

Pacific Tuna fish

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In news- Because of global conservation initiatives, Bluefin Pacific tuna stock will recover sooner than projected.

About Bluefin Pacific tuna-

- **The Pacific bluefin tuna is a predatory species of tuna found widely in the northern Pacific Ocean, but it is migratory** and also recorded as a visitor to the south Pacific.
- **Pacific bluefin tuna have black or dark blue dorsal sides, with a greyish-green iridescence.**
- Their **bellies are dotted with silver or grey spots or bands.**
- They have a **series of small yellow fins, edged in black,** running from the second dorsal fin to the tail.
- A **distinguishing characteristic** of Pacific bluefin tuna is that the tips of the pectoral fins do not reach the front of the second dorsal fin.
- They have **relatively small eyes compared to other species of tuna.**
- **They reach maturity at approximately 5 years of age and can live up to 26 years,** although the average lifespan is about 15 years.
- Adults are approximately 1.5 to 3 meters long and weigh about 60 to 450 kilograms.
- They **mainly eat squids and fish, such as sardines and anchovies,** saury, herring, pompanos, mackerel, hake, other tunas, and occasionally red crabs and krill.
- The **bluefin biomass, which is the parameter used to assess the stock of the fish, is set to cross the second rebuilding target later in 2022** much ahead of the predicted timeline. It has already met the first target which was set for 2024.
- **The biomass had shrunk to a sliver of its potential**

unfished biomass (another major assessment metric for the species) through the late 1990s and 2000s due to overfishing.