

Spotted Seals: The Yellow Sea as a Preview of a Future, Warmer Arctic?



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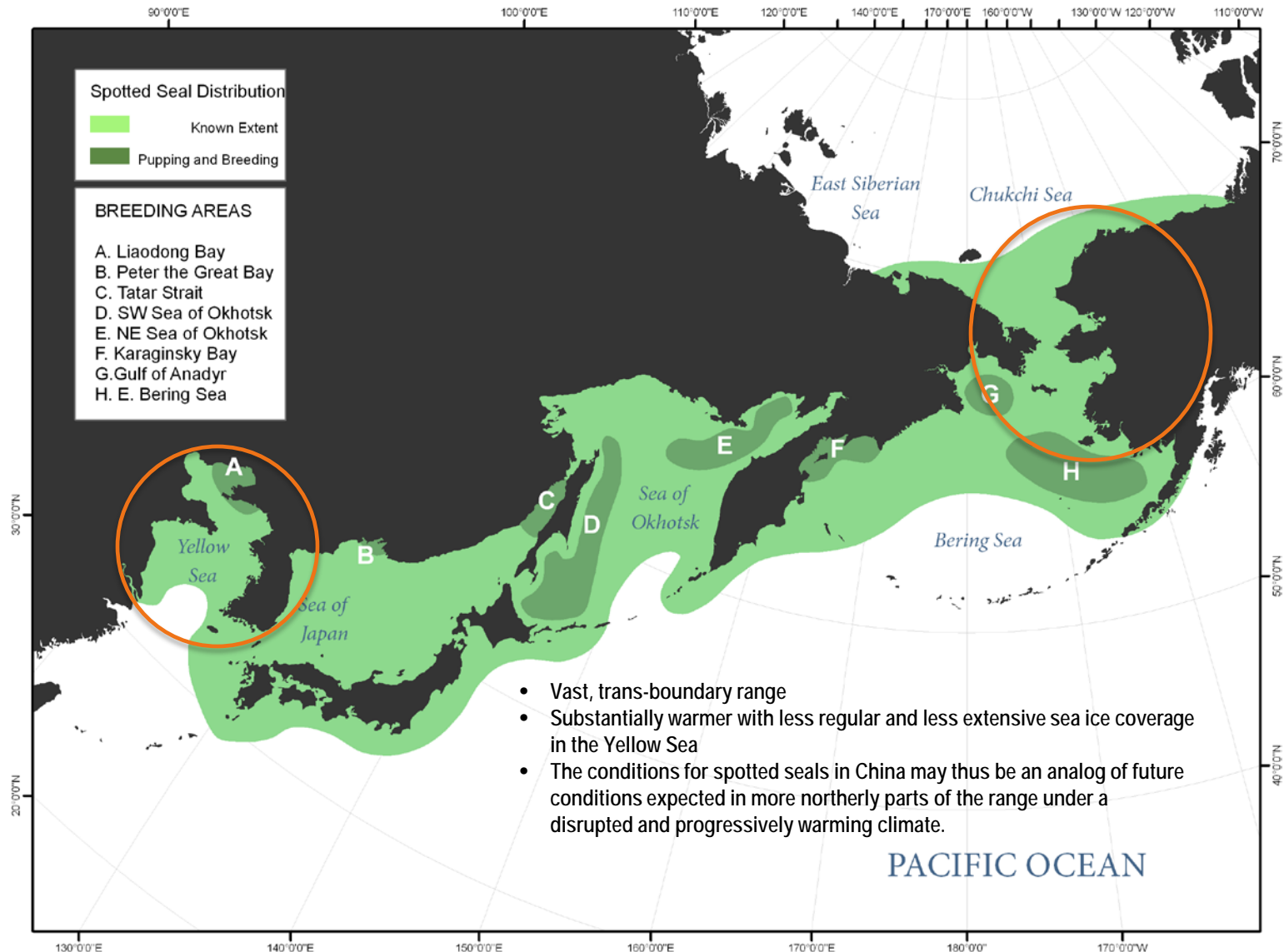
