

Public Law 98-445  
98th Congress

An Act

To implement the Eastern Pacific Ocean Tuna Fishing Agreement, signed in San Jose, Costa Rica, March 15, 1983.

Oct. 4, 1984

[H.R. 5147]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Eastern Pacific Tuna Licensing Act of 1984".*

Eastern Pacific  
Tuna Licensing  
Act of 1984.  
16 USC 972 note.  
16 USC 972.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act—

(1) The term "Agreement" means the Eastern Pacific Ocean Tuna Fishing Agreement, signed in San Jose, Costa Rica, March 15, 1983.

(2) The term "Agreement Area" means the area within a perimeter determined as follows: From the point on the mainland where the parallel of 40 degrees north latitude intersects the coast westward along the parallel of 40 degrees north latitude to 40 degrees north latitude by 125 degrees west longitude, thence southerly along the meridian of 125 degrees west longitude to 20 degrees north latitude by 125 degrees west longitude, thence easterly along the parallel of 20 degrees north latitude to 20 degrees north latitude by 120 degrees west longitude, thence southerly along the meridian of 120 degrees west longitude to 5 degrees north latitude by 120 degrees west longitude, thence easterly along the parallel of 5 degrees north latitude to 5 degrees north latitude by 110 degrees west longitude, thence southerly along the meridian of 110 degrees west longitude to 10 degrees south latitude by 110 degrees west longitude, thence easterly along the parallel of 10 degrees south latitude to 10 degrees south latitude by 90 degrees west longitude, thence southerly along the meridian of 90 degrees west longitude to 30 degrees south latitude by 90 degrees west longitude, thence easterly along the parallel of 30 degrees south latitude to the point on the mainland where the parallel intersects the coast; but the Agreement Area does not include the zones within twelve nautical miles of the baseline from which the breadth of territorial sea is measured and the zones within two hundred nautical miles of the baselines of Coastal States not signatories to the Agreement, measured from the same baseline.

(3) The term "designated species of tuna" means yellowfin tuna, *Thunnus albacares* (Bonnaterre, 1788); bigeye tuna, *Thunnus obesus* (Lowe, 1839); albacore tuna, *Thunnus alalunga* (Bonnaterre, 1788); northern bluefin tuna, *Thunnus thynnus* (Linnaeus, 1758); southern bluefin tuna, *Thunnus maccoyii* (Castelnau, 1872); skipjack tuna, *Katsuwonus pelamis* (Linnaeus 1578); black skipjack, *Euthynnus Lineatus* (Kishinouye 1920); kawakawa, *Euthynnus affinis* (Cantor, 1849); bullet tuna, *Auxis rochei* (Risso, 1810), frigate tuna, *Ausix thazard* (Lacepede, 1800); eastern Pacific bonito, *Sarda chiliensis* (Cuvier in Cuvier

and Valenciennes, 1831); and Indo-Pacific bonito, *Sarda orientalis* (Temminck and Schlegel, 1844).

(4) The term "Council" means the body consisting of the representatives from each Contracting Party to the Agreement which is a Coastal State of the eastern Pacific Ocean or a member of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission at the time of entry into force of the Agreement.

16 USC 972a.

**SEC. 3. UNITED STATES REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNCIL.**

(a) The Secretary of State—

(1) shall appoint a United States representative to the Council; and

(2) may appoint not more than three alternate United States representatives to the Council.

Government  
organization and  
employees.

(b) An individual is not eligible for appointment as, or to serve as, the United States representative under subsection (a)(1) unless the individual is an officer or employee of the United States Government.

(c) An individual is not entitled to compensation for serving as the United States representative or an alternate United States representative.

(d) While away from home or a regular place of business in the performance of service as the United States representative or an alternate United States representative, an individual is entitled to travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as individuals employed intermittently in Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703(b) of title 5 of the United States Code.

16 USC 972b.

**SEC. 4. SECRETARY OF STATE TO ACT FOR THE UNITED STATES.**

The Secretary of State shall receive, on behalf of the United States Government, reports, requests, recommendations and other communications of the Council, and, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall act directly thereon or by reference to the appropriate authorities.

16 USC 972c.

**SEC. 5. APPLICATION TO OTHER LAWS.**

*Ante*, p. 444.  
22 USC 1974.

(a) Notwithstanding section 4 of the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967 (22 U.S.C. 1874), such Act applies with respect to a seizure by a Contracting Party to the Agreement of a vessel of the United States within the Agreement Area for violation of the Agreement if the Secretary of State determines that the violation is not of such seriousness as to diminish the effectiveness of the Agreement.

(b) The seizure by a Contracting Party to the Agreement of a vessel of the United States shall not be considered to be a seizure described in section 205(a)(4)(C) of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1825(a)(4)(C)) if the seizure is consistent with the Agreement.

16 USC 972d.

**SEC. 6. DISPOSITION OF FEES.**

All fees accruing to the United States under Article III of the Agreement shall be deposited into the Treasury of the United States.

