



## Coastal Conservation Association Of New Hampshire

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Pat,

The Board of Directors of CCA NH recently considered the public position that CCA National has taken regarding the need for a CITIES listing for bluefin tuna. After considerable conversation and debate, a clear majority of the board (12 to 7) supported the following motion: **CCA NH requests CCA National to reconsider supporting the CITIES listing of bluefin tuna at this time, in order to allow for the implementation and enforcement of the recently approved ICCAT quotas.**

Given the recent movement by ICCAT in reducing quotas, we think it prudent to wait, monitor the results and ICCAT's future actions in 2010, and not advocate for a CITIES listing. The CCA NH board weighed both the socio-economic issues and the health of the resource in coming to this conclusion. The majority felt that a listing would not accelerate a recovery of bluefin tuna.

The obvious, contrary position that we have taken raises an equally important matter regarding state and national positions. **It is one of process.** The present manner in which our national organization arrives at any given position is **not** perceived by us to be a truly inclusive process. Stands on any issue, and especially fishery's policies, taken at national meetings do not always allow state and local chapters to adequately discuss, and have meaningful input prior to the vote. The National organization must make the effort to provide the time and information necessary for the local and state chapters to form an opinion. Providing information, pro and con, on issues unfamiliar to a particular region would be a great benefit. Seriously considering our point of view is important. Knowing the national meeting agendas well in advance (90 days) and having the ability to include items would be beneficial. One state, one vote, has a personal appeal. A truly inclusive process is essential in any organization if members are to feel a sense of ownership.

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### DEDICATED TO CONSERVING NEW HAMPSHIRE'S MARINE RESOURCES

*The Coastal Conservation Association of NH ("CCA NH") is an unincorporated state chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association ("CCA"), which currently has over 96,000 members in seventeen states. CCA is a nonprofit, public charity corporation that is qualified under IRC §501(c)(3).*

*Donations to CCA NH are tax deductible under IRC §170.*