

Taste for unusual dishes latest threat to fish stocks

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

A growing worldwide taste for unusual sea creatures will pose the next major threat to fish stocks, one of the world's leading fisheries experts said yesterday. The same trend that made food out of calamari, sea cucumber and fish eggs will soon put Thai-style dried jellyfish onto North American plates, said Daniel Pauly...

FULL TEXT

A growing worldwide taste for unusual sea creatures will pose the next major threat to fish stocks, one of the world's leading fisheries experts said yesterday. The same trend that made food out of calamari, sea cucumber and fish eggs will soon put Thai-style dried jellyfish onto North American plates, said Daniel Pauly of the University of British Columbia. While the translucent, spineless jellyfish will likely be an acquired taste for most westerners, Pauly's warning to an international conference of 1,700 fish experts was more than a comment on menu selections. Pauly said the repeated pattern of overfishing means the bottom of the marine food chain will soon also be threatened, along with species at the top, such as cod and tuna. He said he believes the process of "fishing lower and lower into the food web" will make recovery far more difficult for stocks of more traditional fish species as their food sources disappear.

Credit: Canadian Press

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