in all the oceans, their management is controlled by 4 Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs).



Some of the albacore's spawning grounds and migration routes have not yet been accurately located.