



THE FACTS ABOUT SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY

- ✓ Recent news accounts claim that seafood species worldwide will be extinct by the year 2048. These media reports run the risk of scaring consumers away from eating this healthy source of protein.
- ✓ NFI's members fully support the sustainable use of our nation and globe's ocean resources. We require responsible fishing practices and the sustainable management of our oceans. By actively working with the government's fishery scientists (like the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Service and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization), we make sure our wild capture fisheries system remains healthy and is managed properly for future generations.
- ✓ The American seafood industry is proud of its commitment to being good stewards of our oceans and environment, and to providing consumers with quality seafood and fish products as an important part of a healthy, balanced diet.
- ✓ According to government scientists' statistics, more than 80 percent of fish stocks are sustainable and will provide seafood now and for future generations. Regarding the recent reports, NOAA Fisheries' Chief Scientist Steve Murawski said, "We have major problems with their forecast of no commercial fish stocks by 2048. We just don't think that forecast is credible for the United States. Using fish catch statistics as a measure of the population size is dangerous because many factors influence the actual catch from a stock."
- ✓ Americans deserve a variety of food choices and wild and farmed fish allow consumers to choose fish meals based on their individual taste preferences.
- ✓ The bottom line is: if the species of fish is in the store or on the menu, the stock is available to meet consumer demand. It is our industry's goal to ensure our products will be available to American consumers for future generations.
- ✓ America's favorite seafoods are sustainably managed. The Top Ten Seafoods enjoyed by Americans include:

1. Shrimp – Sustainably managed ^a
2. Tuna -- Sustainably managed
3. Salmon -- Sustainably managed
4. Pollock -- Sustainably managed
5. Catfish -- Sustainably managed
6. Tilapia -- Sustainably managed
7. Crab -- Limited overfishing ^b
8. Cod -- Limited overfishing ^c
9. Clams -- Sustainably managed
10. Flatfish – Limited overfishing ^d

Source: NOAA Fisheries 2005 Status of Stocks Report to Congress.

Learn more at:
http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/domes_fish/StatusofFisheries/2005/finalSOS/Report_text_FINAL3.pdf

^a Sustainable means a fish stock is not overfished.

^c King and Tanner crabs from Bering Sea

^b Yellowtail and Winter flounder from Georges Bank

^d Cod from Georges Bank and Gulf of Maine