

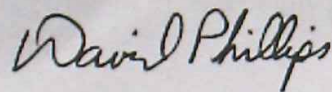
# IMMP

INTERNATIONAL  
MARINE MAMMAL  
PROJECT

International Marine Mammal Project  
Earth Island Institute  
2150 Allston Way suite 460  
Berkeley, CA 94704

## ALERT

To: Dolphin Safe Tuna Companies  
FROM: David Phillips, Executive Director



RE: Imports of Mexican Dolphin Deadly Tuna  
DATE: October 15, 2014

We hope you are doing well and appreciate your ongoing support of the Earth Island Institute's Dolphin Safe International Monitoring Program.

It has come to our attention that significant amounts of tuna are being imported into Europe from Mexico. Import documentation indicates that this tuna comes from companies that are catching tuna by the intentional chasing, harassing, netting, and killing of dolphins.

This tuna is allegedly being imported into Spain as frozen yellowfin tuna rounds. It is then processed in Spain into frozen tuna steaks for resale to outlets in various European countries. Such products may be represented to be "Dolphin Safe", however this is not correct. In truth, the products only meets the weak standards of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), which allows chasing, netting, harassing, and killing of up to 5,000 dolphins annually in pursuit of tuna. In addition to the reported kill, the US National Marine Fisheries Service has documented that there is a large "cryptic" kill not included in mortality estimates (the IATTC ignores this mortality), caused by the separation of dependent baby dolphins from their mothers during the chase phase of the process. These babies drop behind as the speedboats push the dolphin pod away, resulting in death of the babies by sharks or by starvation.

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PAGE 2: RE: Imports of Mexican Dolphin Deadly Tuna

We request your assistance in determining whether your company is purchasing any frozen tuna products from Spain. Please let us know at your earliest convenience. If your company has imported such product we would request an opportunity to review such purchases with you to ensure that they comply with our international Dolphin Safe standards.

Thank you again for your assistance in this matter and for your timely response.