



August 27, 2013

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski, Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski and Ranking Minority Member Shelby:

Congratulations on your Committee's adoption of the FY 2014 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies appropriations bill. And, thank you for the extraordinary work of your exceptional staff in helping to pull together such important legislation.

We are the members of the Northeast Seafood Coalition. Just a few short years ago we found ourselves at the forefront of the transition of our New England groundfish fishery to catch share management and hard TACs. This transition came with all sorts of rosy promises of resource abundance and economic stability. Maybe even prosperity.

That transition itself was difficult enough to survive, and many of our friends simply didn't make it. But for those of us left standing the situation today is simply unbelievable.

Today, there is no stability or prosperity in our industry or communities. Instead, every week we watch as another one of the very best among us falls. We are losing our homes, our children's futures and the fabric that has held our communities together for over four centuries. Why? We are told there are no fish. We are told that just like nature can wreak havoc on man's world through sudden events like hurricanes, tsunamis and droughts—it can also have devastating effects on the productivity of our marine ecosystem.

As fishermen, we are proud to be among the toughest and most resourceful humans on the planet. We are the definition of survivors. But as difficult as it may be for us to admit, we are helpless in the face of these forces that have changed our world. We cannot force the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank ecosystems to swing back to the level of catch rates or productivity that will sustain our fishery. We know they will recover—and with time and better science so will we, provided something can be done in the meantime to preserve our world for that better day. Unlike churches, schools and homes destroyed by a storm, our fishery will require much more than bricks and mortar.

This is truly a disaster of enormous proportions and severity, and so we were very grateful when Acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank affirmed this reality through her official declaration of a fishery

disaster under federal law. That was nearly 12 months ago and yet as bad as things were then, our catch limits were reduced another 40-90 % this fishing year. Unfortunately, we have yet to see the Commerce Department take the actions needed to mitigate the disaster it declared. On the contrary, it has consistently rejected the repeated efforts of the New England Council and our industry to develop innovative means to mitigate the impacts.

What we *have* seen is your relentless efforts—and those of many other Senators and Members of the House of Representatives from our region—to provide fishery disaster assistance funding through your appropriations legislation. It is impossible for us to sufficiently express our appreciation for your repeated efforts to help us and our families – first through the Hurricane Sandy bill and now through the FY 2014 appropriations legislation.

But what makes your efforts on our behalf all the more remarkable is that you are not from our region. We are not your constituents. We cannot vote for you. Yet you have stood up for what you believe is right and what needs to be done. That is true leadership. You have insisted that just like those unfortunate Americans and communities that have suffered unthinkable tragedies as a result of storms and other terrible natural disasters, this nation will also do what is necessary to assist its fishermen whose lives have likewise been destroyed by a disaster of a different kind. You and the many Senators from our region and others that worked with you to establish and fund the Fisheries Disaster Mitigation Fund in your FY 2014 appropriations legislation are true heroes. This Fund will provide the crucial bridge for our families, communities and industry to survive while our fisheries recover. We can never thank you enough.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Akerley
F/V Explorer II
Massachusetts

