Progress at the multinational level in addressing marine mammal bycatch assessment and developing management measures

> Elizabethann English NOAA Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Fisheries



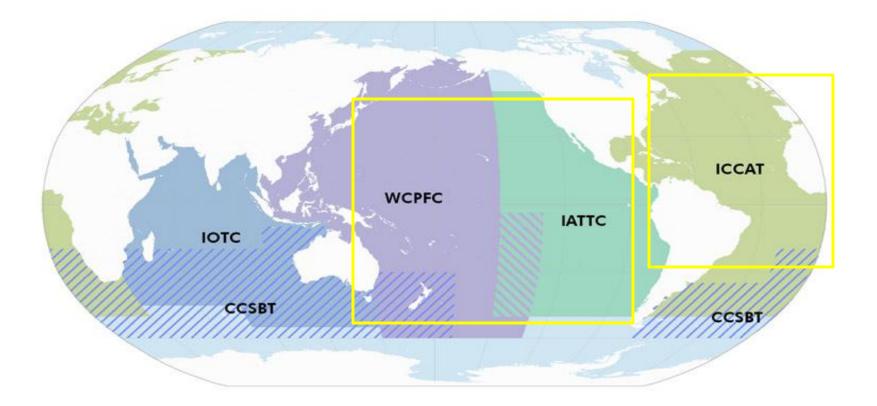
- International Fisheries Governance, including RFMOs
- RFMOs and Marine Mammal Bycatch
- Progress, Challenges and Next Steps

International Fisheries Governance

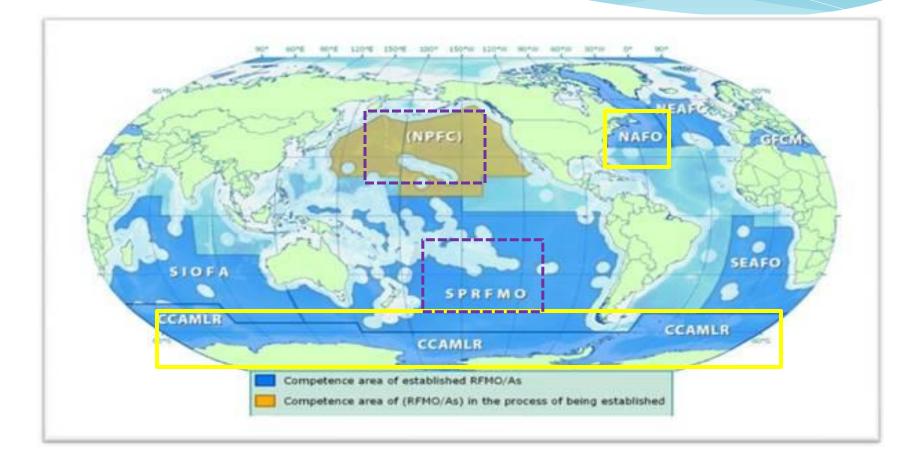
"minimize pollution, waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species, (hereinafter referred to as non-target species) and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species, through measures including, to the extent practicable, the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques;"

-United Nations Fish Stock Agreement (1995)

Regional Fisheries Management Organizations: Tuna and Tuna-like



Regional Fisheries Management Organizations: Straddling and Discrete Stocks (aka non-tuna)



RFMOs and Marine Mammal Bycatch

- Types of measures:
 - Data collection and reporting
 - Gear/Deployment mitigation measures
 - Safe handling and live release



• Have we made progress?

Challenges to future progress

• Next Steps

- Have we made progress?
 - Increased political will on bycatch
 - Improved management measures for MM bycatch
- Challenges to future progress
 - Need to improve data collection
 - Political will/RFMO priorities
- Next Steps
 - Continue to strengthen RFMO measures
 - Capacity Building
 - Continue dialogue at global level



- Have we made progress?
 - Increased political will on bycatch
 - Improved management measures for MM bycatch
- Challenges to future progress
 - Need to improve data collection
 - Political will/RFMO priorities
- Next Steps
 - Continue to strengthen RFMO measures
 - Capacity Building
 - Continue dialogue at global level



- Have we made progress?
 - Increased political will on bycatch
 - Improved management measures for MM bycatch
- Challenges to future progress
 - Need to improve data collection
 - Political will/RFMO priorities
- Next Steps
 - Continue to strengthen RFMO measures
 - Capacity Building
 - Build Partnerships
 - Continue dialogue at global level



Thank you!

Elizabethann English Liz.english@noaa.gov