



Marine Resources

OREGON ALBACORE TUNA LANDING LICENSE



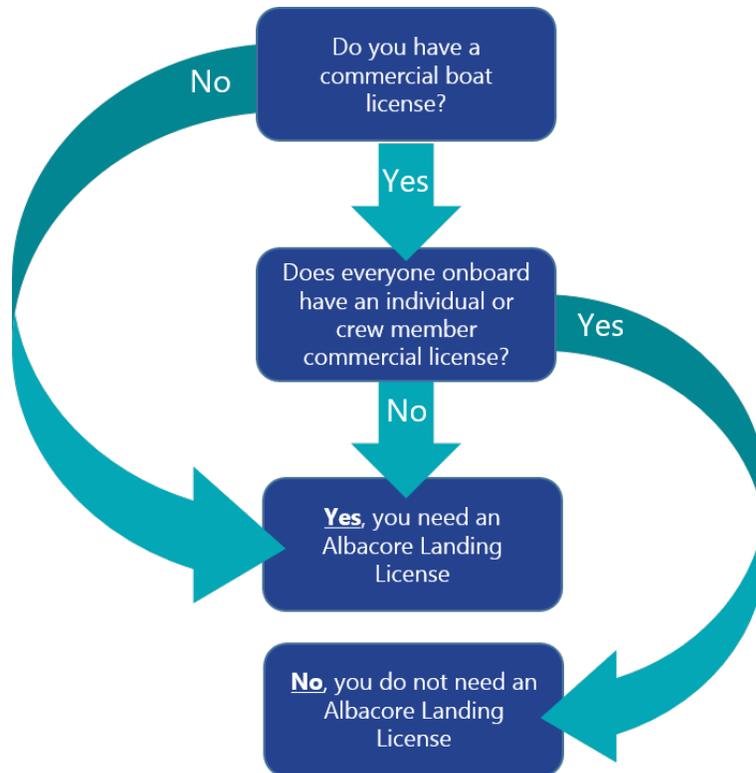
Frequently Asked Questions



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s “Albacore Tuna Landing License” is a special license that allows a boat to commercially land albacore tuna only. There are two kinds of Albacore Tuna Landing license. An Unlicensed Vessel Albacore Tuna Landing License acts in lieu of all other Oregon commercial fishing licenses for a boat landing only albacore, therefore a vessel is not required to have an Oregon commercial boat license or crew licenses. A Commercially Licensed Vessel Albacore Tuna Landing License is for those boats with a state commercial license landing only albacore and will act in lieu of everyone on board having Oregon crew licenses. The “Albacore Tuna Landing License” does not eliminate other federal permit and logbook requirements. Any vessel fishing under an “Albacore Tuna Landing License” is a commercial fishing vessel and must also meet all commercial vessel requirements as prescribed by the US Coast Guard.

Some common questions about the Albacore Tuna Landing License include:

Do I need to purchase an “Albacore Tuna Landing License” to only land albacore tuna in Oregon?





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Frequently Asked Questions



Can I still sport fish on my boat if I purchase this license?

Oregon law permits a commercial vessel to be used for sport fishing, but only on separate trips. You cannot sport fish and commercial fish on the same trip from port, and must determine your trip type prior to leaving port. When recreationally fishing, you also need to use only sport fishing gear, and must have all required sport angling licenses and tags for the fishing that you will be doing.

If I only catch a few albacore on a commercial trip, can I take them home for personal use?

All fish caught commercially are required to be sold to a licensed commercial fish dealer, and recorded on a fish receiving ticket. If you want to keep some of your catch, Oregon law allows for a “buyback” of your catch from the dealer. You will likely have to reimburse the dealer for the tax on the landing, and the fish dealer may charge an additional handling fee.

Is the “Albacore Tuna Landing License” the only license needed?

No, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has additional permitting requirements for boats commercially fishing for any Highly Migratory Species (HMS) including albacore tuna. Boats fishing for HMS must have an appropriate NMFS HMS permit, logbook (kept up to date and submitted per NMFS rules), and provide for observer ride-alongs on trips. Applications for the HMS permit are available online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/pacific-highly-migratory-species-permit>, or call NMFS at (562)980-4238 to request a copy.

Can I sell my albacore catch to the public?

Separate licenses and regulations are required for commercial boats selling to the public. Contact ODFW licensing at (503)947-6177 for details. It is illegal to sell any sport caught fish.



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