Ellis Batson
F/V Northern Edge
Maine

Carl Bouchard
New Hampshire

Busty Brancaleone
F/V Tina & Tom
Massachusetts

Corrado Buccheri
F/V Horizon
Massachusetts

Mark Carroll
F/V Harvest Moon
Massachusetts

Daniel Connors
F/V Early Times
Massachusetts

Albert Cottone
F/V Sabrina Maria
Massachusetts

John Deltorchio
F/V Amber and John
Massachusetts

Giuseppe Dimaio
F/V Lucy, F/V Orion, F/V Capt Joe
Massachusetts

Antonino Giacalone
F/V Caterina G
Massachusetts

Vito Giacalone
F/V Jenny G
Massachusetts

Dean Holt
F/V Katie May
New Hampshire

Joseph Jurek
F/V Mystique Lady
Massachusetts

Matteo Logrande
F/V Little Sandra
Massachusetts

Joe Lucido
F/V Helen S III
Massachusetts

Paul Metivier
F/V Debra Ann II
Massachusetts

Daniel Murphy
F/V Bantry Bay
New Hampshire

Busty & Stefanie Noto
F/V Grace Marie
Massachusetts

Sam Novello
F/V Capt Novello
Massachusetts

Dennis Oconnel
F/V Lady Elaine
Massachusetts

Joe Orlando
F/V Padre Pio
Massachusetts

Giuseppe Palazzolo
F/V Francesca & Carlo
Massachusetts

Joe Randazzo
F/V Razzo
Massachusetts

Dennis Robillard
Maine

Vincenzo Russo
F/V Miss Trish II
Massachusetts

Clark Sandler
F/V Seafarmer II
Massachusetts

Accursio Sanfilippo
F/V Captain Dominic
Massachusetts

Ignazio Sanfilippo
F/V Cat Eyes
Massachusetts

Joseph Sanfilippo
F/V Maria G.S.
Massachusetts

Gus Sanfilippo
Lily Jean Corp.
Massachusetts

Sal Sanfilippo
F/V Janaya & Joseph
Massachusetts

Frank Sciortino
F/V Christina Eleni
Massachusetts

Russell Sherman
F/V Lady Jane
Massachusetts

Edward Smith
F/V Special K, F/V Claudia Marie
Massachusetts

Vincenzo Taormina
F/V Miss Sandy
Massachusetts

Thomas Testaverde
F/V Midnight Sun
Massachusetts

Paul Theriault
F/V Terminator
Massachusetts

James Vanderpool
F/V Alyssa & Andrew
Massachusetts

Paul Vitale
F/V Angela And Rose
Massachusetts

David Williams
F/V Kathryn W
Massachusetts

Steven Wojcicki
F/V Kristine Marie
New Hampshire

William "B.G." Brown
F/V Kathryn Leigh
Massachusetts

Richard Burgess
F/V Lori B, F/V Ryan Zachary
Massachusetts

Mark Byard
F/V SS Melon III
Massachusetts

Mark Carnevale
F/V Carol Ann
Massachusetts

Christian Chadwick
F/V Native Son
Massachusetts

Paul Cohan
F/V Sasquatch III
Massachusetts

Matthew Cooney
F/V Miss Meredith
Massachusetts

William Cunningham
Island Queen Fishing Corp.
Massachusetts

Frank Davis
F/V Janel Leigh
Massachusetts

Daniel Dunbar
F/V Little Mako
Massachusetts

Lance Edwards
F/V Catherine M
Massachusetts

Peter S. Eshenfelder
F/V Sharon E, F/V Hannah Story
Connecticut

Peter Fadden
F/V Catherine F
Massachusetts

Michael Frontiero
F/V Dunlin
Massachusetts

Peter Fyrberg
F/V Merganser
Massachusetts

Douglas Germain
F/V Labor in Vain
Massachusetts

John Greenleaf
F/V David & Jenna II
Massachusetts

Ronald Hemeon
F/V Alexis Margaret
Massachusetts

Brian Higgins
F/V Toby Ann
Massachusetts

Thomas Hill
F/V Karoline Marie
Massachusetts

David Jewell
F/V Lady J
Massachusetts

Thomas Lupo
F/V Jennie C
Massachusetts

Michael Malewicki
F/V Janie M
Massachusetts

Peter Mondello
F/V Allison Carol
Massachusetts

John "Spice" Montgomery
F/V Chandelle
Massachusetts

William Muniz
F/V Lily
Massachusetts

Craig Porter
F/V Kenneth J Duncan, F/V Manford L Porter
Massachusetts

Thomas Porter
F/V Susan Kimberly
Massachusetts

Philip Powell
F/V Foxy Lady, F/V Foxy Lady
Massachusetts

Andy Santapaola
F/V Gannet
Massachusetts

James Santapaola
F/V Amanda Leigh, F/V Amanda & Andy II, F/V
Amanda & Andy III
Massachusetts

Arthur "Sooky" Sawyer
F/V Miss Carla
Massachusetts

William Skrobacz
F/V Toots
Massachusetts

Scott Swicker
F/V Aaron & Alexa
Massachusetts

Jeffrey Tutein
Massachusetts

Steven Arnold
F/V Elizabeth & Katherine
Rhode Island

Dan Barlow
F/V Crackerjac
Rhode Island

Mike Bauhs
F/V Windsong
New York

Glenn Beck
F/V Ruthy L
New York

Peter Bessette
F/V Karyn, Inc.
Connecticut

Charles Brayton
F/V Kelsi & Morgan
Rhode Island

Robert Brewster
F/V Abbie & Holly
New Jersey

Chris Brown
F/V Proud Mary
Rhode Island

Oscar Diaz
F/V Mistress
Rhode Island

Howard Follett
F/V Atlantic Queen
Rhode Island

Steve Follett
F/V Heather Lynn
Rhode Island

Donald Fox
F/V Determination, F/V Stephanie & Bryan, F/V
Excalibur, F/V Rebecca Mary, F/V Lightning Bay
Rhode Island