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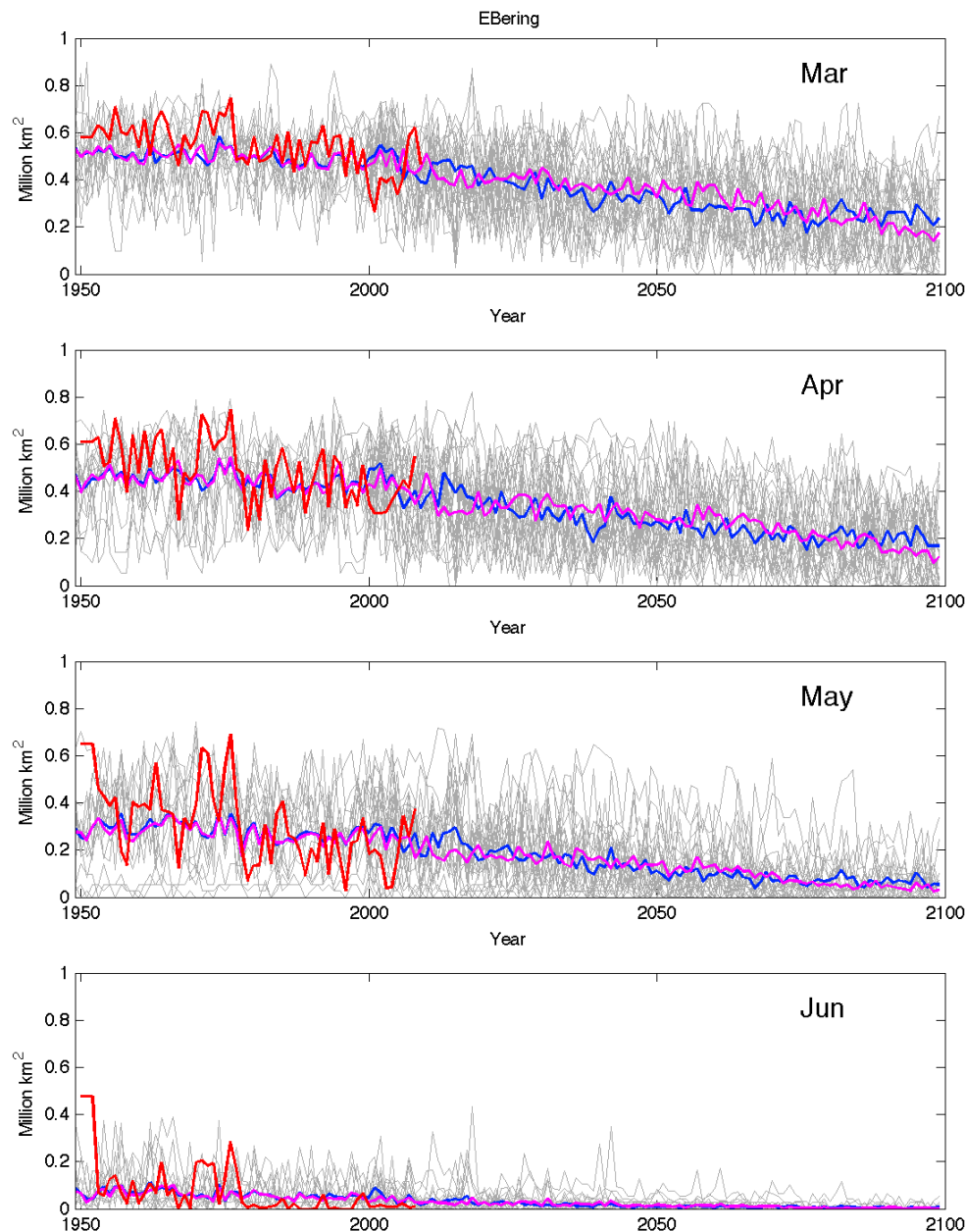


Global Range of Spotted Seals (*Phoca largha*)



