



# **A PROPOSAL TO CREATE A SPAWNING PROTECTED AREA IN THE NORTHEAST EEZ OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Saving the Juvenile Tunas**  
*Greenleaf Hotel, General Santos City*  
*September 10, 2013*

# Outline of Presentation

Background on why this species concerns us

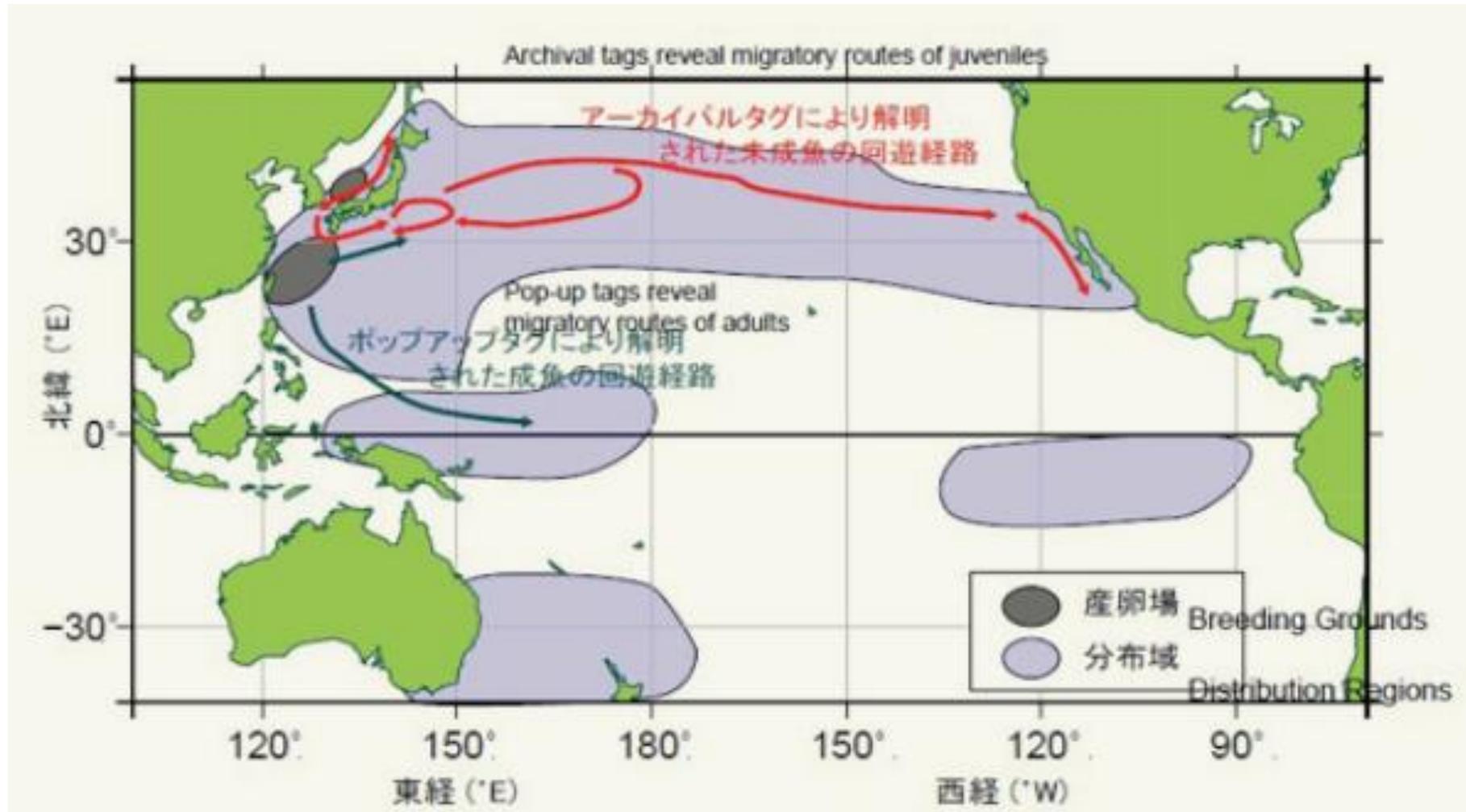
Why Protect this species

What are our benefits?

How will the world benefit?

