



## APPENDIX H – Summary of International Agreements

The following is a summary of International Agreements and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) of interest to the Coast Guard that the U.S. is party to. A full listing of International Agreements concerning Living Marine Resources and additional details can be found at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa>.

### Atlantic Ocean

#### **International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas:**

Objective: Provide an effective program of international cooperation in research and conservation in recognition of the unique problems related to the highly migratory nature of tunas and tuna-like species.

Convention Area: All waters of the Atlantic Ocean, including the adjacent seas.

Species Managed: Tunas and tuna-like species.

Parties: There are currently 35 Contracting Parties: Algeria, Angola, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, People's Republic of China, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Equatorial Guinea, European Community, France (in respect to St. Pierre et Miquelon), Gabon, Ghana, Republic of Guinea, Honduras, Japan, Republic of Korea, Libya, Morocco, Namibia, Panama, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Republic of South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Kingdom (in respect of its overseas territories), United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Enforcement Measures: ICCAT has a number of measures relating to monitoring and control and is in the process of developing a more comprehensive and integrated international monitoring scheme that would include existing elements such as observers, a vessel monitoring system, port inspections, transshipment controls, chartering rules, and vessel sighting reports, improve them where necessary, and develop new elements, such as high seas inspection programs as appropriate. A complete accounting of all ICCAT conservation and management measures, including those relating to compliance issues, can be found on the ICCAT website ([www.ICCAT.es](http://www.ICCAT.es)).

#### **Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries:**

Objective: Provide multilateral consultation and cooperation with respect to the study, appraisal, and exchange of scientific information and views relating to fisheries of the Convention Area and conserve and manage fishery resources of the NAFO Regulatory Area (NRA).

Convention Area: The waters of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean roughly north of 35 degrees north longitude and west of 42 degrees latitude which lie beyond the areas in which coastal states exercise fisheries jurisdiction.

Species Managed: All fishery resources of the Convention Area with the exception of: salmon, tunas, swordfish, and marlins; cetacean stocks managed by the International Whaling Commission; and sedentary species of the Continental Shelf. Principal species managed are cod, flounders, redfish, American plaice, Greenland halibut (turbot), capelin and shrimp.



Parties: Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark (in respect of the Faeroe Islands and Greenland), Estonia, the European Union, France (in respect of St. Pierre et Miquelon), Iceland, Japan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Ukraine, and the United States.

Enforcement Measures: NAFO has established and maintained conservation and management measures that include: total allowable catches (TACs) and member nation quota allocations by species; fishing effort allocation; data recording and reporting requirements; vessel monitoring system (VMS) and observer requirements; minimum size limitations; mesh size and chafing gear requirements; and notification, registration and hailing requirements for fishing vessels operating in the NRA. In addition, NAFO has a scheme of joint international inspection and surveillance in the NRA. Development and refinement of monitoring and enforcement measures continues on a regular basis.

## Pacific Ocean

### **Convention for the Establishment of an Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission:**

Objective: Study the biology of the tunas and related species of the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) with a view to determining the effects that fishing and natural factors have on their abundance, and recommend appropriate conservation measures so that the stocks of fish can be maintained at levels which will afford maximum sustainable catches.

Convention Area: The Convention Area comprises the area of the Pacific Ocean bounded by the coastline of South America and; the 50 degree North parallel from the coast of North America to its intersection with the 150 degree West meridian; the 150 degree West meridian to its intersection with the 50 degree South parallel; and the 50 degree South parallel to its intersection with the coast of South America.

Species Managed: The fish stocks covered by this Convention include stocks of tuna and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area.

Parties: Member Nations include Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, United States, Vanuatu, and Venezuela.

Enforcement Measures: A Compliance Working Group has been established with the goal of promoting more complete and uniform implementation of and compliance with IATTC management recommendations. IATTC has adopted measures mitigating dolphin mortality associated with fishing practices in the Convention Area. U.S. environmental organizations have intense interest in ensuring that IATTC continues to monitor the health of dolphin mortality in purse-seine nets.

### **Convention for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea:**

Objective: This Convention is the basic instrument for the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC), created to conserve, manage, and rebuild the halibut stocks in the Convention Area to achieve and maintain the maximum sustainable yield from the fishery.



