Science, Service, Stewardship

NOAA Fisheries
Office of International Affairs

Dr. Rebecca Lent

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International Responsibilities

Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA)

Marine Mammal Protection Act

Endangered Species Act

Implementing legislation for treaties and agreements:

- e.g., Pacific Salmon Treaty Act, Atlantic Tuna Convention Act, International Dolphin Conservation Program Act, and more

Bilateral agreements with other governments (Japan, Russia and others)

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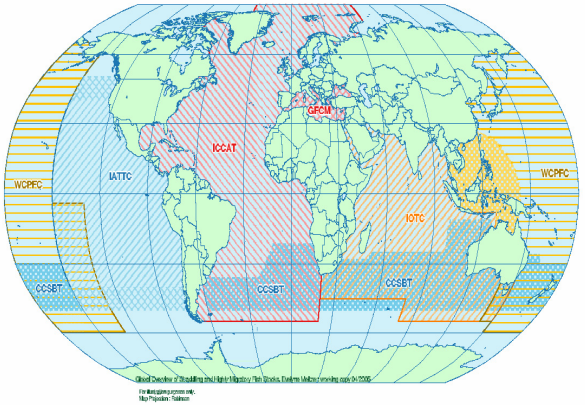
International Responsibilities

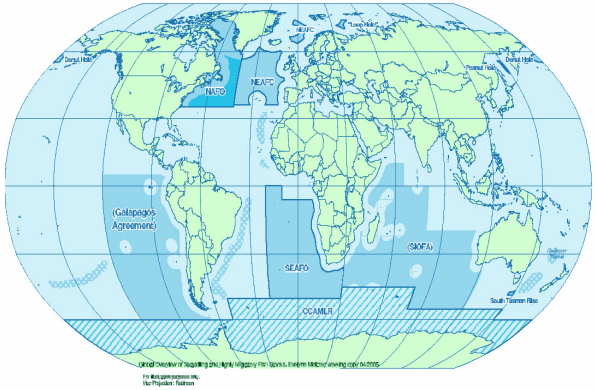
Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs)

Summary tables provide:

- —Implementing legislation
- —Species and parties
- —Council(s) and relevant FMPs
- —Top U.S. objectives



Global Overview - Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Tuna and Tuna-Like)



Global Overview - Straddling Fish Stocks

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International Bodies and Agreements

International activity for living marine resource conservation also occurs in many other bodies:

—CCAMLR, IWC, CBD, CITES, SPREP, APEC

Other global organizations with a role in fisheries:

—UN, FAO and OECD

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F/IA

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International Fisheries Affairs
Dean Swanson, Division Chief

- United Nations, FAO
- Asia Pacific Economic Conference
- IATTC, WCPFC
- Caribbean Convention
- CITES
- SPAW & SPREP
- Bering Sea Fisheries (Donut Hole)
- International Bycatch Reduction TF
- IUU & High Seas TF
- Driftnets
- NASCO
- Pacific Salmon Commission
- US-Mexico
- US-Iceland
- South Pacific RFMO

Trade and Marine Stewardship
Chris Rogers, Division Chief

- ICCAT
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
- World Trade Organizations
- OECD
- Free Trade Agreements
- Asia Pacific Economic Conference
- International Whaling Commission
- North Atlantic Fisheries Organization
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- High Seas Permits
- Foreign Fishing Permits
- Sea Turtles
- US-Canada
- US-Chile
- US-Vietnam

