Tuna Fishers & Sustainability

ISSF’s ProActive Vessel Register connects responsible fishers and seafood companies. Fishing vessels can register on the ProActive Vessel Register, or PVR, to show how they are following practices that support sustainable tuna fisheries.

The PVR is voluntary and open to vessels of all gear types. There is no cost to join, but vessels must apply and provide specific vessel information to be listed.

What Is the ProActive Vessel Register?

The PVR is a public Web database that tracks detailed vessel information, including with respect to certain fishing activities. MRAG Americas, a third party, independent auditor, audits all vessels that join the PVR.

How Do Seafood Buyers Use the PVR?

Seafood buyers use the PVR to find responsible fishers. Seafood buyers can search the PVR by vessel name, location, fishing method, and other information.

Many tuna companies and food retailers prefer to buy from vessels that follow more sustainable practices. Their customers want to buy sustainable seafood, too.

Many tuna companies are also ISSF participating companies. These companies publicly elect to source a portion of their tuna products from vessels that are on the PVR.

PVR registration is separate from government vessel registration. Make sure that your vessel has government registration, as required.

Vessels participating in Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) also are encouraged to join the PVR. PVR registration can help fisheries to meet FIP goals.
How Does ISSF Help Vessels?

For nearly 10 years, ISSF has been sharing information with fishers about sustainable fishing. We learn a lot from fishers, too. In addition to the PVR, we have workshops, guidebooks, videos, and bycatch-handling techniques for vessel crew and owners.

What Vessel Information Does the PVR Show?

Vessels that join the PVR commit to provide regular, accurate information about specific activities. This information is displayed publicly in the PVR.

- The PVR shows facts about each vessel, such as vessel flag.
- Based on audit results, it also shows if the vessel is following best practices for sustainable fishing, such as having a shark-finning prohibition and using non-entangling FADs.

To view the PVR, go to iss-foundation.org/PVR

Anyone can view the PVR.

How Do Vessels Join the PVR?

If your vessel is interested in joining the ProActive Vessel Register, fill out an application form. Applications are reviewed by ISSF, and eligible vessels will be listed.

To start the application process, or to ask questions about the PVR, go to the ProActive Vessel Register page or contact:

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