

RESOLUTION NO. R- 251647

APR 21 1980

WHEREAS, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the United States Department of Commerce (herein called "Commerce") propose implementing stringent regulations on the United States flag tuna fleet in regard to strict limitations on northern offshore spotted and white-belly porpoises; and

WHEREAS, such action is not economically feasible and is arguably counterproductive to tuna and porpoise conservation; and

WHEREAS, it is foreseeable that the proposed federal action will destroy the economic viability of the United States tuna fleet in that an estimated \$71 to \$80 million loss in gross revenues by the fleet is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, this inevitable loss will result in an almost total elimination in San Diego of tuna seiner employment and related industries such as canning and ship repair; and

WHEREAS, the specifics of the economic loss are set forth in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prepared for the public hearings on the matter; and

WHEREAS, the monumental negative fiscal impact of the proposed regulations could, as a matter of economic survival, force as many as 117 tuna vessels to abandon American registry in order to come under less demanding foreign regulations; and

WHEREAS, there exists strong evidence, produced during the latest rule-making hearing in San Diego and Washington, D. C.,

to conclude that the proposed action offered by the NMFS is not supported by the best scientific evidence available, in that the proposal significantly underestimated the populations of the northern offshore spotted porpoises for both 1979 and 1959; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, the NMFS estimated that the population of the northern offshore spotted porpoise was 3.3 million while the industry estimate is closer to 8.9 million; and

WHEREAS, the percent of porpoise stock taken by the industry is a fraction of one percent and that the stock is increasing upwards to 110,322 porpoises per year; and

WHEREAS, as further evidence of industry efforts to comply with conservation concerns, the NMFS has congratulated the tuna industry for its remarkable progress in reducing incidental mortality levels down to numbers substantially lower than annual mandated quotas, such as in 1979, when the mortality was about 55% below the annual allowable quota; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of The City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, hereby call upon the United States Secretary of Commerce to reject the proposal which declares the northern offshore spotted porpoise stock to be "legally depleted."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in view of the industry's outstanding performance in reducing porpoise mortality, a

General Permit be granted to the American Tunaboat Association to allow United States flag tuna vessels to take porpoises incidentally while fishing for tuna.

APPROVED: JOHN W. WITT, City Attorney

By Jack Katz
Jack Katz
Chief Deputy City Attorney

JK:rc:060
4/30/80
Or. Dept.: Council

Passed and adopted by the Council of The City of San Diego on APR 21 1980,
by the following vote:

Councilmen	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Ineligible
Bill Mitchell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Cleator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bill Lowery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leon L. Williams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fred Schnaubelt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Gotch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Stirling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lucy Killea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Pete Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

AUTHENTICATED BY:

PETE WILSON
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

CHARLES G. ABDELNOUR
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By Ellen Boward, Deputy.

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

Resolution Number R-251647 Adopted APR 21 1980