

**I****N THEIR NURSERY** off the east coast of Canada, docile young pups are in danger as soon as their coats start to change from white to gray. That's when Canadian fishermen in their off-season begin slaughtering the seals for their fur. In 2013, The HSUS and Humane Society International helped shut down global markets for seal pelts. We helped defend the E.U.'s ban on trade in commercial seal hunt products from a World Trade Organization challenge. We also won a major victory in Asia when Taiwan banned the trade in all marine mammal products.

Critically endangered North Atlantic right whales face a different kind of problem: collisions with fast-moving ships that kill mother whales and their young off the East Coast of the U.S. In 2013, following an HSUS legal petition, the National Marine Fish-

eries Service made permanent a rule requiring certain ships to slow down in areas where right whales congregate. Each life saved has a huge impact on the survival chance of the species: The most recent count found just 444 in the North Atlantic.

HSI and The HSUS also made strides for captive marine mammals. India banned keeping cetaceans in captivity and advised its state governments not to grant permission for dolphinariums—facilities where dolphins and other marine mammals are kept on display. In the U.S., 69,000 people and institutions signed an HSUS petition urging the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to reject an aquarium's request to import wild-caught beluga whales from Russia. NOAA heeded the outcry and denied the permit.

VICTORIES FOR

MARINE MAMMALS