16 USC 972e.

**SEC. 7. REGULATIONS.**

The Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to

carry out the purposes and objectives of the Agreement and this Act. Regulations may be made applicable as necessary to all persons and vessels subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, wherever located. Regulations concerning the conservation of a designated species of tuna may be issued only to implement conservation recommendations made by the Council under Article 3(D) of the Agreement.

#### SEC. 8. PROHIBITED ACTS.

16 USC 972f.

(a) It is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States—

(1) to engage in fishing for a designated species of tuna within the Agreement Area unless issued a license under the Agreement authorizing such fishing;

(2) to engage in fishing for a designated species of tuna within the Agreement area in contravention of regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Commerce under the Agreement;

(3) knowingly to ship, transport, purchase, sell, offer for sale, export, or have in custody, possession, or control any designated species of tuna taken or retained in violation of regulations issued under section 7;

(4) to fail to make, keep, or furnish any catch return, statistical record, or other report required by regulations issued under section 7;

(5) being a person in charge of a vessel of the United States, to fail to stop upon being hailed by an authorized official of the United States, or to refuse to permit officials of the United States to board the vessel or inspect its catch, equipment, books, documents, records, or other articles, or to question individuals on board; or

(6) to import from any country, in violation of any regulation issued under section 7, any designated species of tuna.

(b) Any person who is convicted of violating—

(1) subsection (a)(1), (a)(2), or (a)(3) shall be fined or assessed a civil penalty not more than \$25,000, and for a subsequent violation shall be fined or assessed a civil penalty not more than \$50,000;

(2) subsection (a)(4) or (a)(5) shall be fined or assessed a civil penalty not more than \$5,000, and for a subsequent violation shall be fined or assessed a civil penalty not more than \$5,000; or

(3) subsection (a)(6) shall be fined or assessed a civil penalty not more than \$100,000.

(c) All designated species of tuna taken or retained in violation of subsection (a) (1), (2), (3), or (6), or the monetary value thereof, is subject to forfeiture.

(d) All provisions of law relating to the seizure, judicial forfeiture, and condemnation of a cargo for violation of the customs laws, the disposition of such cargo or the proceeds from the sale thereof, and the remission or mitigation of such forfeitures shall apply to seizures and forfeitures incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, under this Act, insofar as such provisions of law are applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

#### SEC. 9. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) The judges of the United States district courts and United States magistrates may, within their respective jurisdictions, upon

Courts, U.S.  
16 USC 972g.

proper oath or affirmation showing probable cause, issue such warrants or other process as may be required for enforcement of this Act and the regulations issued under section 7.

(b) The enforcement of this Act and the regulations issued under section 7 shall be the joint responsibility of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, the Department of Commerce, and the United States Customs Service. In addition, the Secretary of Commerce may designate officers and employees of the States of the United States, of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and of American Samoa to carry out enforcement activities under this section. When so designated, such officers and employees may function as Federal law enforcement agents for these purposes.

(c) An individual authorized to carry out enforcement activities under this section has power to execute any warrant or process issued by any officer or court of competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of this Act.

(d) An individual so authorized to carry out enforcement activities under this section has power—

(1) with or without a warrant or other process, to arrest any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States at any place within the jurisdiction of the United States committing in his presence or view a violation of this Act or the regulations issued under section 7;

(2) with or without a warrant or other process, to search any vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, and, if, as a result of the search he has reasonable cause to believe that such vessel or any individual on board is engaging in operations in violation of this Act or any regulation issued thereunder to arrest such person.

(e) An individual authorized to enforce this Act may seize, whenever or wherever lawfully found, all species of designated tuna taken or retained in violation of this Act or the regulations issued under section 7. Any species so seized may be disposed of pursuant to the order of a court of competent jurisdiction, under subsection (f) of this section or, if perishable, in a manner prescribed by regulations of the Secretary of Commerce.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2464 of title 28, United States Code, when a warrant of arrest or other process in rem is issued in any cause under this section, the marshal or other officer shall stay the execution of such process, or discharge any species of designated tuna seized if the process has been levied, on receiving from the claimant of the species a bond or stipulation for the value of the property with sufficient surety to be approved by a judge of the district court having jurisdiction of the offense, conditioned to deliver the species seized, if condemned, without impairment in value or, in the discretion of the court, to pay its equivalent value in money or otherwise to answer the decree of the court in such cause. Such bond or stipulation shall be returned to the court and judgment thereon against both the principal and sureties may be recovered in event of any breach of the conditions thereof as determined by the court. In the discretion of the accused, and

subject to the direction of the court, the species may be sold for not less than its reasonable market value and the proceeds of such sale placed in the registry of the court pending judgment in the case.

**SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 USC 972h.

There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years after fiscal year 1984 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

Approved October 4, 1984.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 5147:**

HOUSE REPORT No. 98-721 (Comm. on Merchant Marine and Fisheries).  
SENATE REPORT No. 98-559 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).  
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 130 (1984):  
Apr. 30, May 1, considered and passed House.  
Sept. 21, considered and passed Senate.