



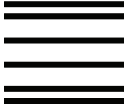
Help Preserve  
New England's  
400-year-old Industry  
by Ending  
Overfishing

# TAKE ACTION

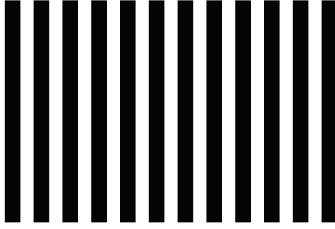
## TO REBUILD NEW ENGLAND'S FISH STOCKS

New England's groundfish fishery has driven the region's economy and culture for centuries. But today it is in serious trouble. Decades of overfishing and mismanagement have led to severe declines in fish populations, continued restrictions on fishing effort, decreases in revenue, and the loss of our traditional fishing fleet.

**It is now time to adopt a new approach to replace this failed fishery management system.**



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# SECTORS

## COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES

With the support of forward-thinking commercial fishing organizations, the New England Fishery Management Council is developing a new management structure that allows groups of fishermen to manage their own share of the annual catch limit.

These harvesting co-ops, or “sectors,” give fishermen the flexibility to set their own fishing guidelines and enable them to achieve greater efficiency and profitability in their businesses. At the same time, fishermen will adhere to science-based catch limits that promote rebuilding of fish populations.



## ACT NOW

Urge the National Marine Fisheries Service to end overfishing by adopting sector management and annual catch limits that hold ALL fishermen accountable for their catch.

# TO END OVERFISHING

The Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act of 2006 mandates the use of annual catch limits, including accountability measures to ensure limits are not exceeded.

All vessels, whether participating in a sector or not, should be held to the same standard!

Dear Regional Administrator Patricia Kurkul,

**I support immediate action to end overfishing and to restore New England's historic groundfish fishery.** To achieve this goal, I enthusiastically support the full, effective and timely implementation of sector management and strongly recommend that the following measures be adopted and applied across the entire New England groundfish fleet by 2010:

- **Science-based annual catch limits** on all managed fish stocks
- **Strong accountability measures** that ensure fishing ceases once annual limits are reached and that correct overages if they occur
- **A comprehensive monitoring and reporting system** that provides accurate estimates on all fish caught (landings and discards of all species)

Full implementation of these measures will not only bring groundfish management into compliance with the new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act but will also help create a fair and level playing field among all fishermen, whether participating in a sector or not.

**Please ensure the above measures are adopted for all vessels in 2010.**

Sincerely,

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NAME

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ADDRESS

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EMAIL

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PHONE



# ACT NOW

**TO HELP END OVERFISHING AND PROTECT  
NEW ENGLAND'S TRADITIONAL FISHING FLEET!**

The Pew Environment Group and its partners, the Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association and Midcoast (Maine) Fishermen's Association, are working together to end overfishing and to protect the livelihood of fishermen while depleted groundfish stocks are being rebuilt. For more information please visit:

[www.newenglandfishing.org](http://www.newenglandfishing.org)

