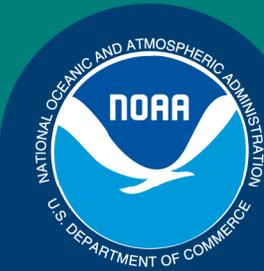


Science, Service, Stewardship



NOAA Fisheries Office of International Affairs

**Dr. Jean-Pierre Plé
Deputy Director**

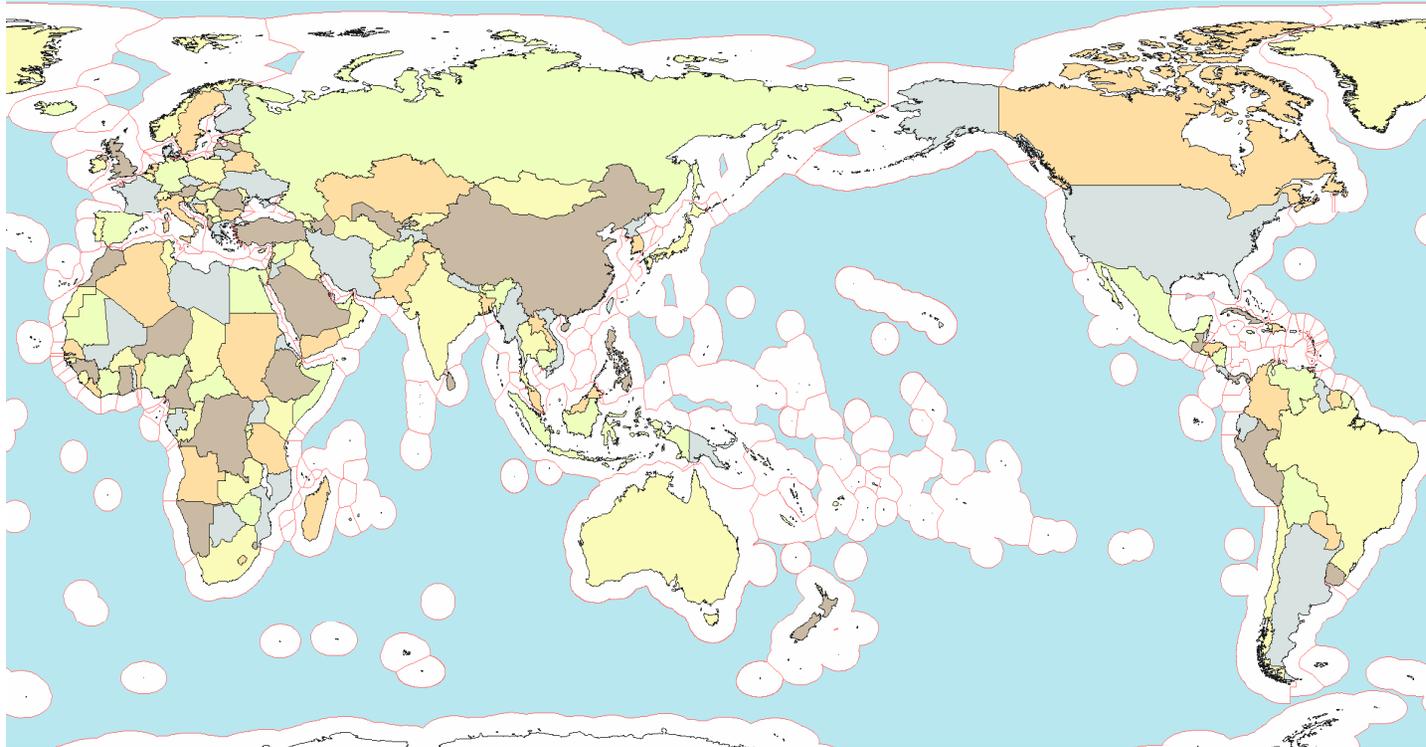


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Why Do We Care About International Living Marine Resource Conservation

- International law gives all nations the right to fish on the high seas, commensurate with a duty to cooperate

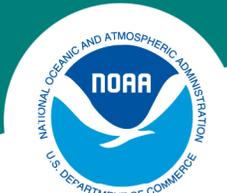




Why Do We Care About International Living Marine Resource Conservation

- Catches are down, Demand continues to increase





Why Do We Care About International Living Marine Resource Conservation

- Scarcity leads to competition and conflict

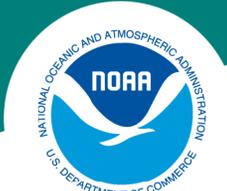




Why Do We Care About International Living Marine Resource Conservation

- Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing





Why Do We Care About International Living Marine Resource Conservation

- Trade and environment conflicts (Turtle/TED)





NOAA Fisheries' International Role

- Promote international collaboration
- Implement international provisions of the MSFCMA, MMPA, ESA, and other legislative authorities
- Represent the U.S. at regional fisheries management organizations and other international bodies, and secure equitable access for the United States to shared fish resources
- With ~85% of the U.S. seafood supply from imports (about \$10 Billion), responsibility to ensure the seafood is safe and not the result of illegal, unregulated or unreported fishing
- Support capacity building in developing countries



NMFS International Authorities – examples of key authorities

- Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act
- 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)



Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)

Councils currently involved in:

- Atlantic: NASCO, ICCAT, NAFO
- Pacific: PSC, IPHC, NPAFC, WCPFC, IATTC
- New RFMOs in the North and South Pacific

Summary tables provides:

- Implementing legislation
- Species managed
- Parties to the RFMO
- Council(s) and relevant FMPs
- Top U.S. objectives



International Role of the Councils

- Provide representation on Advisory Committees
- Provide recommendations for U.S. Commissioner appointments
- Provide fisheries information, outreach
- Assist the implementation of U.S. law
- Harmonize domestic and international regulations, as appropriate



Other International Bodies and Agreements - examples

- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
- Convention on Trade in Endangered Species
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
- International Whaling Commission



International Provisions of the 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



MSA IUU Fishing Identification Process

- Identify nations whose vessels engage in IUU fishing contrary to RFMO conservation and management measures and fishing activities where no RFMO exists
- Engage in consultations with nations to encourage corrective actions
- Certify nations in biennial report
- Negative certifications will result in denial of port privileges and trade sanctions may be imposed



MSA Actions – 2009 and 2011

2009

- Six nations identified for engaging in IUU fishing
- Two years of consultations and corrective actions led to positive certifications for all six countries

2011

- Six countries identified for engaging in IUU fishing
- Consultations now underway
- Certification decisions to be released in 2013 Report to Congress



Other International MSA Provisions

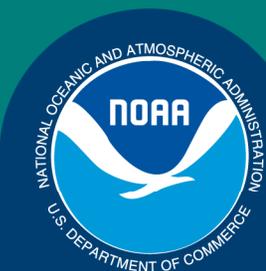
- Promote improved monitoring and compliance of international fisheries
- Seek to improve the effectiveness of RFMOs to address IUU fishing
- Support efforts to build capacity in other countries for fisheries management and enforcement



Summary

- International fisheries issues continue to grow in significance
- Councils play an important role in international fisheries management
- MSA 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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