

TUNA TAGGING IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

HELP US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND MANAGE OUR TUNA RESOURCES!
RETURN THE TAGS AND GET A REWARD; ANNUAL LOTTERY FOR TAG FINDERS



REWARD

The SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY is conducting research into BIGEYE, SKIPJACK and YELLOWFIN TUNA movements and behaviour using different type of tags. Tagging tuna will provide better information on fishery exploitation rates and population sizes in the Western and Central Pacific.

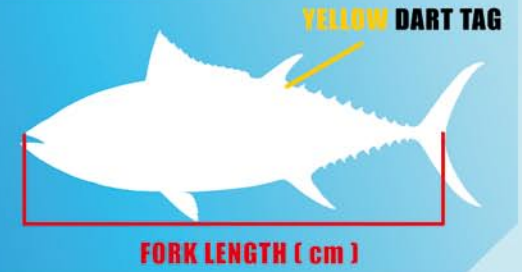
These data will allow the improvement of regional stock assessment for the 3 species. Every tagged tuna will have a yellow, green or orange DART TAG on its back, near the second dorsal fin. Each tag has a number (written twice) and the words “**SPC NOUMEA-REWARD** – www.spc.int/tagging” on it.

YELLOW tagged tuna have no other tags, or occasionally have a second yellow tag on the other side of its back. Every tag gets a reward.

GREEN tagged tuna also have an acoustic tag hidden INSIDE their body cavity. Acoustic tags are used to study the movement of tuna around FADs, payaos and other floating objects.

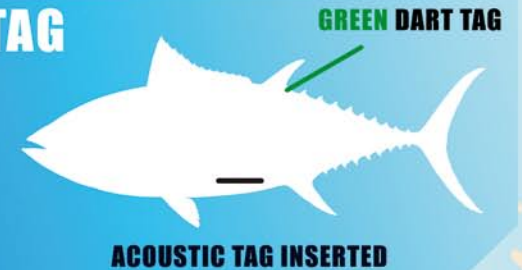
ORANGE tagged tuna also have an archival tag placed INSIDE their body cavity. These tuna also have a pencil-length clear antenna trailing from their body cavity. Archival tags are small computers that record depth, inside and outside temperature, position and time. Please be careful when cutting the archival tag out and **please avoid pulling** the antenna when removing the tag from the fish. Wash the tag and keep it in a dry place until you return it.

FOR A DART TAG



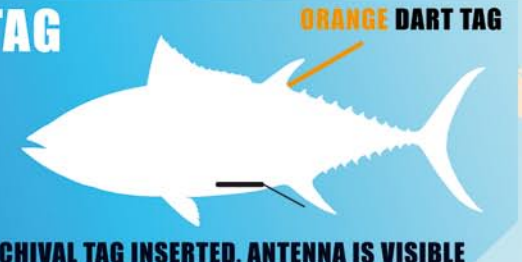
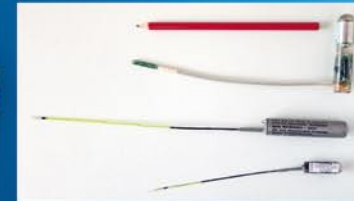
\$10 US

FOR AN ACOUSTIC TAG



\$50 US

FOR AN ARCHIVAL TAG



\$250 US

Please record the fork length of the fish (from the upper-jaw to the fork in the tail), and the date and position of the recapture. Return the tag and information (with your name and address) to either :

JOHN HAMPTON
Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFF)
Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
B.P. D 5, 98848 Nouméa Cedex, New Caledonia
Telephone : (Int) +687 262000 Fax : (Int) +687 263818
www.spc.int/tagging
Email : Oceanfish@spc.int

or your local government fisheries office ...