



A Legacy of Success

Since 1976, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) has been a critical tool in rebuilding America's fisheries and coastal fishing communities.

In addition to establishing the exclusive economic zone, the MSA also established eight regional fishery councils, each tasked with setting its own uniquely tailored fish population targets and given the power to develop and implement its own fishery management system. In 2006, the reauthorized MSA established annual catch limits and accountability measures as additional tools for addressing overfishing and rebuilding local fish populations.

The overall effectiveness of the MSA has hinged on engaging local stakeholders in the management, monitoring, and enforcement of regional harvest targets. These efforts have resulted in the rebuilding of dozens of fish stocks around the country, which has translated into increased economic activity and jobs for Americans.

Charting a New Course

While the MSA has successfully rebuilt depleted fish populations and encouraged science-based fishery management, the current reauthorization of the MSA is an opportunity to continue this legacy and establish an even stronger tool for America's fishing communities. In light of changing ocean conditions and climate change, all fishing sectors must come together and work collaboratively to conserve fish populations so that future Americans have access to healthy fisheries and thriving marine ecosystems.

The Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (ALFA) and others around the country are urging Congress to uphold policies in the MSA reauthorization that will require: **accurate and timely fish stock assessments and harvest monitoring; enforcement of annual catch limits; and shared accountability across all fishing sectors.**

The current reauthorization of the MSA is a chance to ensure that all can fully realize and benefit from the bounty of our shared marine waters. **Visit alfafish.org or call 907-747-3400 to learn more.**

MSA AT A GLANCE

41 Fish stocks rebuilt since 2000

Rebuilding all US fish stocks would lead to:

\$31 Estimated increase in annual sales
BILLION

 Support for half a million new US jobs

Estimated sales by sector in 2015:



Take Action: All Hands on Deck

Whether you're a commercial fisherman, sport fisherman, seafood buyer, or resident of a coastal fishing community, you can help shape the future of America's fishing legacy. **Here's how to contact your member of Congress:**

 Alaska: Senator Dan Sullivan (202) 224-3004

 Washington: Senator Maria Cantwell (202) 224-3441

All other offices: (202) 224-3121