

Agenda Item G.1.b Supplemental Public Comment 2 (Electronic Only) September 2015

## Support the Marine Mammal Import Rule

Turtle Island Restoration Network September 12, 2015

### **Environmental NGOs sue for rule**

#### UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, :
TURTLE ISLAND RESTORATION :
NETWORK, and NATURAL RESOURCES :
DEFENSE COUNCIL, :

Plaintiffs;

V.

PENNY PRITZKER, Secretary of Commerce; :
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE; JACOB LEW, Secretary of the
Treasury; JEH JOHNSON, Secretary of
Homeland Security; and the UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendants.

Court No.: 14-00157

BEFORE: HON. MARK A. BARNETT

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION OF DISMISSAL

# Why this matters: *Mexico Decertified!*

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006

Certification Determination for Mexico's 2013 Identification for Bycatch of North Pacific Loggerhead Sea Turtles

they will be implemented. There are specific concerns regarding the effectiveness of the observer program and its ability to support the implementation of the mortality cap.

Certification. After a thorough analysis of Mexico's regulatory program, NMFS determined that the Government of Mexico has established a management plan to assist in the collection of species-specific data to support stock assessment and conservation efforts, but has not adopted a regulatory program to end or reduce bycatch that is comparable in effectiveness to that of the United States, taking into account different conditions that could bear on the feasibility and efficacy of these measures. Based on this finding, NMFS made a negative preliminary certification determination for Mexico for its bycatch identification.

**Next Steps.** Nations negatively certified will remain negatively certified until the Secretary of Commerce determines that the nation has taken the necessary actions pursuant to the Moratorium Protection Act to receive a positive certification. NMFS will continue to work with Mexico to

### Support the MMPA Import rule

### Strengthen the import rule:

- -Remove exemption for "fish products"
- -Count domestic fisheries bycatch
- -Speed up implementation