



NOAA
FISHERIES

Office of
International
Affairs

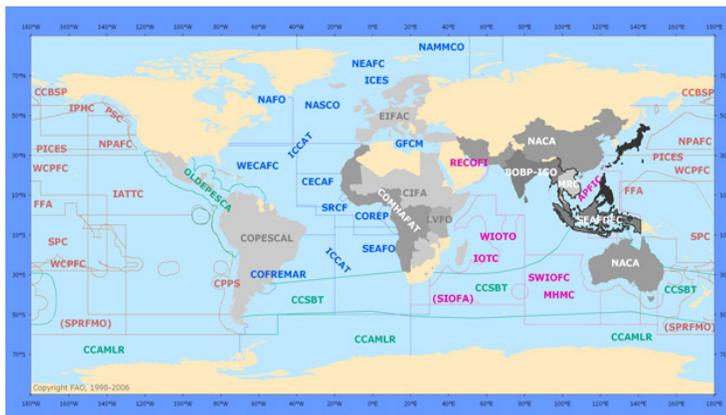
International Issues - New Council Member Training

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October 24, 2012

Our Message...

- We engage internationally to achieve NMFS' mission
- We cannot do it alone
- We seek to level the playing field
- IUU fishing; not in our ports



What Drives International Living Marine Resource Engagement

- International law gives all nations the right to fish on the high seas, commensurate with a duty to cooperate
- Catches are down, demand continues to increase
- Scarcity leads to competition and conflict
- Illegal, Unreported or Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
- Conservation of transboundary endangered species and marine mammals
- Global trade of seafood and use of trade measures

Overview of World's Fisheries

- Overall, worsening internationally
- Status of exploitation of the world's fish stocks:

	1974	1984	1994	2004	2009
Non-fully	39%	31%	30%	23%	13%
Fully	51%	52%	45%	52%	58%
Over	10%	18%	27%	25%	30%

- Among 7 principal tuna stocks:
 - 33% over-exploited
 - 37.5% fully exploited
 - 29% non-fully exploited

NOAA Fisheries' International Role

- Promote international collaboration
- Implement international provisions of U.S. law
- 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 ~91% of the U.S. seafood supply from imports (about \$31 Billion), responsibility to ensure the seafood is safe and not the result of IUU fishing
- Improve the stewardship capabilities of developing countries

Authorities Behind Our Engagement

- Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act
- High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection 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

Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)

- Councils currently involved in:
 - Atlantic: NASCO, ICCAT, NAFO
 - Pacific: PSC, IPHC, NPAFC, WCPFC, IATTC
 - Once U.S. becomes party and implementing legislation adopted, new RFMOs for 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
- Share information
- Assist the implementation of U.S. law
- Harmonize domestic and international regulations, as appropriate

High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act, as amended by 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 (PLMRs)

IUU Fishing/Bycatch of PLMRs: Identification – Certification 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 (positive or negative) in biennial report
- Negative certifications can result in denial of port privileges; trade measures may be imposed

Identifications - Certifications: 2009-2013

- **2009**
 - Six nations identified for engaging in IUU fishing
- **2011**
 - The six identified in 2009 all received positive certifications
 - Six new identifications for engaging in IUU fishing; consultations ongoing
- **2013** – Next report to Congress due in January
 - Certification decisions for the six identified in 2011
 - Potential new identifications for engaging in IUU fishing

Other International Provisions of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act

- 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

Looking Ahead

- Proposed Rule for Monitoring and Permitting High Seas Fishing Vessels
- Final Rule to Implement the International Provisions of the Shark Conservation Act and Amend the Definition of IUU Fishing
- S.1980 - FAO Port States Agreement
- S. 52 and H.R. 4100 – IUU Fishing
- Traceability
- Improve seafood trade monitoring

Summary

- International fisheries issues, especially combating IUU fishing continue to grow in significance
- Councils play an important role in international fisheries management
- We cannot do it alone

Questions?

