

[Jim Prevor](#) on [March 07, 2010 at 03:41 PM](#)

I think your note on the tuna issue is incomplete. The link you give for FLOTT states:

*"The fishing grounds off the Northern shores of Sicily have long been a source of some of the finest Italian seafood. One of the biggest prizes of all is the Bluefin Tuna and over the centuries, Sicily has seen some of the best catches in the world."*

It would seem at least worth a note that such authorities as the Seafood Watch campaign of the Monterey Bay Aquarium say that consumers should avoid buying bluefin tuna:

*"Bluefin tuna is prized by sushi chefs and the high demand for this fish has taken its toll in the Atlantic, Pacific and Southern Oceans. It's slow to mature and many fisheries are catching young bluefin tuna that haven't had a chance to reproduce.*

*Bluefin tuna is caught in the Pacific, Atlantic, Southern Oceans and Mediterranean. It's highly migratory and frequently crosses international boundaries during its yearly migration. Numerous nations, including the U.S. and Japan, participate in international management bodies that work to maintain global tuna populations. Unfortunately, these programs are proving ineffective.*

*Bluefin is caught with a variety of gear, including purse seines and longlines. Longlines are most common and result in large bycatch, including threatened or endangered species such as sea turtles, sharks and seabirds. Since there are no international laws to reduce bycatch, these longline fleets are contributing heavily to the long-term decline of some of these species.*

*Bluefin tuna ranching, where small bluefin tuna are brought from the wild and fattened in open net pens, is increasingly common. However, the depleted state of all bluefin populations combined with the large quantities of fish that must be used to feed these tuna is a serious conservation concern.*

*Consumers should 'Avoid' all bluefin tuna."*

Obviously, if, in fact, the tuna is the same variety, packed in the same way, it will have similar taste. If you really prefer FLOTT, you should, at least, investigate why you might prefer that tuna and see if other concerns — in this case, species survival concerns — might trump your flavor preference.