

## Tuna Essentials:

# 2. Albacore Tuna

(*Thunnus alalunga*)

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

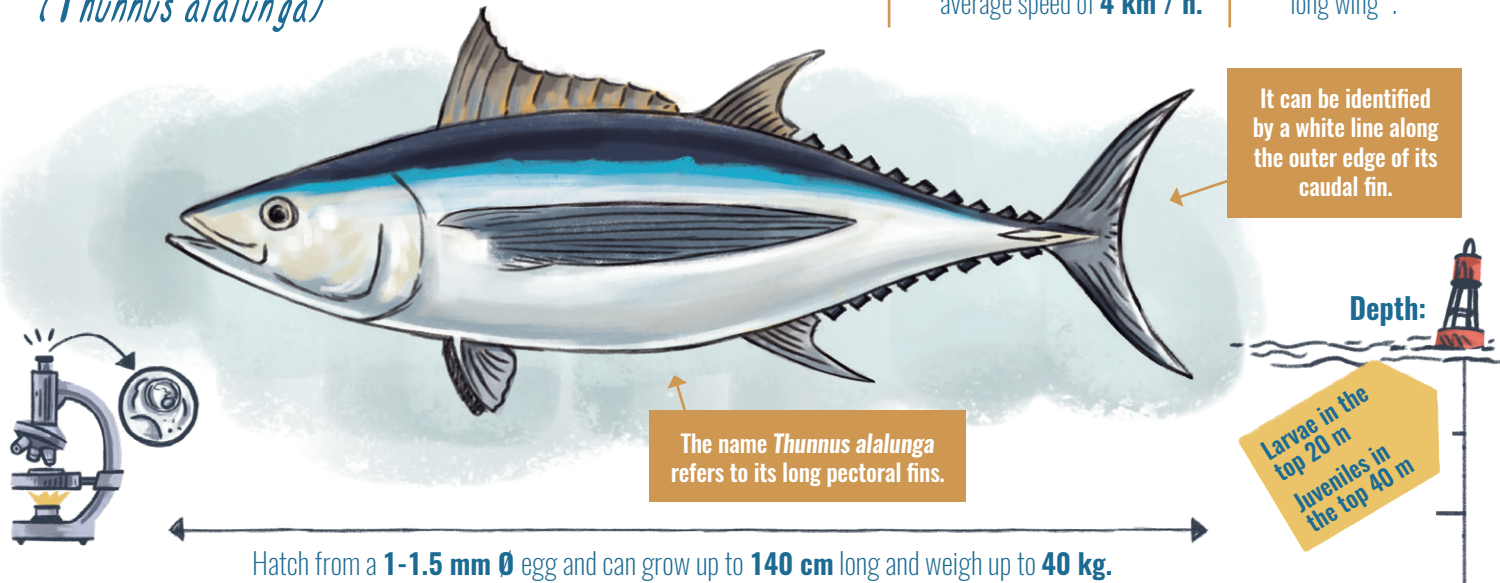
➤ **Life span:** up to **15 years**.

➤ **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".



## 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

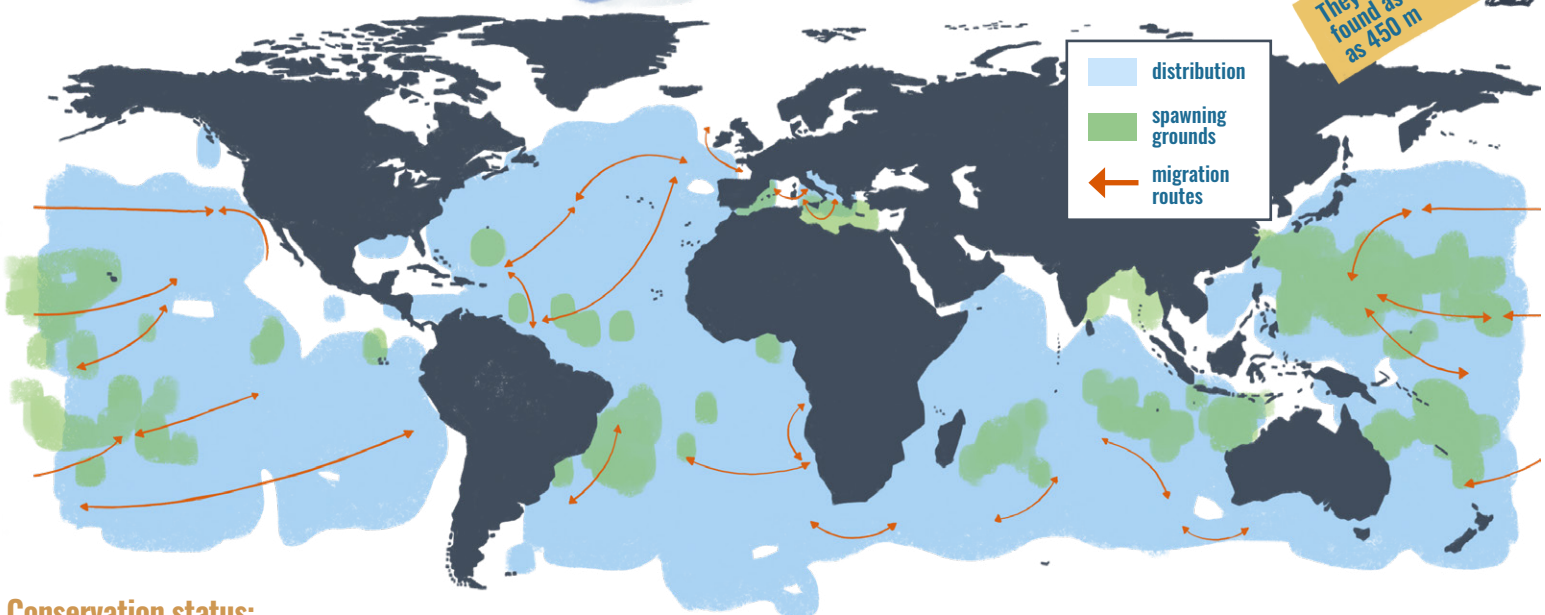


**Juveniles and adults:** krill, squid, and small fish

**Main predators:** other tuna species and some sharks



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.