

**CATCHES OF BLUEFIN TUNA (THUNNUS THYNNUS L.) IN NORWEGIAN COASTAL WATERS IN 1984**

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IN 1984

The bluefin tuna fishery off western Norway in 1984 yielded 733 large fish of 241,600 kg total round weight. The 15 catches (Table 1) were landed by 9 vessels in the period 5-24 August, a rather short fishing season.

The first landing was made at Bulandet which is the northernmost landing port. The other catches were landed at Tølavåg, Storebø and Brandasund west-southwest of Bergen (Figure 1). All catches were made near the landing ports only a few miles off the coast. During the last lean years, the bluefin tuna fishery has taken place in this area.

One fish was caught on 5 November by a herring/mackerel purse seiner in the Shetland area.

Most of the fish (614) were delivered gutted. Weight frequency distribution of these is given in Table 2. The 120 fish that were delivered round are given in Table 3.

Table 1. Catches of bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus L.) in Norwegian coastal waters in 1984.

Week No	Date	Weight gutted round	Number	Landing port	Vessel
31	5.8	1882	8	Bulandet	Skogholm
32	12.8	5654	22	Brandasund	Toftøysund
33	15.8	10970	40	Tølavåg	Saltskåren
33	15.8	12750	46	Tølavåg	Nystrand
33	15.8	9231	37	Brandasund	Havdrøn
33	15.8	5030	19	Brandasund	Bådåvik
33	15.8	20971	88	Brandasund	Plarex
33	15.8	16522	47	Storebø	Talbor
33	16.8	28498	111	Storebø	Toftøysund
34	21.8	5114	21	Storebø	Bådåvik
34	22.8	21400	62		
34	23.8	15007	11	Storebø	Plarex
34	23.8	10868	60	Brandasund	Hølmefjord
34	24.8	17033	44	Brandasund	Bådåvik
34	24.8	12964	68	Brandasund	Plarex
34	24.8	12964	49	Storebø	Nystrand
44	5.11	288 <sup>x</sup>	1	Bergen	Ordnat
		156260	614		
		41587	120		
Total round W		241600 kg	734	(Round W = 1.28 Guttød W)	

x) This single specimen was caught during other purse seine fishery in the Shetland area.

Table 2. Weight frequency distribution of gutted fish (less head, intestines and fins) per week and total in number and percent, 1984.

Week:	31	32	33	34	44	Total	
w'	n	n	n	n	n	n	%
145-449	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.2
150-154	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
155-159	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
160-164	-	-	1	1	-	2	0.3
165-169	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.2
170-174	-	-	1	-	-	1	0.2
175-179	-	-	3	6	-	9	1.5
180-184	-	-	8	7	-	15	2.4
185-189	-	-	4	6	-	10	1.6
190-194	-	-	1	5	-	6	1.0
195-199	-	2	3	5	-	10	1.6
200-204	-	1	4	8	-	13	2.1
205-209	-	-	12	6	-	18	2.9
210-214	1	-	9	4	-	14	2.3
215-219	-	3	14	5	-	22	3.6
220-224	1	-	11	14	-	26	4.2
225-229	1	-	12	5	-	18	2.9
230-234	-	-	12	7	-	19	3.1
235-239	2	1	12	13	-	28	4.6
240-244	1	4	26	7	-	38	6.2
245-249	1	1	13	6	-	21	3.4
250-254	1	-	9	8	-	18	2.9
255-259	-	1	25	16	-	42	6.8
260-264	-	-	21	12	-	33	5.4
265-269	-	-	14	9	-	23	3.7
270-274	-	-	12	13	-	25	4.1
275-279	-	4	17	10	-	31	5.0
280-284	-	1	22	14	-	37	6.0
285-289	-	-	12	10	1	23	3.7
290-294	-	-	13	7	-	20	3.3
295-299	-	-	13	10	-	24	3.9
300-304	-	1	11	8	-	20	3.3
305-309	-	-	5	2	-	7	1.1
310-314	-	-	4	2	-	6	1.0
315-319	-	1	1	5	-	7	1.1
320-324	-	-	3	2	-	5	0.8
325-329	-	-	2	1	-	3	0.5
330-334	-	-	3	-	-	3	0.5
335-339	-	-	1	3	-	4	0.7
340-344	-	-	2	1	-	3	0.5
345-349	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
350-354	-	-	1	-	-	1	0.2
355-359	-	-	1	-	-	1	0.2
360-364	-	-	1	1	-	2	0.3
365-269	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
370-374	-	-	2	-	-	2	0.3
375-379	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
380-284	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
385-389	-	1	-	-	-	1	0.2
.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
440-444	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.2
Total w'	1882	5654	87450	60986	288	156260	100
n	8	22	341	242	1	614	
Mean W'	235	257	256	251	288	254	

Table 3. Weight frequency distribution of round fish per week and total in number and percent, 1984.

