

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANT REPORT ON MSA REAUTHORIZATION AND OTHER
LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

On September 14, 2013, Council action was taken on Agenda Item H.1 regarding prioritization of legislative priorities with regard to Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) reauthorization.

Council action limited the items proposed for inclusion as priorities to a subset of a list provided by the Council's Legislative Committee ([Agenda Item H.1.b, Supplemental Legislative Committee Report, September 2013](#)).

The Enforcement Consultant committee would like to have the following two items considered for submission as priority issues as well:

From [Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1: Matrix of Findings from the Managing Our Nations Fisheries 3 Conference, September 2013](#):

Session 1, Topic 3 - International Fisheries Management: Leveling the Playing Field

- Help developing countries build fishery management and enforcement capacity, and
- Increase support for at-sea and in-port monitoring and enforcement.

Both of these actions are directly connected to the MSA reauthorization (MSA sec. 207) and serve to strengthen the cooperation between countries, having a direct effect on fisheries enforcement and management. Current language in the MSA does not specifically list "enforcement" in sections 207(3) and 207(6). Adding appropriate language will provide further flexibility in assigning effort to the issues surrounding shared international borders. It is critical that west coast law enforcement agencies possess the authority and guidance to proactively engage with international partners to prevent and address illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing issues. Developing partnerships at our shared borders before an issue necessitates enforcement action should be a primary conservation goal.

PFMC
10/23/13