

Marine Fish Conservation Network • Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations • Project AWARE Foundation • Sierra Club • National Wildlife Federation • Oceana • Defenders of Wildlife • Natural Resources Defense Council • Pew Environment Group • Greenpeace USA • Waterkeeper Alliance • Marine Conservation Biology Institute • Greenpeace USA • Center for Biological Diversity • Shark Savers • Island Institute • Boston & New England Maritime Trades Council • Conservation Law Foundation • Narragansett Baykeeper • Save the Bay, Narragansett Bay • Hudson Riverkeeper • WESPAC Foundation • Greater Newark Conservancy • Chesapeake Bay Foundation • Center for Chesapeake Communities • Chesapeake for Change • St. Mary's River Watershed Association • Choptank River Eastern Bay Conservancy • Sierra Club, Virginia Chapter • Greener Results, Virginia • Hampton Roads Green Drinks, Green Caffeine, and Green Jobs Alliance • Ecomaniacs • Green Alternatives • Move On.Org Hampton Roads • Terra-Scapes Environmental Consulting • Emerald Coastkeeper • Galveston Baykeeper • California Coastkeeper Alliance • The Sportfishing Conservancy • Aquarium of the Pacific • San Francisco Baykeeper • The Watershed Project •

September 15, 2010

U.S. House of Representatives/Senate
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Please Support H.R. 4914/S. 3528, *The Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010*

Dear Representative/Senator,

As conservation and fishing organizations across the country, we urge you to cosponsor the Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010 (H.R. 4914/S. 3528). We support legal requirements to end overfishing in federal waters by 2011 and rebuild depleted fish populations. At the same time, we want to ensure that U.S. fishermen and coastal communities are able to transition to a more sustainable future.

America's coastal waters are endowed with magnificent ecosystems that, when healthy, draw anglers, divers and tourists from around the world and support fishermen and fishing communities. Unfortunately, continued overfishing, taking fish faster than they can reproduce, threatens some U.S. fish populations and the coastal communities that depend upon them. As a result, we, the undersigned organizations, urge Congress to support efforts to implement the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requirements to end overfishing and rebuild depleted U.S. fish populations without delay.

Conservation measures necessary to end overfishing may create short-term challenges, but will ultimately reap long-term economic benefits for the nation. According to the National Marine Fisheries Service, **when U.S. ocean fish populations fully recover, they will support an additional 500,000 new jobs.**

In the meantime, the Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010 supports jobs for fishermen and others in coastal communities to improve fisheries science, waterfront infrastructure and coastal marine habitat. The Coastal Jobs Creation Act will improve the scientific data used for management, increase collaboration among fishermen and government scientists, clean-up marine debris, restore coastal habitats and revitalize working waterfronts. And while this bill was conceived before the Gulf oil spill, these are the types of projects needed to help hard-hit fishing communities in those states most affected by our nation's worst environmental disaster.

Please act now for fishermen, coastal communities and the ocean environment by cosponsoring H.R. 4914/S. 3528, the Coastal Jobs Creation Act of 2010. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Name

Group

City, State