Written by Administrator Tuesday, 08 March 2011 10:10 -

ENGOS are welcoming a new treaty that prohibits any new bottom trawling unless its impacts on features such as seamounts, corals, and deep sea fish are considered and controlled in international waters of the North Pacific Ocean. The U.S., Canada, Japan, Russia, China, Korea and Taiwan (Chinese Taipei) have been working toward this treaty since 2006. The treaty also creates a revised North Pacific Fisheries Commission to implement and enforce the new rules. But ENGOs argue that the treaty has weak requirements for assessing, monitoring and controlling impacts, leaves an enormous potential loophole in the form of "scientific" or "experimental" fishing," and leaves several very large areas in the southern portion of the North Pacific where bottom trawling will remain completely unregulated. More <u>here</u>

TAGS: North Pacific fisheries, bottom trawling, new treaty, seamounts, sustainable, fisheries, ENGOs, North Pacific Fisheries Commission

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