Some thoughts on how to proceed

# A Proposal: Declaration of Protected Area for the North Pacific Bluefin Tuna



# Why Protect this Species?

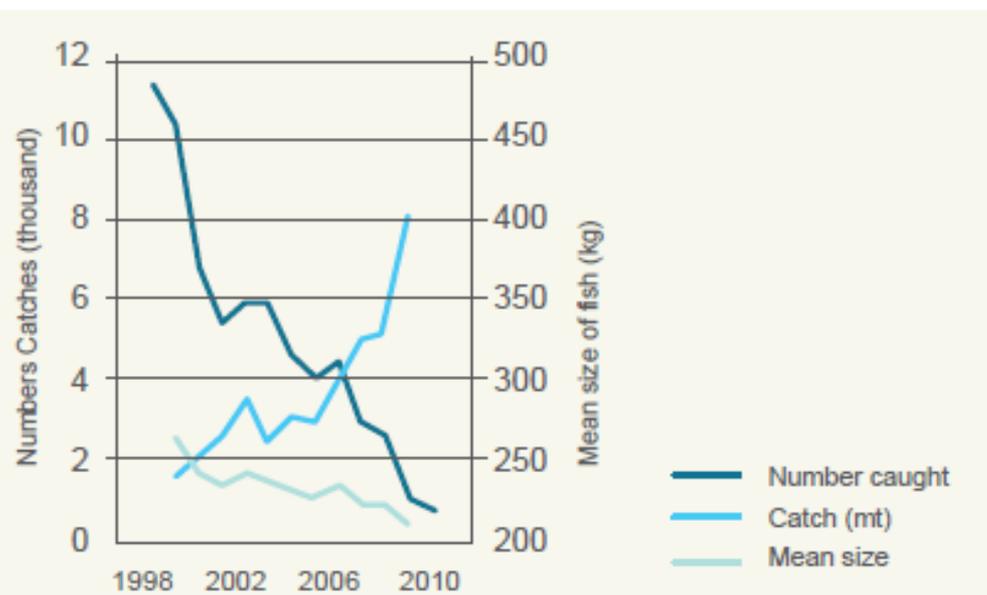
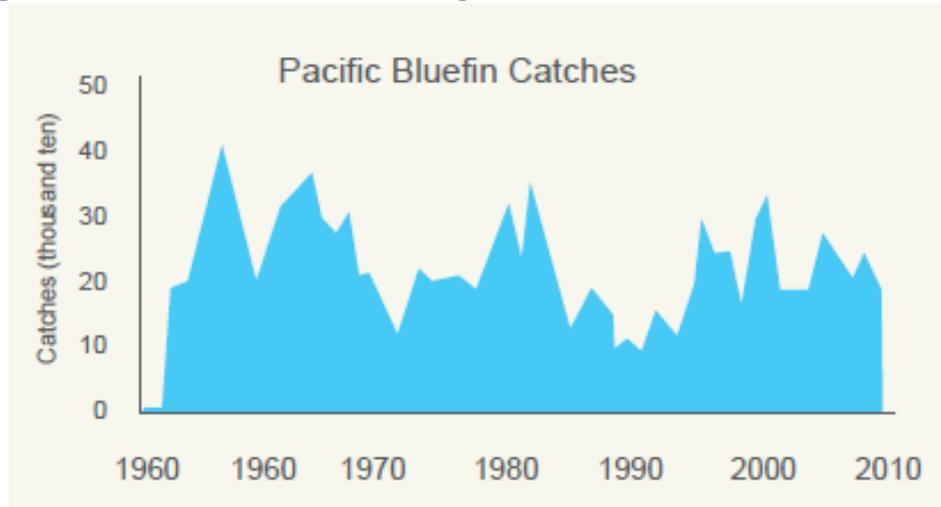


Figure 2b. Catches of *Thunnus orientalis* from Taiwan market Statistics.

# What are the benefits from this protection?

- Reduce if not eliminate IUU fishing particularly by our northern neighbors;
- Providing legal protection will improve relationships with Japan, Taiwan and PR China who are the main beneficiaries;
- Protecting the Northern Bluefin tuna by closing this to fishing will also benefit other resources present in the area, particularly the juvenile tunas;
- Lastly, will provide the Philippines with a good opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to tuna conservation globally.

## Why this is doable:

- We have no stakeholders targeting the NP Bluefin
- Atty Tabios represents the Philippines as vice Chair Northern Committee and is a strong advocate for protection.
- There is the policy statement by BFAR: explicitly stated before the WCPFC9 is that Philippines will provide “safe passage” of NPBT found in NE Philippine EEZ.

## **Next Steps:**

- Solicit support from stakeholders and volunteers
- Establish a forum or venue to start discussion and finding solutions.
- Get reps from private, government, academe and NGO sectors to form a small group and start with the discussions;

## **For this afternoon:**

- Who are willing to support this action?
- What are the next steps in the next 3, 6, months in terms of concrete activities? Call to action? Petition?
- Those interested, are you willing to be part of the group?

**Thank you for your kind attention**