

Protected Resources Program

NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service

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Presentation Overview

- *Protected Resources Program*
 - Overview
 - MMPA
 - ESA
- *Fisheries - Protected Species Interactions*
- *PR Hot Issues*



Protected Resources Program

Management

- **Proactive Conservation (pre-listing)**
- **Marine mammal protection**
- **ESA Listing**
- **Recovery and Conservation**
- **International Activities – CITES, IWC, regional efforts, etc.**
- **Outreach and Education**

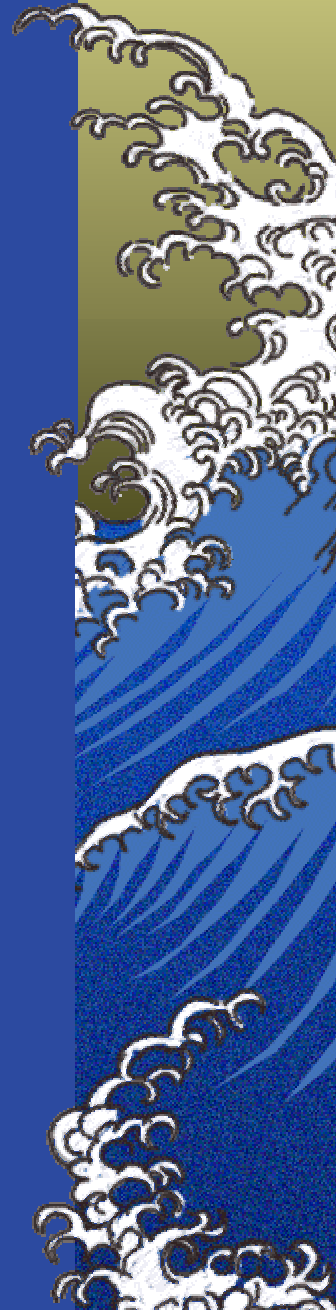
Science Capabilities

- **Survey, Assessment, Monitoring and Research**



Marine Mammal Protection Act

- Prohibits take of marine mammals, with limited exceptions
- Requires NMFS to maintain marine mammals at or above optimum sustainable population
- Requires regular assessment of marine mammal stocks
- Requires development of Conservation Plans for depleted species
- Requires Take Reduction Plans for strategic stocks (identified in list of fisheries)



Fisheries-Protected Resources Interactions

MMPA Policy & Conservation

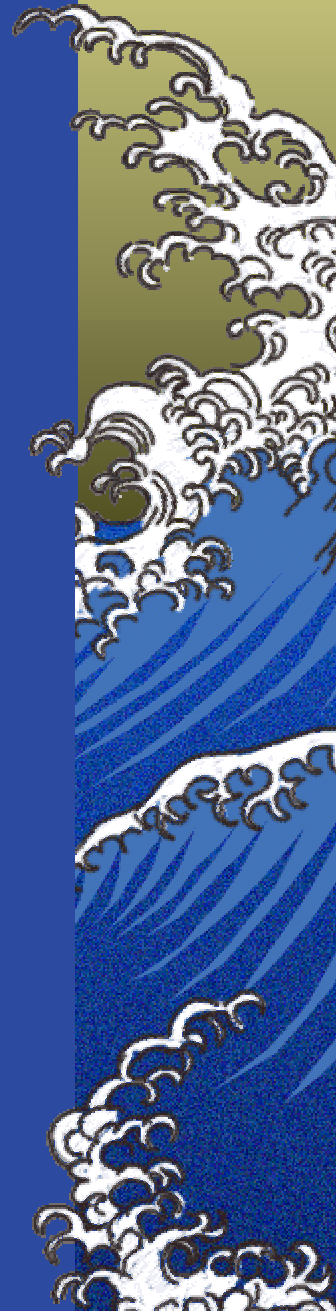
- **List of Fisheries – determines Category 1 and II stocks (need TRTs)**
- **Take Reduction Plans**
 - *Two active – ALWTRT; POCTRT*
 - *Coastal Bottlenose Dolphin - proposed*
 - *Atlantic Pelagic Longline – convene 2005*
 - *North Atlantic Trawl – convene 2006*



