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Update on International Activities

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ICCAT Advisory Committee ~ Fall Meeting

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/international-affairs>



NOAA
FISHERIES

Topics covered:

1. Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction
2. Global Record of Fishing Vessels
3. Seafood Import Monitoring Program
4. MMPA Import Provisions Rule

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction

Thematic areas:

1. Marine Genetic Resources
2. Area Based Management Tools, including Marine Protected Areas
3. Environmental Impact Assessments
4. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer

Second Intergovernmental Conference March-April 2019

Global Record of Fishing Vessels

- Provides a single access point for info on vessels used for fishing and fishing-related activities.
- Important to have a robust Global Record for the fight against IUU and to support implementation of the PSMA.
- Publicly launched in July 2018. U.S. vessel data has been uploaded.

<http://www.fao.org/global-record/information-system/en/>

- Uses IMO numbers as the unique vessel identifier.

Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP)

- Mandatory compliance started January 1, 2018
- Omnibus budget establish mandate to lift stay and include shrimp and abalone by December 31, 2018
- Traceability Information Program for Seafood (TIPS) proposed rule for U.S. shrimp and abalone aquaculture; public comment open through November 26, 2018.
- Commerce Trusted Trader Program final rule in development

MMPA Import Rule - List of Foreign Fisheries

- Reviewed info from 160 trade partners that export fish/fish products to U.S. Eliminated 25 nations from the LOFF because fisheries do not fall within regulatory scope of rule.
- *138 nations—910 exempt and 2,386 export fisheries (will likely change)*
- Greatest bycatch threat is gillnet fisheries (set and drift).
- Trawl fisheries have demonstrated bycatch (e.g., Australia, New Zealand, France).
- Unknown—purse seine, longline, pot gear, and aquaculture using lines.
- Need conservation and management measures in RFMOs for purse seines and bycatch rates for longline fisheries
- *Better estimates of bycatch are needed in all fisheries.*
- *Challenge = consistent engagement with EU member nations*