



Image: School of bigeye trevally (Getty Images)

Fish moving polewards so they can breathe

On The Science Show with Robyn Williams



Full episode • 54min 6sec

Fish moving polewards and 3D printing of body parts

11mins
32secs

3D printers now producing body parts

13mins
22secs

Fish moving polewards so they can breathe

11mins
45secs

What led to Greta?

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Fish from California are now seen off the Canadian coast. Fish from Florida are seen off the coast by New York. And fish usually found off the Queensland coast in northern Australia are now seen south off the coast of New South Wales. All over the world fish are chasing cooler waters as the waters they are used to are warming. Oceans are storing much of the excess heat being trapped by the Earth's atmosphere, now rich in heat-trapping carbon dioxide. Daniel Pauly studies how fish respire. While we obtain oxygen from the air, fish get their oxygen from water passing over their gills. But warmer water holds less oxygen. In addition, fish in warmer water have faster metabolism and require more oxygen. So warmer ocean temperatures are bad news for fish. They need more oxygen and there is less available. This is why fish worldwide are seeking cooler waters and moving polewards. It's so they can breathe.

Guest

Daniel Pauly

Professor of Fisheries
University of British Columbia
Vancouver Canada

Presenter

Robyn Williams

Producer

David Fisher

90% of all big fish have been taken from the oceans – The Science Show 13th February 2021

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Audio: <https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/legacy.searoundus/TVRadio/2021/ABC+The+Science+Show+-+February+20%2C+2021+-+Fish+moving+polewards+so+they+can+breathe.mp3>

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