Week:	33	34	Total	
W	n	n	n	%
225-229	-	1	1	0.8
230-234	-	1	1	0.8
235-239	-	-	-	-
240-244	-	2	2	1.7
245-249	-	-	-	-
250-254	1	-	-	0.8
255-259	-	-	-	-
260-264	-	1	1	0.8
265-269	-	-	-	-
270-274	1	3	4	3.3
275-279	1	1	2	1.7
280-284	1	-	1	0.8
285-289	1	3	4	3.3
290-294	-	2	2	1.7
295-299	1	2	3	2.5
300-304	1	2	3	2.5
305-309	-	-	-	-
310-314	3	3	6	5.0
315-319	2	2	4	3.3
320-324	2	2	4	3.3
325-329	2	1	3	2.5
330-334	3	5	8	6.7
335-339	3	2	5	4.2
340-344	-	5	5	4.2
345-349	2	-	2	1.7
350-354	3	3	6	5.0
355-359	-	4	4	3.3
360-364	3	3	6	5.0
365-369	3	2	5	4.2
370-374	-	5	5	4.2
375-379	-	2	2	1.7
380-384	2	1	3	2.5
385-389	1	1	2	1.7
390-394	2	1	3	2.5
395-399	1	1	2	1.7
400-404	1	4	5	4.2
405-409	2	-	2	1.7
410-414	-	-	-	-
415-419	-	-	-	-
420-424	-	2	2	1.7
425-429	1	-	1	0.8
430-434	1	2	3	2.5
435-439	1	2	3	2.5
440-444	1	1	2	1.7
445-449	-	-	-	-
450-454	-	-	-	-
455-459	1	-	1	0.8
.....	-	-	-	-
490-494	-	1	1	0.8
Total W	16522	25065	41587	100
n	47	73	120	
Mean W	352	343	347	

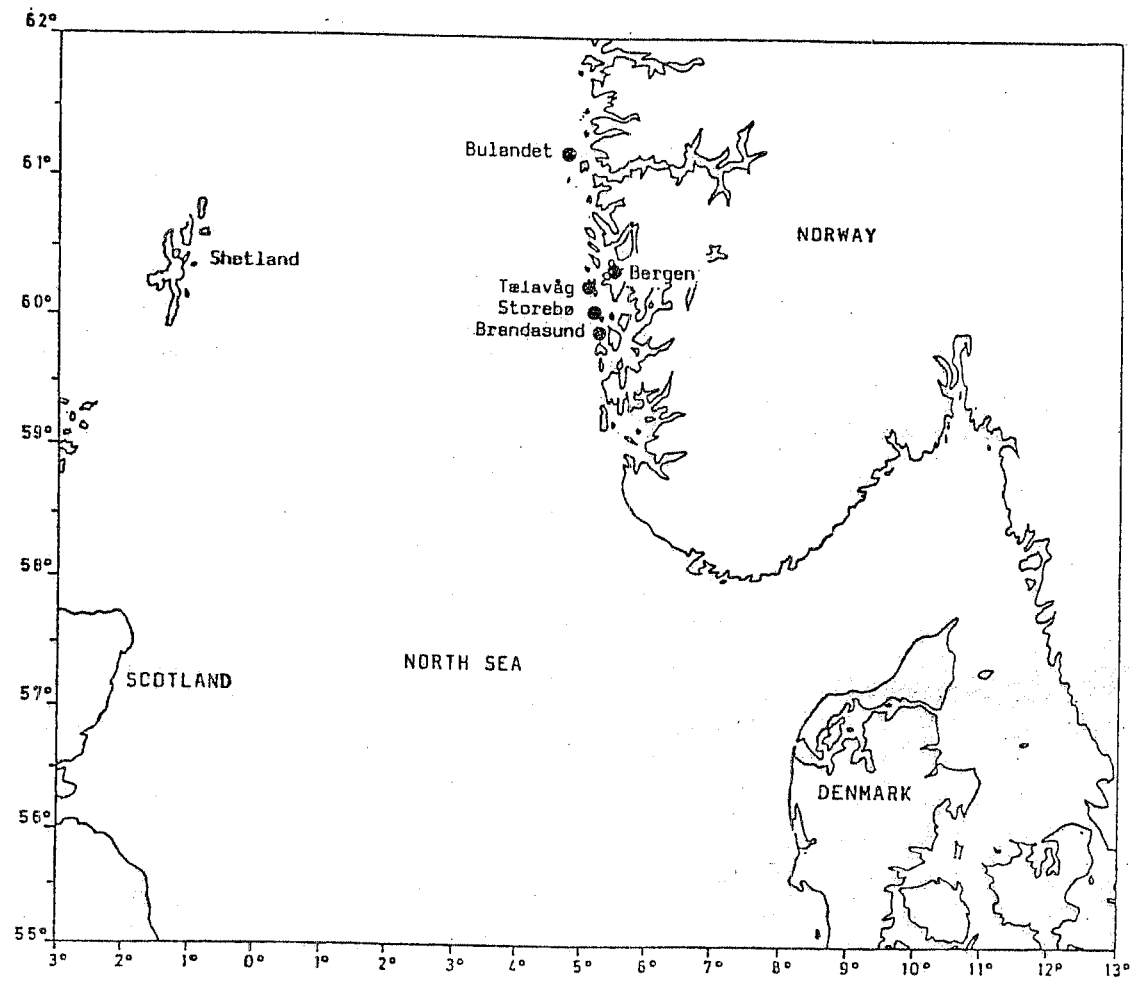


Figure 1. Ports on the west coast of Norway where bluefin tuna were landed during the 1984 season.