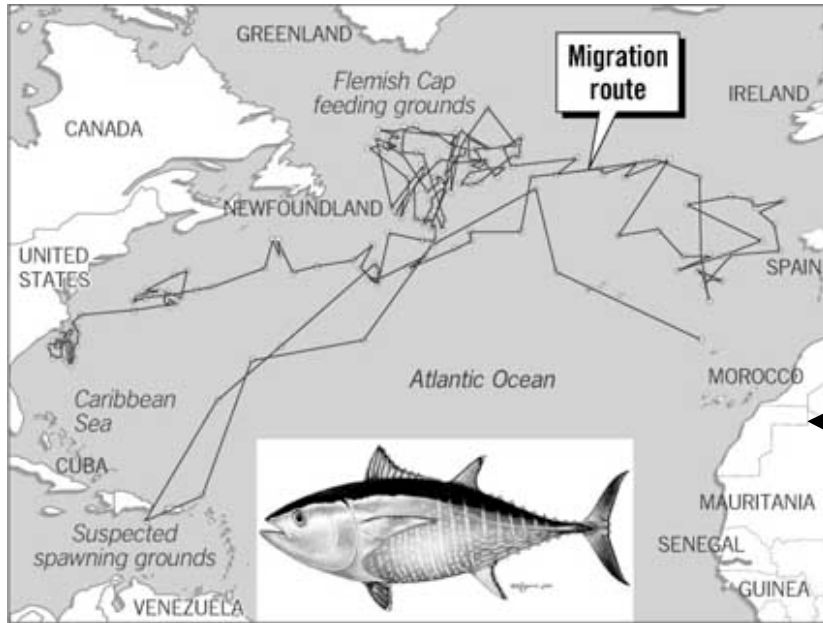


# Southern Bluefin Tuna Tagging



*The migration route of one Bluefin Tuna over a two year period.*

*Source: Stanford University*



*Tagging a Southern Bluefin Tuna*

Since May 2005 the University of Colorado's CCAR group has been supporting a Bluefin Tuna tagging program run by the New Zealand Government's Ministry of Fisheries by providing a custom, high resolution subset of the CCAR mesoscale SSH data product. The near real-time altimeter data aids the shipboard tag and release program in locating Bluefin Tuna habitats. This program is part of New Zealand's international obligation as a member nation of the Convention for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). The "archival" tags are placed inside the belly of the captured fish through a small incision. While active, the computer chip records the fish's global movement, water temperature range, depth of water traveled in and, when recaptured, its growth rate. The tags are satellite monitored and will help to provide a much better picture of the behavior and migration patterns of these fish. As the tagging program moves to new areas CCAR will update the regional data subset. Altimeter data will also be used throughout the study to better understand the relationship between sea surface height and the distribution and migration of the Bluefin Tuna. For more information see; <http://www.ccsbt.org/docs/research.html>, <http://www.tunaresearch.org/tagagiant/technology.html>, <http://www.marine.csiro.au/LeafletsFolder/31sbt/31sbt.html>