

Joint Maritime Information Center

JMIC Advisory Note

JMIC# 014

SEASONAL FISHING IN GOA, BAM AND THE RED SEA

9 December 2025

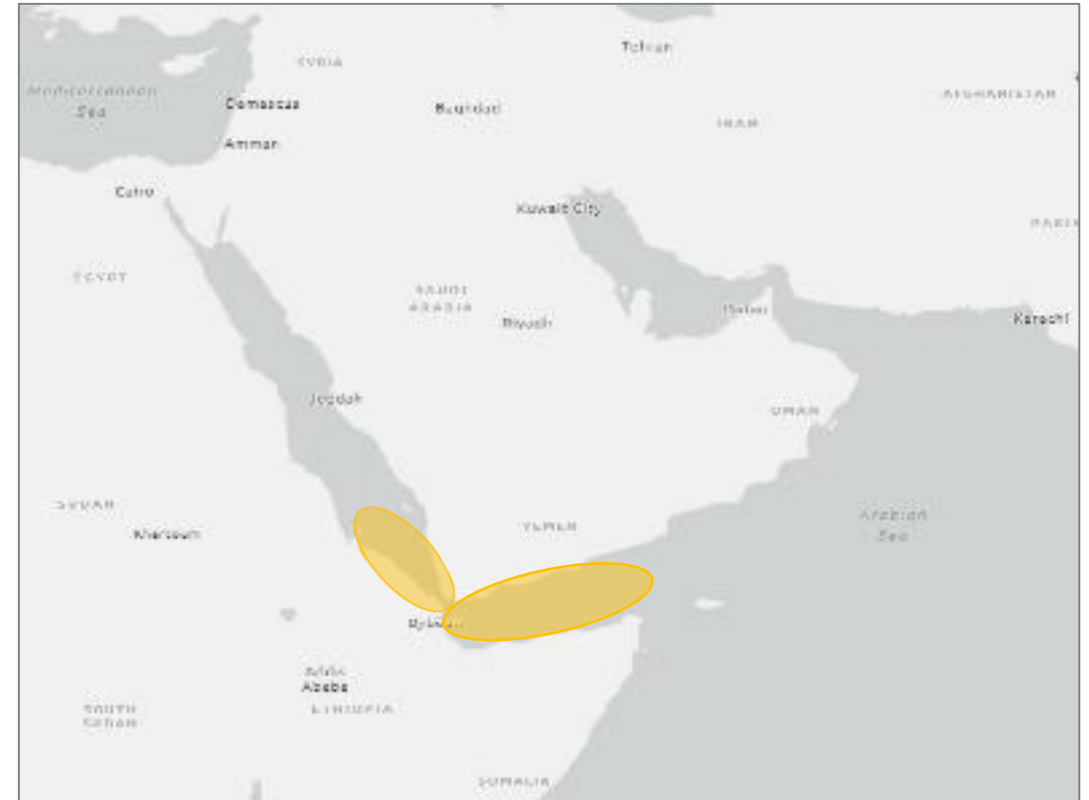
Current situation:

Groups of skiffs operating together may be observed in vicinity of the Bab el Mandeb and engaged in fishing activity.

The small craft tuna fishing areas along the Yemeni coast and near the Bab el Mandeb are the 5th largest Yellowfin tuna fishery in the World. Activity is heavily influenced by monsoon cycles.

In the Gulf of Aden area, which includes the waters near the Bab el Mandeb strait, the most productive fishing season for tuna generally occurs from November to March.

Some fisherman operating from skiffs follow larger ships as their wake stirs up the water, bringing small fish to the surface and attracting tuna. Though some of these methods may appear suspicious, ships and security providers should consider these activities as normal pattern of life.



Sources: UPDATES ON YELLOWFIN TUNA CATCH LIMITS FOR 2023 AND 2024, UN/IOTC Nov. 2023



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JMIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Watch-standers and security providers should remain aware of small craft in vicinity of their vessels which may be engaged in legitimate passage/fishing and not piracy related activity. Also consider that many seafarers in small craft may be armed for their own protection.

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