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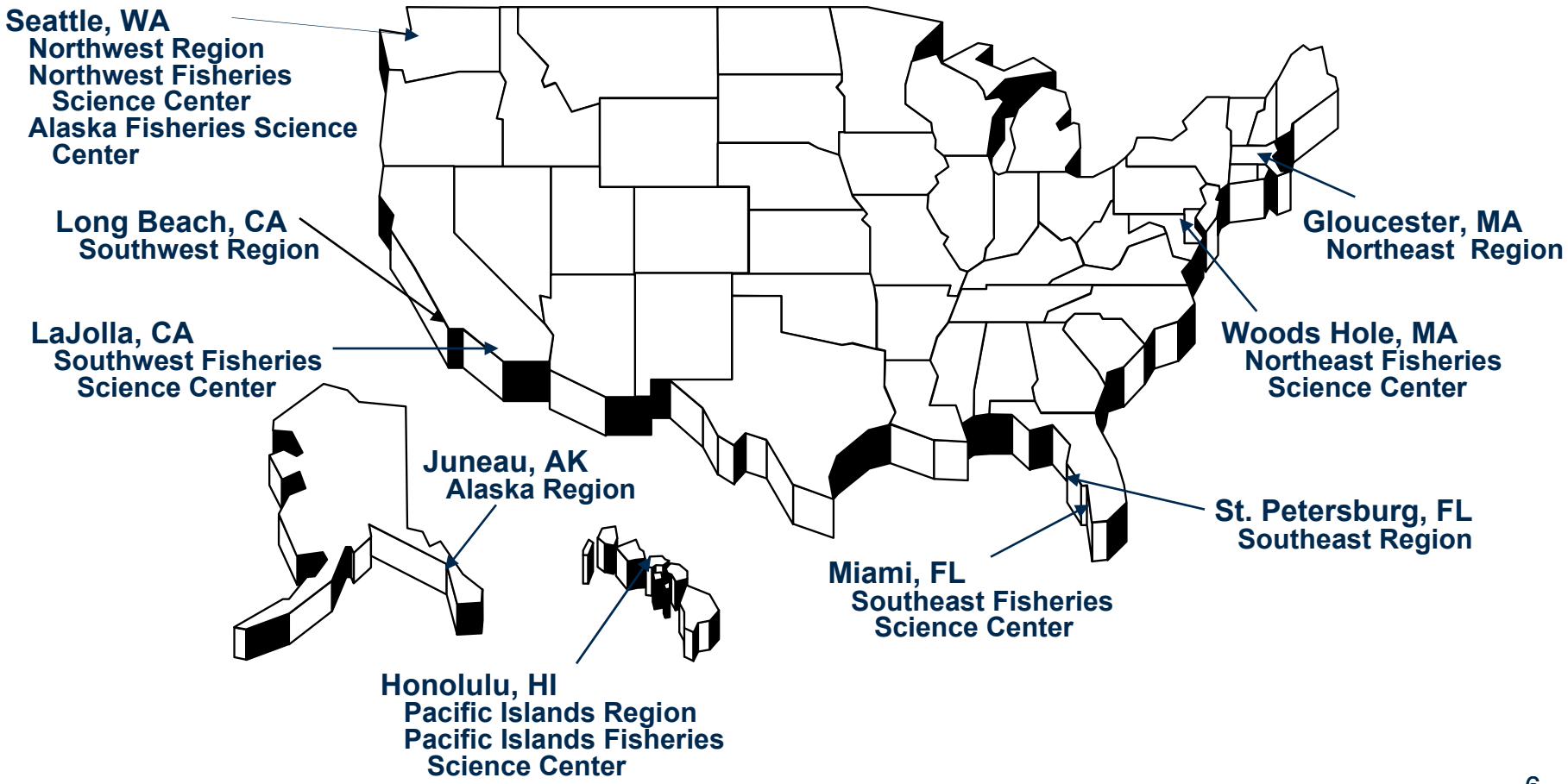
International Activities Outside of F/IA



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Role of the Councils

Provide representation on Advisory Committees

Provide recommendations for U.S. Commissioner appointments

Provide fisheries information, outreach

Assist in implementing provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act (MSRA)

Harmonize domestic and international regulations as appropriate

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Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act

Contains provisions designed to:

—Address international overfishing

—Combat illegal, unreported, or unregulated (IUU) fishing

—Reduce bycatch of protected living marine resources

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International Overfishing Requirements

International overfishing may be addressed under MSA section 304(i)

Revised National Standard 1 Guidelines will address MSRA overfishing requirements

NMFS proposed that internationally managed fisheries will not have ACLs

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International Overfishing Requirements

Within one year after Secretarial determination under MSA Section 304(i), appropriate Council must develop and submit recommendations for:

—Domestic regulations to address the relative impact of U.S. vessels on stock

—International actions to end overfishing and rebuild the affected stocks

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MSRA Biennial Report

First report submitted to Congress in January 2009

Report included:

- —Information on the status of international living marine resources
- —List of nations whose vessels have been identified as engaging in IUU fishing (France, Italy, Libya, Tunisia, Panama, China)
- —No nations identified for bycatch of protected living marine resources

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Addressing IUU Fishing and Bycatch

U.S. Commerce Secretary is required to *certify* whether corrective action has been taken to address IUU fishing or bycatch

Nations must be provided an opportunity for notice and comment

Identified nations will receive either "positive" or "negative" certification

Regulations to certify nations should be in place in 2010

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MSRA Certification Procedures

To grant a nation a *positive* certification, U.S. Commerce Secretary must determine if:

- —*For IUU fishing:* Nation has taken corrective action or the relevant international organization has implemented effective measures to address IUU fishing

- —*For bycatch*: Nation has adopted regulations comparable to the U.S. to address bycatch and established a management plan to collect data

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Effects of a *Negative* Certification

Deny entry of fishing vessels to U.S. ports

With exceptions, prohibit importations of certain fish or fish products from that country

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Other International MSRA Provisions

Promote improved monitoring and compliance of international fisheries

Seek to improve the effectiveness of RFMOs to address IUU fishing

Support efforts to build capacity in other countries for fisheries management and enforcement

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Other International MSRA Provisions

Implements two international fisheries agreements:

—Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention

—Pacific Hake/Whiting

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Summary

International fisheries issues continue to grow in significance

Councils play an important role in international fisheries management

MSRA presents challenges and opportunities for NMFS and Councils to work multilaterally to address IUU fishing, bycatch

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Questions?

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