

Once NMFS has finalized our deterrence guidelines, we will be examining whether foreign nations have guidelines that are comparable to the U.S. If the use of a deterrent, including ADDs, is deemed not to be acceptable in the U.S., we will view the continued use of that deterrent method or ADD as contrary to our regulatory program. Nations will need to have some means of controlling the use of ADDs, through guidelines or the equivalent policy or regulation. We support the SG's development of mitigation strategies, informed by science-based guidance, which should increase the effectiveness and mitigate the potential adverse impacts of ADDs.

Thank you again for your thoughtful letter. I appreciate your engagement in the MMPA Import Provisions. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] or by phone at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]