
Subject: FW: Midwater Trawlers in Groundfish Closed Areas

From: Steve Morley [mailto:chumtini@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 8:21 PM
To: johnp@ccchfa.org
Subject: Midwater Trawlers in Groundfish Closed Areas

John W. Pappalardo, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
210 E-Orleans Road
No. Chatham, MA 02650

Dear Chairman Pappalardo,

It was brought to my attention that midwater trawling vessels have been allowed access to closed groundfish areas. I came across probably hundreds of dying striped bass last year "dumped" as bycatch. I recorded it on video so others could see the damage caused from bycatch. Needless to say, it created a bit of a stir. And this happened just off your shore, east of Chatham. If you haven't seen it, you can find a copy here:

<http://www.chumtini.com/media/Videos/DeadBass-1.wmv>

These boats should never have been allowed into these areas in the first place and I hope the Council will do the right thing and get them out until they can prove that they should be fishing in those areas. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Steve Morley