Fisheries-Protected Resources Interactions

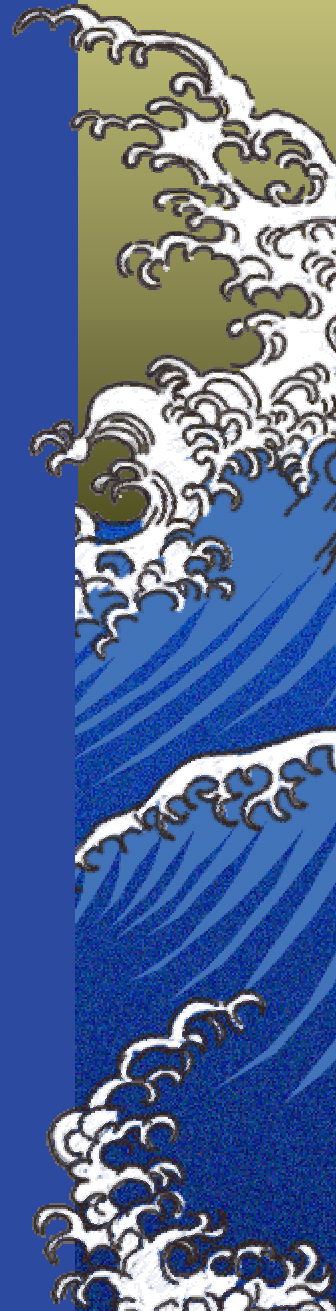
MMPA Policy & Conservation

- **Reauthorization and Rec. Fisheries**
- **Zero Mortality Rate Goal**
- **Serious Injury and Mortality**
- **Negligible Impact Determinations**



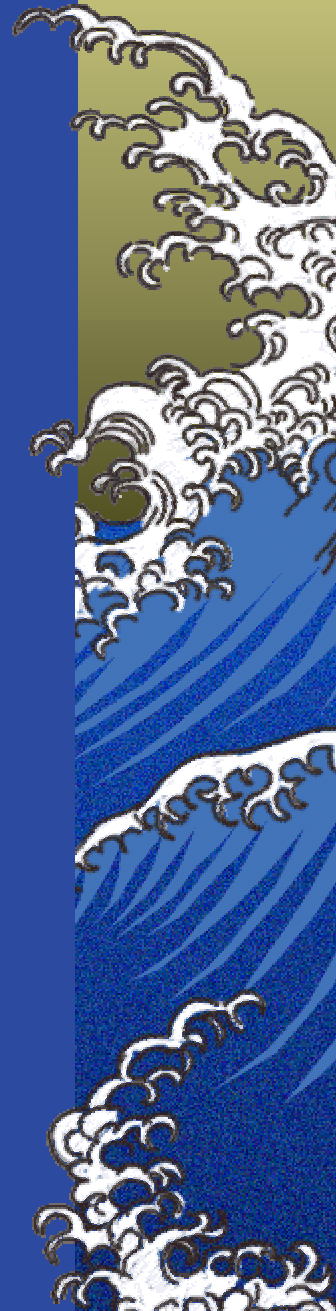
Endangered Species Act

- Requires listing of species “...in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range...” (endangered) or “...likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future...” (threatened)
- Requires development and implementation of recovery plans, and regular review of status
- Provides for cooperation with states via section 6



Endangered Species Act

- **Requires federal agencies to consult with NMFS to avoid jeopardy and/or adverse modification of critical habitat (Section 7)**
- **Prohibits take of listed species (section 9)**
- **Provides for exceptions to take prohibition for research or incidental to lawful activities (Sec 9, 10)**



Fisheries-Protected Resources Interactions

ESA Policy Guidance

- **Listing Criteria Dialogue**
- **Section 7 Jeopardy Analysis Guidance**
- **Interim Recovery Planning Guidance**
- **Five-Year Status Review Guidance**
- **Integrating ESA into MSFCMA Operational Guidelines**



Fisheries-Protected Resources Interactions

ESA Conservation Actions

- **Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Sea Turtle Strategy**
- **Section 6 Cooperative Conservation with States**
- **Species of Concern Program**



Fisheries-Protected Resources Interactions

Fishing Gear Research-Gear Modification

- **Seabird Bycatch Reduction Methods**
- **Right Whale – Fishing Gear Mitigation**
- **Sea Turtle – Longline Fishery Mitigation**



PR Hot Issues

- **Ship Strike Strategy**
- **Ocean Noise**
- **Marine Animal and Ocean Health**
- **Reauthorization of ESA and MMPA**
- **Proposed Listings** (*2 corals, southern DPS of green sturgeon, OR coast coho, Lower Columbia River, southern resident killer whale DPS, coho*)
- **Status Reviews** (*Puget sound steelhead, Atlantic sturgeon, American eel, Eastern oyster*)
- **2005 Recovery Plans** (*Atlantic salmon - F, northern right whale - F, Steller sea lion (2 ESUs) - D, Hawaiian monk seal - D, numerous Pacific salmon ESUs - D*)