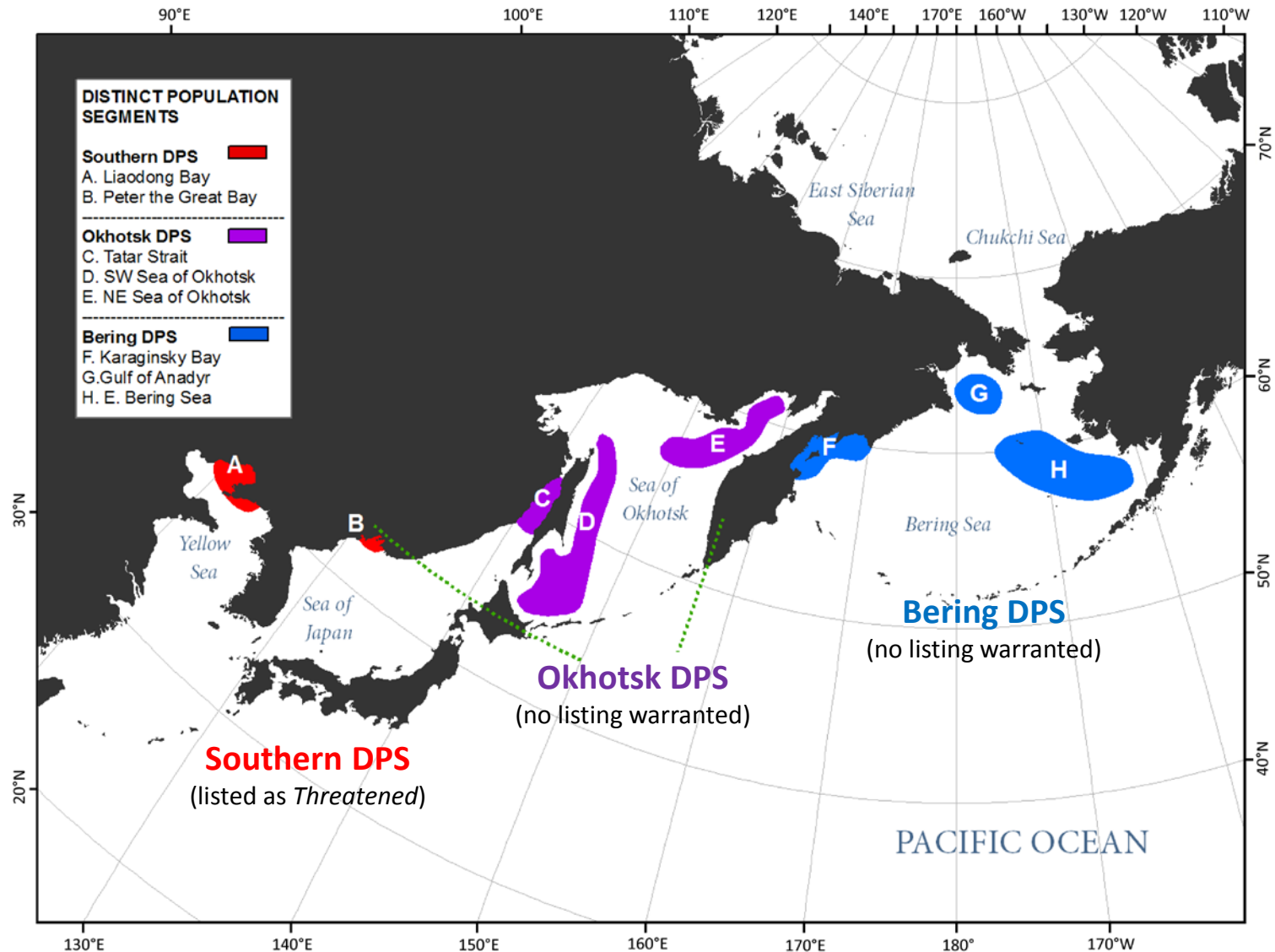
U.S. Endangered Species Act

- **NMFS was requested by a conservation organization to list spotted seals as Threatened or Endangered.**
- **Comprehensive assessment of risks: Loss of habitat; overutilization; diseases and predation; inadequate regulatory mechanisms; and other factors**
- **Loss of sea ice habitat for reproduction is a special concern for this ice-associated species**



Example: Projections of sea ice in the eastern Bering Sea from IPCC models.

