

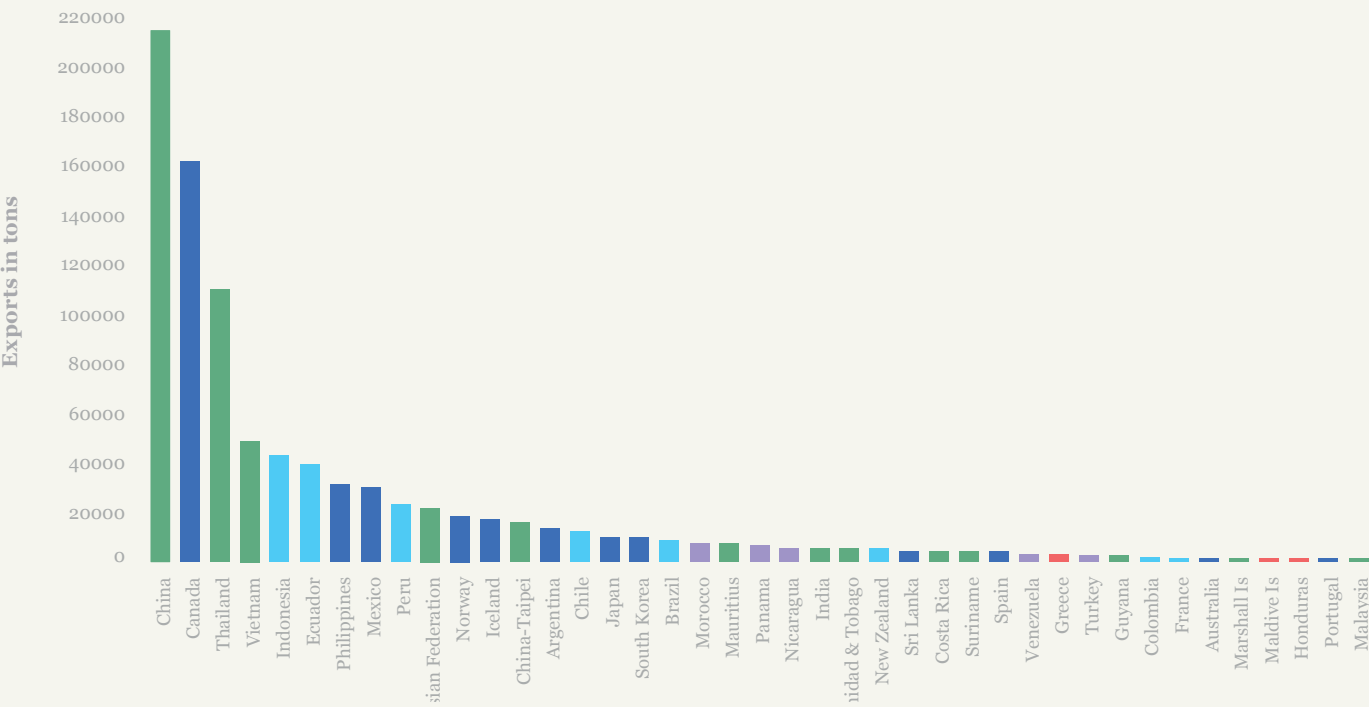
Cetacean Bycatch in Gillnet Fisheries

The majority of gillnet fisheries have cetacean bycatch. In many cases gillnet fisheries are artisanal and less likely to export, so exports attributed to gillnet fisheries are likely to be over-estimated for developing world countries. This is less likely to be the case for higher per-capita GDP nations.

Strategies have still not been developed which allow for simple, effective bycatch mitigation in many of


the world's fisheries. In most cases, bycatch mitigation would be much better viewed as part of general fisheries management policy rather than as a separate issue. It is hoped that the strong financial incentive of exports to the US might encourage nations to invest research and development into strategies to address cetacean bycatch, where they have previously not been motivated to do so.