Jim Fox
F/V Rayda Cheramie
Rhode Island

Ken Ketcham
F/V Linda Marie
Rhode Island

Jim Kraus
F/V Mary Anne
New York

Jeffrey Kraus
F/V Elizabeth J
New York

Eric Lundvall
F/V Rayna & Kerstin
New Jersey

Niles Pearsall
F/V Black Sheep
Rhode Island

Ted Platz
Ocean Harvest, Inc.
Rhode Island

Ken Raynor
F/V Dorothy M
New York

William Reed
F/V Providence
New York

Sid Smith
F/V Merit
New York

Todd Sutton
F/V Sweet Misery
Rhode Island

Rodman Sykes
F/V Virginia Marise
Rhode Island

Chuck Weimar
F/V Rianda S
New York

Bob Westcott
F/V Ocean State
Rhode Island

John Windels
F/V Mary Rose
New York

Tory Bramante
F/V America, F/V American Pride
Massachusetts

Michael Walsh
F/V Guardian, F/V Atlantic Prince
Massachusetts

Warren Alexander
F/V Collin & Warren III, F/V Ocean Queen
Massachusetts

Rodney Avila
F/V Seven Seas
Massachusetts

Willis Blount
F/V Ruthie B
Massachusetts

Charles Borden
F/V Mandrake
Massachusetts

Antonio Borges
F/V Sao Paulo
Massachusetts

William Borges
F/V Holly Jean
Massachusetts

Antonio Cancira
Massachusetts

Manuel Catulo
Massachusetts

Pedro Cura
F/V Fisherman
Massachusetts

Michael Doyle
F/V Seafarer
Massachusetts

Armando Estudante
F/V Endurance
Massachusetts

Tim Hauser
F/V Shelby Ann
Massachusetts

William McCann
F/V Pilgrim, F/V Shamrock
Massachusetts

Manuel Puga
Massachusetts

Mario Ribeiro
F/V Lucimar
Massachusetts

Antonio Sao Marcos
F/V Sao Marcos II
Massachusetts

Michael Smith
F/V Majestic
Massachusetts

Manuel Vinagre
F/V Sea Siren
Massachusetts

Jonathan Wright
F/V Donny C
Massachusetts

Stanley Adamczewski
F/V Humbak
Massachusetts

Carlos Camarao
F/V Virginia Sands
Massachusetts

Raymond Canastra
BASE, Inc.
Massachusetts

Antonio Cravo
F/V United States
Massachusetts

Dan Eilertsen
F/V Justice
Massachusetts

Paul Lemieux
F/V Resilient
Massachusetts

Paul Lemieux
F/V Hustler
Massachusetts

Felicio Lourenco
Massachusetts

Jack Morris
F/V Brittany Eryn
Massachusetts

William Norton
F/V Galaxy
Massachusetts

Pedro Pelicas
F/V Iberia II
Massachusetts

Peter Reposa
F/V Alexis Martina
Massachusetts

Peter Reposa
F/V Olivia Catherine
Massachusetts

Jeffrey Skaar
F/V Thor
Massachusetts

Carlos Alberto
F/V Luso American I
Massachusetts

Antonio Pereira
F/V Blue Seas II
Massachusetts

Joao DosSantos
F/V Neves
Massachusetts

Carlos Rafael
F/V Apollo, F/V Athena, F/V Bulldog, F/V My
Way, F/V Destiny, F/V Green Acres, F/V Ilha do
Corvo, F/V Poseidon, F/V Southern Crusader II,
F/V Lady Patricia, F/V Olivia & Rafaela, F/V
Hera, F/V Hercules, F/V Cowboy, F/V Drake, F/V

Hera II, F/V Sasha Lee, F/V Triunfo, F/V
Resolute, F/V Vila Nova do Corvo I
Massachusetts

