

Presentation prepared for:



Policy on Sound and Marine Mammals: An International Workshop

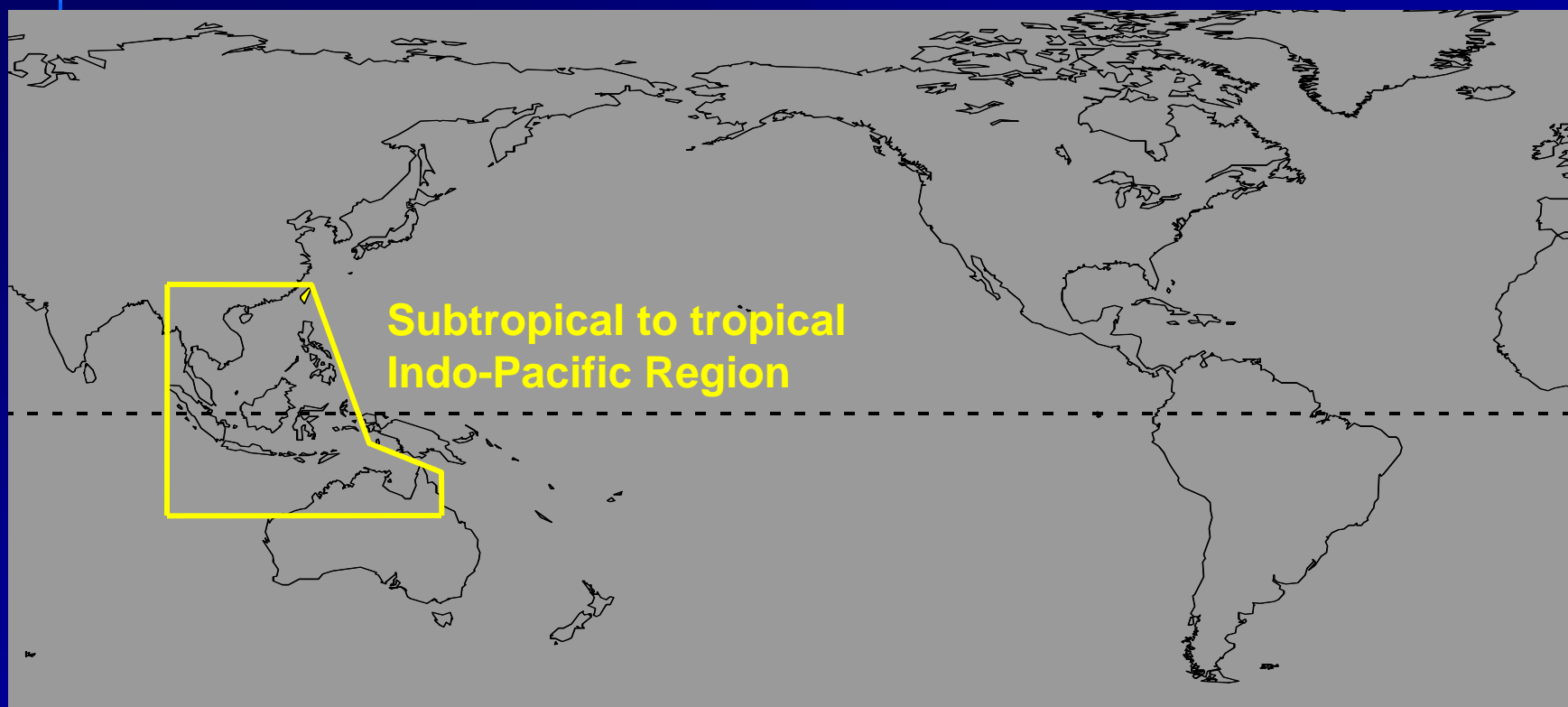
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Southeast Asia

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China
Hong Kong
Taiwan
Philippines
Vietnam
Laos
Cambodia
Thailand
Malaysia
Singapore
Brunei
Indonesia
East Timor
Australia



General Description

- Large and dense human population
- Some countries comprised of thousands of islands (e.g., IND, PHL)
- Most regions are poorly researched (note: there are several small, isolated cetacean populations in SE Asia)
- Disputed territories and political issues
 - Taiwan/China, Spratley Is., E. Timor, Philippines, etc.
- Corruption in government

Diversity

- Affluence/poverty
- Governments
- Religious beliefs
- **Natural (including marine mammals)**



Potentially

Oil/gas
exploration &
extraction

Commercial
Shipping

Coastal
Development
Military
Activities

Blast Fishing
Research



Legal Status

- Most countries have laws protecting marine mammals
- No SE Asian country has legislation dealing specifically with human-made noise and marine mammals
- Australia and Hong Kong are most advanced on this issue

Main Limitations on this Issue for SE Asia

- Lack of knowledge about marine mammals and noise
- Lack of expertise, resources and information exchange (language, communication issues)
- Law enforcement is inadequate

Acknowledgements

Considerable information was obtained from the workshop reports of SEAMAM I (Perrin, W.F., Dolar, M.L.L. and Alava, M.N.R. 1996) and SEAMAM II (Perrin, W.F., Reeves, R.R., Dolar, M.L.L., Jefferson, T.A., Marsh, H., Wang, J.Y. and Estacion, J. 2004). We would like to thank Shih-Chu Yang, Ellen Hines, Janice Lun, Lee-Ann Ford and Joe Walston for their assistance with this paper.