

# Caught in the net

Each year up to 1 million sea mammals, turtles and birds are unintended victims of the driftnets

Petrel

- **Seabirds under threat:** shearwaters, the short tailed albatross and the dark rumped petrel
- **Fish under threat:** albacore, sunfish, skipjack tuna, salmon and short-billed spearfish

Environmentalists and the U.S. are demanding a ban on the use 'wall of death' driftnets. These 50-kilometre long nets indiscriminately trap millions of fish, dolphins and other marine life

Fishing boats cast nets in the sea which drift for up to 12 hours. Fish and marine mammals swim into the stationary nets

Blue shark

Common dolphin

- **Mammals under threat:** dolphins, porpoises and small whales

Float

Nylon nets up to 50km long and 15m deep

Sinker

30cm mesh

Fish swim with the current

The countries who use driftnets and the fishing grounds around the world

Japan  
Taiwan

Japan  
Taiwan  
South Korea

France  
Ireland  
England

Italy

Taiwan

- **The U.S. demand:**  
A global moratoria on driftnet fishing or else punitive trade measures

- **The Japanese alternative:**  
Sub-surface driftnets which will float several metres below the sea surface. This will reduce the number of seabirds and marine mammals caught near the surface