

Worldwide fish stocks in danger of depletion as fisheries expand out to sea

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ABSTRACT (ABSTRACT)

The world's fisheries have become so stretched because boats have been moving into deeper water to find larger, high-priced fish, such as tuna and groupers, as smaller species become fished out.

FULL TEXT

HALIFAX - Fish stocks throughout the world could face near extinction by 2050 if more isn't done to stem the increasing strain on all species, especially those in deep waters, says a report to be released Friday.

The article, to be published in Science Magazine today, says authorities must try to contain a trend that has trawlers venturing further offshore and destroying habitats as they search for large species.

The paper, called the Future for Fisheries, describes measures that should be taken to "bring fisheries back from the brink and reduce the danger of extinction for many species."

The world's fisheries have become so stretched because boats have been moving into deeper water to find larger, high-priced fish, such as tuna and groupers, as smaller species become fished out.

Daniel Pauly, one of the article's authors, said that over the last 50 years the international fishery has moved into deeper waters -- a trend that could foreshadow stock losses similar to what happened to the cod in Canada.

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