Total exports of fish products to the US



To see the full report and the analysis per country please access http://pand.as/mmpa_factsheet





Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

© 1986 Panda symbol WWF – World Wide Fund For Nature (Formerly World Wildlife Fund) ©
"WWF" is a WWF Registered Trademark. WWF, Avenue du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland
– Tel. +41 22 364 9111 Fax +41 22 364 0332. For contact details and further information, please
visit our international website at www.panda.org

INVESTIGATIONS OF COUNTRIES EXPORTING SEAFOOD TO THE US WHICH MAY BE SUBJECT TO REGULATION UNDER THE MMPA BYCATCH RULE WITH RESPECT TO CETACEANS

PAND.AS/MMPA_FACTSHEET

US LEGISLATION
PROVIDES AN
OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE
NEW IMPETUS TO WORK
SEEKING TO TACKLE
PROBLEMS OF CETACEAN
BYCATCH.



WWF

FACTSHEET

2018



Investigations of countries exporting seafood to the US which may be subject to regulation under the MMPA bycatch rule with respect to cetaceans

The Marine Mammal Protection Act & US Seafood Imports

On 15 August 2016, the US enacted provisions under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) which will require countries exporting seafood to the US (either directly or through an intermediary nation) to show that their fisheries are not associated with any intentional killing of marine mammals, and/or that their marine mammal bycatch is at comparable levels with that of US fisheries. The regulation became effective on 1 January 2017, with a five-year exemption during which time exporting nations are expected to assess their bycatch issues, then enact regulatory programmes and mitigation strategies to address marine mammal bycatch, which are analogous in efficacy to those of US fisheries.

The US legislation provides an opportunity to give new impetus to work seeking to tackle problems of cetacean bycatch. Bycatch causes serious welfare and conservation issues and has continued to be a resolutely intractable issue to solve in the majority of fisheries. The magnitude and complexity of the data gathering, regulatory and enforcement tasks which lie ahead in order that the legislation achieves the objective of addressing bycatch in countries that export fish to the US, are clear.

Investigations of countries exporting seafood to the US which may be subject to regulation under the MMPA bycatch rule with respect to cetaceans

A report commissioned by WWF (Calderan and Leaper 2017) examined individual countries by fishery based on their exports to the US (excluding products which were farmed or which were not associated with cetacean bycatch). The top ~70 countries exporting to the US were investigated.

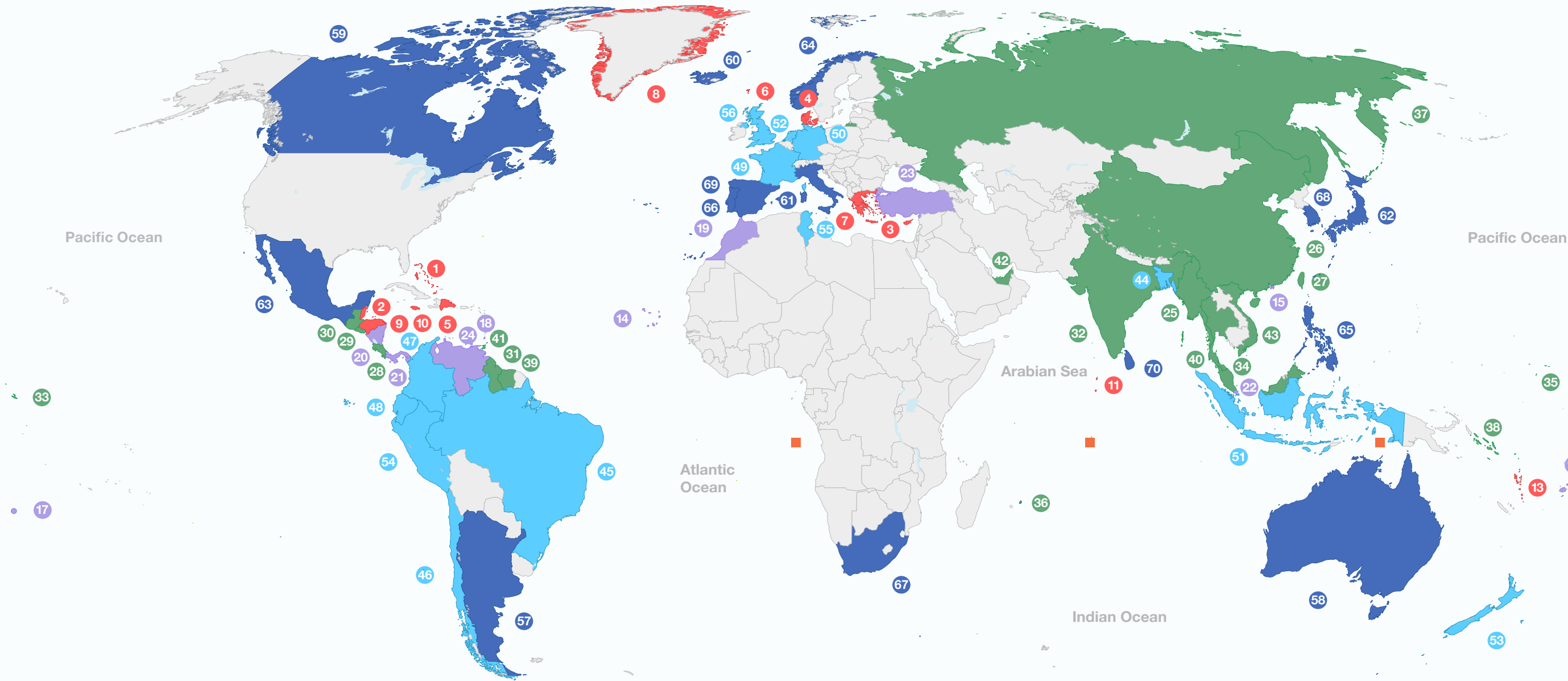
From these investigations, a summary table of the countries examined was produced, placing each country into one of the following groups:

Countries where available data suggest no substantial bycatch issues associated with products exported to the US. No further investigation re: MMPA rule suggested at current time

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----|-------------|
| 1 | Bahamas | 8 | Greenland |
| 2 | Belize | 9 | Honduras |
| 3 | Cyprus | 10 | Jamaica |
| 4 | Denmark | 11 | Maldive Is. |
| 5 | Dominican Republic | 12 | Tonga |
| 6 | Faroe Is. | 13 | Vanuatu |
| 7 | Greece | | |

Data deficient countries: more information needed to make an assessment, but MMPA rule not expected to apply

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|-----------|
| 14 | Cape Verde | 20 | Nicaragua |
| 15 | China-Hong Kong | 21 | Panama |
| 16 | Fiji | 22 | Singapore |
| 17 | French Polynesia | 23 | Turkey |
| 18 | Grenada | 24 | Venezuela |
| 19 | Morocco | | |



Data deficient countries: more information needed to make an assessment, but MMPA rule might apply

- | | | | |
|----|----------------|----|--------------------|
| 25 | Burma(Myanmar) | 35 | Marshall Is. |
| 26 | China | 36 | Mauritius |
| 27 | China-Taipei | 37 | Russian Federation |
| 28 | Costa Rica | 38 | Solomon Is. |
| 29 | El Salvador | 39 | Suriname |
| 30 | Guatemala | 40 | Thailand |
| 31 | Guyana | 41 | Trinidad&Tobago |
| 32 | India | 42 | UAE |
| 33 | Kiribati | 43 | Vietnam |
| 34 | Malaysia | | |

Countries with known bycatch problems, but more information needed to assess whether MMPA rule likely to apply

- | | | | |
|----|------------|----|-------------|
| 44 | Bangladesh | 51 | Indonesia |
| 45 | Brazil | 52 | Netherlands |
| 46 | Chile | 53 | New Zealand |
| 47 | Colombia | 54 | Peru |
| 48 | Ecuador | 55 | Tunisia |
| 49 | France | 56 | UK |
| 50 | Germany | | |

Countries with known bycatch problems where MMPA rule expected to apply (includes countries that may already be addressing the problem to standards similar to the US).

- | | | | |
|----|-----------|----|--------------|
| 57 | Argentina | 64 | Norway |
| 58 | Australia | 65 | Philippines |
| 59 | Canada | 66 | Portugal |
| 60 | Iceland | 67 | South Africa |
| 61 | Italy | 68 | South Korea |
| 62 | Japan | 69 | Spain |
| 63 | Mexico | 70 | Sri Lanka |