

Mrs. Tricia Hamilton
10 Maple Ln
Shirley, NY 11967-2308

Sep 15, 2011

Paul Howard, New England Fishery Management Council

Subject: Accidentally Caught and Killed

Dear Paul Howard, New England Fishery Management Council,

Almost four years ago, the New England Fishery Management Council initiated a plan to improve catch monitoring and reduce bycatch in the Atlantic herring fishery a move that resulted in nearly 10,000 public comments calling for effective action to reform the industrial herring midwater trawl fleet.

While I heartily support and applaud many of the reforms being proposed, I am concerned there could be an eleventh hour move to eliminate some key monitoring and bycatch reduction measures before the public is given the opportunity to comment.

As we near completion of this plan, please ensure the Council continues to demonstrate their commitment and support of meaningful reform of the Atlantic herring fishery by approving for public comment the full range of management options developed in Amendment 5, including:

**100 percent at-sea monitoring on all midwater trawl fishing trips (i.e., one observer per vessel to sample all catch) in order to provide reliable estimates of herring catch and bycatch of river herring, shad, groundfish and other non-target species.

**No herring fishing in areas designated as river herring bycatch "hotspots" to protect river herring and the predators that depend on their coastal migrations.

**No herring midwater trawling in areas established to protect rebuilding groundfish populations.

**A prohibition on the release or dumping of unsampled catch except under exceptional circumstances, such as mechanical failure or when safety is a concern.

**A set of consequences to discourage the wasteful dumping of catch, including an accountability system to ensure the exceptions are not abused (a fleetwide allowance of ten dumping events for each herring management area, after which any dumping event would require a return to port).

Thank you for your consideration of my comments as you finalize these much-needed and long-awaited reforms to the industrialized Atlantic herring fishery.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Tricia Hamilton

miss Katie Osowiecki
225 Kelton St Apt 17
Allston, MA 02134-4356

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Sincerely,
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Mrs. Diane LAVELLE
687 S Washington St
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411-1218

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Sincerely,
Mrs. Diane LAVELLE

Ms. Carley Broder
100 W 67th St
Apt 2se
New York, NY 10023-5919

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Sincerely,
Ms. Carley Broder

Ms. Melissa Frakes
232 Burns Ave
Syracuse, NY 13206-2532

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Sincerely,
Ms. Melissa Frakes

Mrs. Rachel M Hervey PHN
9215 Tassajara Cr Rd
Santa Margarita, CA 93453-9759

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Mrs. Rachel M Hervey PHN

ms Carolyn Kwiat
799 Bridge St
Suffield, CT 06078-2328

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Sincerely,
ms Carolyn Kwiat

Mrs. susan webb
6 E Collins Cir
Finksburg, MD 21048-1853

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Sincerely,
Mrs. susan webb

Mr. Calvin Jones
2509 Highfield Ct
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-6301

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Dr. Jeffrey Bedrick
836 Goshen Rd
Newtown Square, PA 19073-2601

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Mr. Gary Roberts
172 S 4th St
Mount Wolf, PA 17347-8200

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Ms. Jennifer Keys
20882 Isherwood Ter Apt 302
Ashburn, VA 20147-7793

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Mrs. Sarah Reid
105 Sheldon Rd
Ithaca, NY 14850-2501

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**CATCHING SEA CREATURES SHOULD NEVER INVOLVE KILLING UNINTENDED SPECIES.
THE PLANET WILL DIE IF ECOSYSTEMS ARE DISTURBED BY ARBITRARY CATCHES.**

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sarah Reid

Ms. Linda Waive
80 School St
Taunton, MA 02780-3119

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Miss Vicynthia Tjahjadi
SK XX/15
Bandung, None 40286

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Miss Vicynthia Tjahjadi

Ms. Wendy Li
29 Bay 46th St
Brooklyn, NY 11214-5513

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