



The International Challenge of Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

IUU fishing, which occurs in both developed and developing parts of the world, takes different forms – including these:

- Fishing in closed areas
- Fishing in areas without regulations
- Fishing without permission
- Fishing with prohibited gear
- Catches of prohibited species or undersized fish
- Unreported or under-reported catches
- Exceeding fishing quotas

According to some estimates,

IUU FISHING

activities are a

more than \$36 Billion*

COST

to the global ECONOMY 

On both a local and global scale,

IUU damages ecosystems and economies



Many organizations collaborate to combat IUU, including vessels, governments, NGOs (like ISSF), regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), and fishing processing & retail companies.

ISSF is working to wipe out IUU fishing with a multi-pronged approach



Tuna Companies Worldwide that process or market tuna commit to conform to and be audited on ISSF Conservation Measures, including measures on traceability, data collection and transshipment, among many others that deter IUU activities.



Tuna Fishing Vessels Worldwide can signal their commitment to fishing best practices by registering on the ISSF ProActive Vessel Register (PVR) and the Vessels in Other Sustainability Initiatives (VOSI) list. ISSF also maintains the ISSF IMO and UVI Databases.



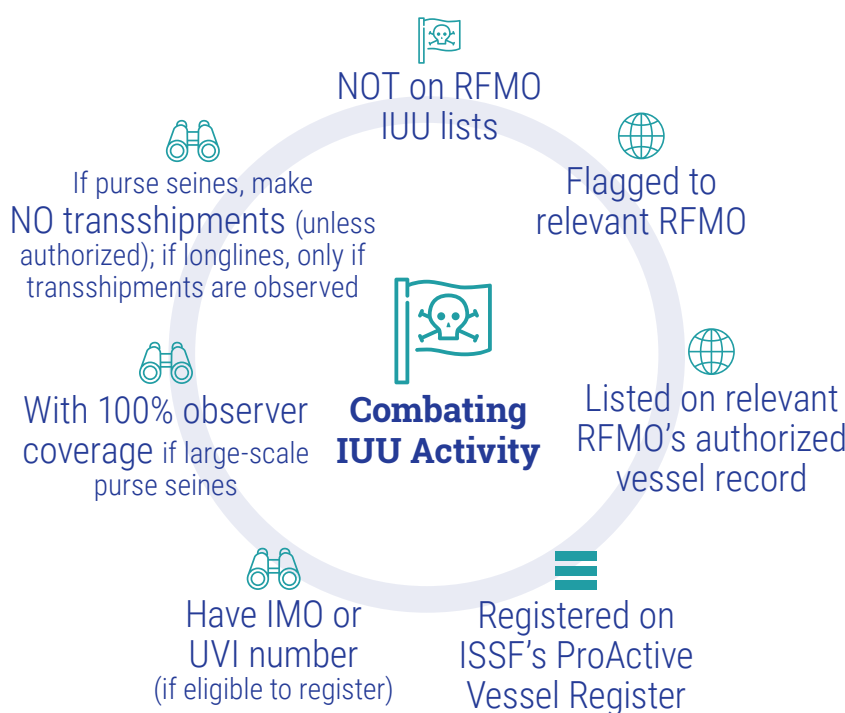
ISSF scientific research and advocacy guides outreach to **Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)** and governments.

Results:

Since 2011, an **85% increase** in the number of large-scale purse seiners with International Maritime Organization (IMO) numbers – a type of Universal Vessel Identifier (UVI) – improving vessel tracking and regulation enforcement.



Requiring transactions ONLY with vessels:



PROACTIVE VESSEL REGISTER (PVR)

PVR uses third-party auditing to validate whether vessels are following science-based, sustainable tuna fishing practices



VESSELS IN OTHER SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES (VOSI) LIST

The VOSI list is a verified resource for stakeholders who want to understand which tuna vessels have made public sustainability commitments beyond those reflected on the PVR



UVI AND IMO DATABASES

The UVI and IMO databases track permanent, unique vessel identifiers for ships



Technical advice on best practices for monitoring, control and surveillance in tuna fisheries – for example, electronic monitoring system (EMS) pilot projects and workshops



Recommendations on effective RFMO governance, science-based decision-making, data collection, monitoring, enforcement and compliance mechanisms



Scientific research reports, including on best practices for managing vessel records, supply vessels, vessel monitoring systems (VMS), and observer programs

issf-foundation.org/iuu

Sources:

- * <https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/illegal-fishing>
- <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/fact-sheets/2013/08/27/faq-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing>
- <https://www.seafoodwatch.org/ocean-issues/wild-seafood/illegal-fishing>
- <https://www.fao.org/fishery/iuu-fishing/en>
- <https://www.issf-foundation.org/annual-report>

ISSF INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION

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