

International Provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act: Update on Implementation



**HMS Advisory Panel Meeting
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U.S. Required Actions under MSRA

- Actions must be taken to:
 - Address international overfishing
 - Strengthen international organizations with fisheries management oversight
 - Combat illegal, unreported, or unregulated (IUU) fishing
 - Reduce bycatch of protected living marine resources





U.S. Required Actions under MSRA

- Biennial Report to U.S. Congress due January 2009
- Must include list of nations whose vessels have been identified as engaging in IUU fishing or bycatch of protected living marine resources

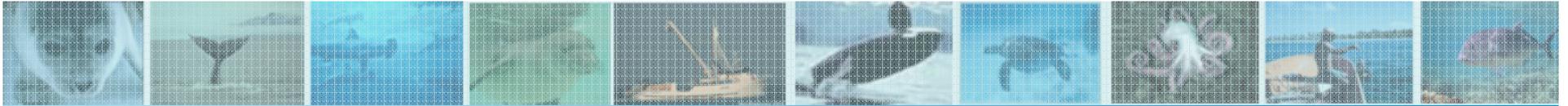




U.S. Required Actions under MSRA

- After identification, U.S. government will:
 - *Notify* nations of their identification and the Act's requirements to address IUU fishing and bycatch
 - Initiate *consultations* with those nations
 - *Notify* relevant international organizations of U.S. actions to address IUU fishing
 - Seek *international agreements* to reduce bycatch





U.S. Required Actions under MSRA

- U.S. Commerce Secretary is required to *certify* whether corrective action has been taken to address IUU fishing or bycatch
- Identified nations will receive either “positive” or “negative” certification
- Appropriate corrective action required to obtain a positive certification





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





Status of Implementation

- Rulemaking
 - ANPR published in June 2007
 - Public comments solicited; public meetings held in July 2007
 - Proposed rule currently undergoing internal NMFS review





Status of Implementation

- First Biennial Report to Congress
 - Progress report completed in January 2008
 - Information solicitation notice published on March 21, 2008
 - Next steps: Collaboration with other Federal partners

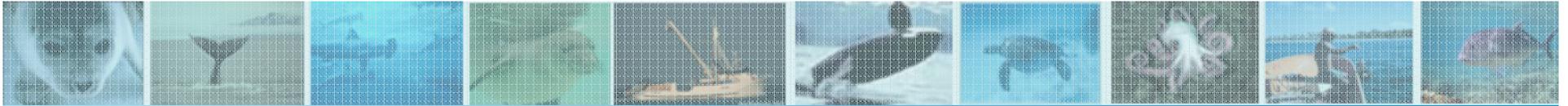




Status of Implementation

- International Cooperation and Assistance
 - In 2007, NMFS supported workshops on:
 - Methods to prevent and mitigate incidental take of marine turtles, mammals, seabirds, and other resources
 - Response to marine mammal strandings
 - Strengthening enforcement and preventing IUU fishing





Conclusion

- Provides opportunities and challenges for the United States to improve fisheries management globally
- Envisions multilateral process to address IUU fishing and bycatch
- Implementation requires continued commitment to strengthening international organizations and capacity building efforts



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