Brainerd Ames
F/V Brenna Ashley
Massachusetts

Edward Barrett
F/V Sirius
Massachusetts

Timothy Barrett
F/V Odessa
Massachusetts

Tom Bell
F/V Michael Brandon
Massachusetts

Ronald Borjeson
F/V Angenette
Massachusetts

Philip Brazao
F/V Sarah Ann
Massachusetts

Michael Duane
F/V Cygnet
Massachusetts

Jeff Good
F/V Alosa
Massachusetts

Ronald Gustafson
F/V Cheryl Ann
Massachusetts

Lee Jackson
F/V Betsy Gals II
Massachusetts

Christopher King
F/V Donna Marie
Massachusetts

Mark Krzyzewski
F/V Underwing
Massachusetts

Gordon Lyman
F/V Annie Wilder II
Massachusetts

Philip Lynch
F/V Mary Elizabeth, F/V Paula Lyn
Massachusetts

Frank Mirarchi
F/V Barbara L. Peters
Massachusetts

Kevin Norton
F/V Yankee Rose
Massachusetts

Lance Ricci
F/V Silver Rose
Massachusetts

Robert Roche
F/V Sarah C
Massachusetts

Kevin Scola
F/V Survival
Massachusetts

Daniel Shannon
F/V Sorry Charlie
Massachusetts

Kevin Shea
F/V Endeavor
Massachusetts

Paul Unangst
F/V Destiny
Massachusetts

Stephen Welch
F/V Mystic
Massachusetts

Eric Anderson
F/V Scruffy
New Hampshire

Michael Anderson
F/V Rim Rack
New Hampshire

Richard Anderson
F/V Bridget Leigh
New Hampshire

James Bowles
F/V Penny B
New Hampshire

Al Cummings
F/V Toro
New Hampshire

Jeremy Davis
F/V Karen Lynn I
Maine

Jon Drake
F/V Paniolo
New Hampshire

Jayson Driscoll
F/V Sweet Misery
New Hampshire

Charles Felch
New Hampshire

Peter Flannigan
F/V Wendy Lee
New Hampshire

Gary Glidden
F/V Last Penny
New Hampshire

James Hayward
F/V Rolling Stone, F/V Heidi & Elisabeth
Maine

James Jones
F/V Wil-Mar
New Hampshire

Peter Lagerstrom
New Hampshire

Kurtis Lang
F/V Alanna Renee
New Hampshire

Steve Lord
F/V Christopher K
New Hampshire

Thomas Lyons
F/V Marion J
New Hampshire

Randall Morgan
F/V Miss Dolores
Virginia

Norman Pike
F/V Sandi Lynn, F/V Hope Lynn
New Hampshire

Vincent Prien
F/V Katie-Rue
New Hampshire

Richard Syphers
F/V Ashleigh E
Massachusetts

Mike Waldron
F/V Wendy Leigh
Maine

Jeff White
F/V Jacquie And Nicole
Maine

Yvonne Dobre
F/V Jennifer K, F/V Ann Marie
New Hampshire

David Goethel
F/V Ellen Diane
New Hampshire

Peter Kendall
New Hampshire

Geordie King
F/V Ocean Pride III
Maine

Craig Mavrikis
F/V Marion Mae
New Hampshire

Kenny Young
F/V Judy Marie
Maine

John Ainsworth
F/V Hope & Sydney
Rhode Island

Einar "Bunky" Barlow
F/V Lena Pearl
Rhode Island

Mark Bergeron
F/V Kathy & Jackie
Massachusetts

Robert Cabral
F/V Provider
Rhode Island

William Callaway
F/V C-Venture
North Carolina

Vincent Carillo
F/V Tenacity
New York

Victor Carpenter
F/V Kate & Sean
Rhode Island

James Craddock
F/V Capt Ralph
North Carolina

Steve Daniels
F/V Bailey Boy
North Carolina

Henry Daniels
F/V Joyce D
North Carolina

Kevin DeDeus
F/V Kelly Marie
Massachusetts

Troy Dwyer
F/V Langley Douglas
Virginia

Dan Farnham
F/V Megan-Marie
New York

Glenn Goodwin
Titan Fisheries, Inc.
Rhode Island

Dick Grachek
F/V Anne Kathryn
Connecticut

James Haitz
F/V James & Matthew
Rhode Island

Lindalee Jordan
F/V Hopefull
Rhode Island

Patrick Knapp
F/V Conor And Michael
Rhode Island

Hank Lackner
F/V Jason & Danielle
New York

Kevin Maguire
F/V Evening Prayer
New York

Chuck Mallinson
F/V Miste Rose
New York

Sam Martin
F/V Travis & Natalie, F/V Anticipation
New Jersey

Michael Matulaitis
F/V My Two Girls
Massachusetts

Frank Mazza
F/V Rose Marie
New Jersey

Malcolm McClintock
F/V Rhonda Denise
New York

Paddy McGlade
F/V Enterprise, F/V Cody
Rhode Island

Mark Phillips
F/V Illusion
New York

Clark Reposa
F/V Mattie and Maren
Rhode Island

Donald Roebuck
F/V Margaret Holley, F/V Debbie Sue
Rhode Island

Christopher Roebuck
F/V Karen Elizabeth, F/V Yankee Pride
Rhode Island

Joseph Rose
F/V Susan Rose
North Carolina

Herb Smith
F/V Buzzards Bay, F/V Curlew II, F/V Mischief
Massachusetts

Julia Westcott
F/V Prevail
Rhode Island

Thomas Williams
F/V Heritage, F/V Tradition
Rhode Island