Convention Area: The waters off the west coasts of Canada and the United States including the southern as well as the western coasts of Alaska, within the respective maritime areas in which either Party exercises exclusive fisheries jurisdiction.

Species Managed: Pacific Halibut

Parties: Canada and the United States.

Enforcement Measures: Neither U.S. nor Canadian halibut fishing vessels are allowed to fish in the waters of the other country. Both Canada and the United States utilize an individual vessel/fishing quota system in the management of national quotas.

### **Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean:**

Objective: This Convention is the basic instrument for the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC). The NPAFC serves as a forum for promoting the conservation of anadromous stocks and ecologically-related species, including marine mammals, sea birds, and non-anadromous fish in the high seas area of the North Pacific Ocean.

Convention Area: The waters of the North Pacific Ocean and its adjacent seas, north of 33 degrees North Latitude beyond 200 nautical miles from the coastal nations baselines.

Species Managed: Anadromous species, including Chum, Coho, Pink, Sockeye, Chinook and Cherry in addition to Steelhead Trout.

Parties: Member nations include Canada, Japan, the Russian Federation, the United States and the Republic of South Korea.

Enforcement Measures: Directed fishing for and retention of anadromous fish is prohibited in the Convention Area. Any Party to the Convention may enforce the provisions of the Convention within specified guidelines of the Convention. The cooperative enforcement efforts of the Parties have been highly successful in reducing illegal fishing operations within the Convention Area.

### **Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea:**

Objective: Establish an annual harvest level for Pollock in the Convention Area, establish an annual individual national Pollock quota for each Party, and adopt appropriate Pollock conservation and management measures.

Convention Area: The central Bering Sea area of the Aleutian Basin beyond the U.S. and Russian exclusive economic zones.

Species Managed: Pollock.

Parties: Member nations include Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of South Korea, Poland, Russian Federation and the United States.

Enforcement measures: Currently there is no directed fishing for Pollock in the central Bering Sea. Stringent terms and conditions are established for Parties to conduct fishing in the Convention Area, including the use of vessel monitoring systems. Any Party to the Convention may enforce the provisions of the Convention within specified guidelines of the Convention.

### **Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean:**



Objective: This Convention will be the basic instrument to establish a Commission to conserve and manage tuna and tuna-like species. Many Pacific island states control access to the fishing grounds where the majority of the catches occur and provide access to their exclusive economic zones through agreements with distant water fishing states.

Convention Area: The western and central Pacific Ocean west of 150 degrees longitude.

Species Managed: Tuna and tuna-like species.

Parties: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji Islands, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Republic of Nauru, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Independent State of Samoa, and Solomon Islands. Signatories (but not yet ratified) include: Canada, Indonesia, New Zealand, Niue, Republic of Palau, Republic of the Philippines, Kingdom of Tonga, United States, and Republic of Vanuatu.

Enforcement Measures: This Convention has not yet entered into force, and is expected to do so in late 2004. Boarding and inspection protocols are being developed and negotiated.

### Southern Ocean

#### **Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources:**

Objective: This Convention is the basic instrument for the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). CCAMLR was established to protect and conserve the marine living resources in the waters surrounding Antarctica.

Convention Area: The area south of 60 degree South latitude.

Species Managed: Antarctic marine living resources includes the populations of fin fish, molluscs, crustaceans and all other species of living organisms, including birds, found south of the Antarctic Convergence.

Parties: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, European Community, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, and Vanuatu.

Enforcement Measures: Compliance and enforcement measures include a catch documentation scheme, an in port and at-sea inspection program and VMS requirements. During the past decade the incidence of IUU fishing has grown at an alarming rate within the Convention Area and adjacent areas. Substantial catches of toothfish in excess of allowable catches agreed by CCAMLR. As a result of this IUU fishing, international enforcement has increased in this area.

### Global

#### **United Nations Moratorium on High Seas Drift Net Fishing (UNGA Resolution 46/215):**

Objective: Moratorium on the use of large-scale, pelagic driftnet fishing on the high seas.

Convention Area: High seas.

Species Managed: N/A.

Parties: All member nations of the United Nations.



Enforcement Measures: The UNGA encourages all members of the international community to take measures, individually and collectively, to prevent large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing operations on the high seas of the world's oceans.

*Sound  
Regulations*

*Effective  
Presence*



*Productive  
Partnerships*

*Application of  
Technology*