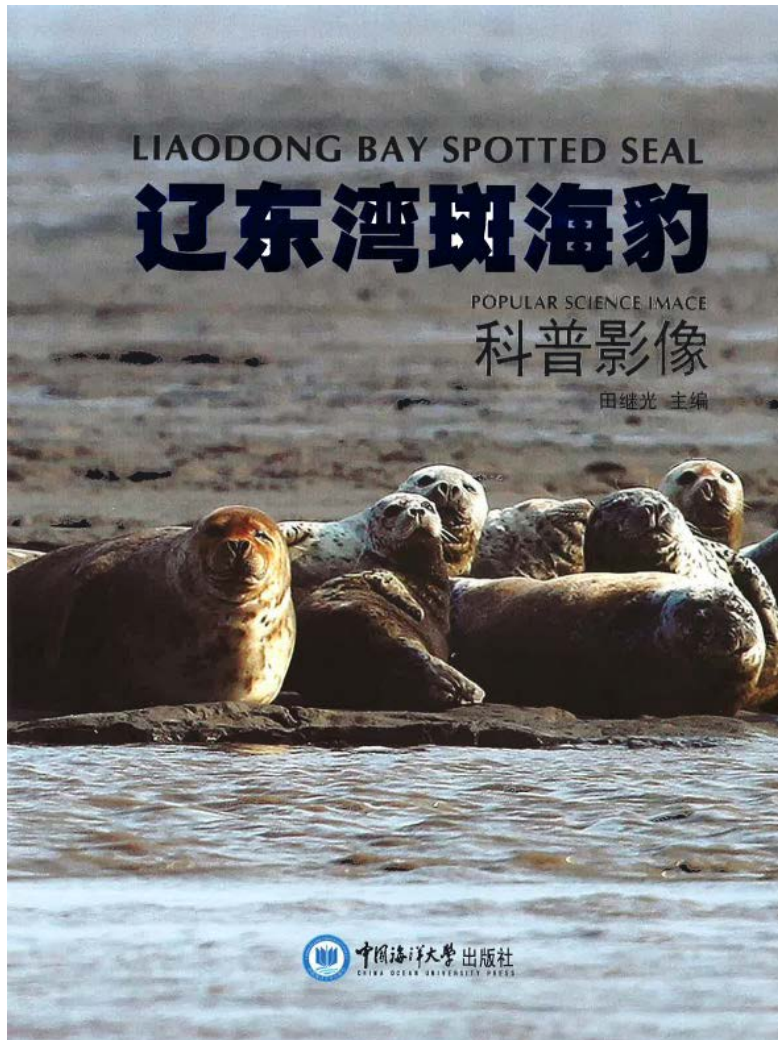
NMFS Decision on Spotted Seal ESA Listing Petition, October 2010



U.S. – China exchange on spotted seals

- **There is very little information published in the (English-language) scientific literature**
- **A large portion of the information used in the NMFS status review of spotted seals was from internet web pages rather than peer-reviewed literature.**
- **An exchange of scientific expertise would benefit both nations in a better understanding of the habitat requirements for spotted seal persistence in a changing climate**

U.S. – China exchange on spotted seals



Much of the information that we could find stems from the work of Mr. Tian Jiguang, Director of the Panjin Spotted Seal Protection Volunteer Association


Possible opportunity for exchange of cultural, scientific, and traditional knowledge on spotted seals.


Collaboration with CAFS?

Ice Seals: Ringed, Ribbon, ×

← → ↻ www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/protectedresources/seals/ice.htm ☆ 9 ☰





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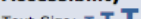


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Related Websites

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Ringed, Ribbon, Spotted and Bearded Ice Seals

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Questions?

