



Permit application for the English Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Catch and Release Recreational Fishery 2024

Introduction

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Defra are launching a bluefin tuna (BFT) catch and release recreational fishery (CRRF) for permitted vessels, which will take place in English waters between August to December for 2024.

Detailed information can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/plans-for-the-2024-bluefin-tuna-bft-catch-and-release-recreational-fisheries>

To be eligible to apply you **must**:

- Be the owner of a vessel registered in the United Kingdom under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995.
- Have a vessel 5 metres or greater in overall length and powered by an engine/motor.
- Use rod and reel fishing gears only. No chumming will be permitted.
- Not have secured a permit for the UK commercial BFT fishery trial, or any other UK bluefin tuna catch and release recreational fishery.

How to complete and submit the application

You will need the following information before starting the application:

- UK Ships Register (UKSR) certificate.
- A photograph of the vessel displaying external registration marking on the hull to allow for identification.
- If your vessel is used for charter fishing trips, you will need to provide a copy of your Small Commercial Vessel Certificate (SCV2).
- If you have participated in previous CHART programmes, forms of evidence to document this.

Applications must be completed on an individual basis. Group applications will not be accepted. If an applicant owns more than one vessel, and wants to apply for more than one permit, a separate application will be required for each vessel.

Applicants will be required to fill in their vessel and owner details, and submit the evidence outlined above.

When completing this form, you should:

- Answer all required questions. Incomplete applications forms will not be considered.
- If you have any problems completing this application form, contact the UK Single Issuing Authority (UKSIA) at BFT.Recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk

For your application to be considered, all evidence must be attached to one email, with the subject heading '**BFT CRRF application submission**', and sent to: BFT.recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk

You will need to complete, attach, and submit the following:

1. Complete this BFT CRRF application form attached below.
2. Provide a copy of the UK Ship Register certificate showing that your vessel has been registered on either part 1, 2 or 3 of the UK ships register.
3. Provide a copy of your Small Commercial Vessel Certificate SCV2 – *only required if your vessel is used for charter fishing trips.*
4. Provide a photograph of the vessel displaying external registration marking on the hull to allow for identification.
5. Applicants can also include copies of evidence/documentation supporting their CHART involvement. *Optional*

Only applications received at this email address BFT.Recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk will be considered.

Applications are open from Monday 10 June and will close at midnight on Sunday 30 June 2024. Applications received after this period will not be considered.

Complaints and disputes process

For any complaints please contact the MMO using the published [customer complaints procedure](#).

How your data will be handled:

MMO Data Privacy Notice: [Personal information charter - Marine Management Organisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

.....

Permit application for the English Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Catch and Release Recreational Fishery 2024

* Required fields

Section 1: Vessel Details

1. Vessel Name* _____
2. Vessel length (Overall length)* _____
3. Confirmation your vessel is powered by an engine/motor (Y/N)* _____
4. UK Ship Registry Number* _____
5. Small Commercial Vessel Certificate Number (If your vessel is used for charter trips)
6. External Registration markings on the hull* _____

Section 2: Owner Details

If any of the owner details do not match those already on record, we may need to contact you.

1. Name of vessel owner * _____
2. Owner Address * _____
3. Owner Email Address * _____
4. Owner Mobile Telephone Number (format +44123456789) *
5. Are you over 18 years old? Y/N*
6. If under 18 years old, please provide your date of birth.
7. Please provide the names and contact details of any additional owners associated with the vessel detailed in section 1. (if applicable).

Section 3: CHART Experience

1. Please detail what category you believe you are within. Select from the following;
 - * a. Charter vessel owned by those who either skippered or owned a vessel that participated in a UK CHART programme.
 - b. Charter vessel owned by those who participated in a UK CHART programme as crew.
 - c. Any other charter vessel owned by an individual who does not meet the requirements of category 1a or 1b.
 - d. Private vessel

If selected 'a' or 'b' (Charter vessel which has participated in UK CHART programme), please provide details/evidence to support your CHART participation selection.

Please note that if you participated in a UK CHART programme but are applying for a permit with a private vessel you will be placed category 'd' (Private vessel).

Section 4: Terms and conditions

Terms and conditions

By issuing this application process, UKSIA is not bound to accept any application, or grant a recreational bluefin tuna fishing permit to any applicant.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that they understand the requirements for this application process. If any information is unclear, you can raise a query with the UKSIA at BFT.Recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk

The UKSIA will respond to all clarifications as quickly as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum response time. It is the responsibility of applicants to make sure that they

raise any queries sufficiently early to allow them to submit their application by the deadline. If a query is relevant to other applicants, the UKSIA will share all clarifications with other applicants, as and when necessary.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring they submit a complete and accurate application and provide all the information requested. Only completed applications will be considered.

If an applicant needs to make an amendment to an application submitted, the applicant must contact BFT.Recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk to withdraw their existing application and submit a new application before the expiry of the application deadline.

Applicants can withdraw an application at any time by contacting the UKSIA at BFT.Recreational@marinemanagement.org.uk. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered except in exceptional circumstances at the UKSIA's discretion. The UKSIA may also, at its own discretion, change the deadline and in such circumstances, the UKSIA will notify all applicants of any change via email.

MMO reserves the right to amend or withdraw this guidance and the application process at any time. This could include by way of example amending the process for submitting applications or extending the deadline.

Section 5: Declaration

By submitting this application, you are agreeing that the information you have provided is to the best of your knowledge, true and accurate.

Any personal information provided within your application will be handled only for the purpose of processing your application and for formally evaluating the scheme. The UK government undertakes commensurate and appropriate evaluation to understand efficiency and effectiveness of interventions and their impacts.

You can find out more about the MMO's standards for requesting and processing personal information in the [MMO personal information charter](#).

The MMO reserves the right to use your details and statement within your application to validate/verify CHART participation with Cefas, and/or other bodies overseeing other CHART Programmes (see section 3).

The UK is mandated to share information (shown below) with ICCAT when requested on fishing vessels used for the purposes of the commercial exploitation of bluefin tuna resources, which may be published by ICCAT. For more information read the [ICCAT recommendation 22-08](#).

Name of vessel	MMO	Upon request
Register number	MMO	Upon request
ICCAT record number (if any)	MMO	Upon request

Previous vessel names (if any)	MMO	Upon request
Name of skipper	MMO	Upon request
Address of skipper	MMO	Upon request



*I am applying for a recreational bluefin tuna permit as the Vessel Owner: **

- I confirm that I accept the terms and conditions laid out above. *
- I understand that the UKSIA may contact the vessel owner directly in relation to this application. *
- I confirm that if my application is successful, I 'the owner' am responsible for ensuring my permitted vessel's BFT activity is reported to the MMO after each permit trip within 24hours of completing each trip*. Information on 'how to report' will be supplied to all successful applicants via email prior to the fishery opening

To help Defra and MMO shape future BFT CRRF considerations, we may wish to contact you as part of further BFT social science research.

Please tick if you are content for MMO and/or Defra to share your email address with a third-party contractor, solely in relation to any BFT social science research commissioned by Defra.

1. Name*
2. Date*

