



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

**HSI Report to the Thirteenth meeting of the
Ecologically Related Species Working Group
Tokyo, Canberra 28-31 May 2019**

Humane Society International (HSI) is pleased to provide the following report to the ERSWG. HSI is represented at the CCSBT ERSWG by its Australian office, working both internationally and in Australia on the bycatch of wildlife in fisheries.

In Australia HSI has maintained its strong focus on seabird conservation, focussing on reducing seabird bycatch in domestic and international fisheries. This has involved attending international meetings including CCSBT, ACAP, and UN meetings focussed on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction. Domestically HSI continues to work on both longline and trawl fisheries seabird bycatch. We remain active stakeholders engaged with the Australia's Threat Abatement Plan for Longline Fishing and the National Plan of Action for Seabirds which was released in October 2018. We are concerned at recent data regarding trawl bycatch and are working with management authorities to ensure this is reduced.

HSI also has a significant Australian and international campaign focussed on shark conservation, focussed on supporting countries seeking to list sharks under international conventions such as CITES and CMS and participating in the CMS Sharks Meeting of Signatories as a Cooperating Partner. Within Australia we seek to ensure domestic protection for threatened shark species by nominating them under federal and state legislation, advocating for the reduction in shark bycatch in Australian fisheries as well as campaigning to remove lethal shark control measures in Queensland and NSW.

The conservation crisis declared by ACAP at their recent meeting, and the UN IPBES report which warns we face an unprecedented extinction crisis without the instigation of transformative change puts this work in further focus and HSI looks forward to working with CCSBT Members to ensure effective action on ecologically related species.

Humane Society International
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