

April 21, 2015

The Honorable Chellie M. Pingree
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Bruce L. Poliquin
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Ann Kuster
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank C. Guinta
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable William Keating
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable James P. McGovern
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Richard E. Neal
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Michael E. Capuano
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Niki Tsongas
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Katherine Clark
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy III
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Seth Moulton
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Tom MacArthur
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jim Langevin
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable David Cicilline
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Joe Courtney
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank LoBiondo
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Frank Pallone
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Congressmen:

The undersigned express, through this petition, no confidence in the stock status reported by recent assessments for many groundfish stocks. While these concerns are with respect to the recent Gulf of Maine cod report and management actions that have flowed from it, many of these same concerns apply to other groundfish stocks throughout the northeast region.

We are conveying our no confidence because the latest assessment and reported status of Gulf of Maine cod **does not remotely** match what fishermen (we) have seen on the water over the past year. Specifically fishermen (we) have seen multiple concentrations of cod appearing

simultaneously across the Gulf of Maine, specifically those that are open to both commercial and recreational fishing. These concentrations indicate numerous age classes and recruitment events.

Although this petition of no confidence is primarily about Gulf of Maine cod, other stocks throughout the northeast region (Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank and Southern New England) are showing similar results of abundance and strength in year classes that are not being reported by most recent assessments. Those species include, but are not limited to Georges Bank cod, Gulf of Maine haddock, yellowtail, witch flounder, American plaice, red hake, thorny skate, wolfish and windowpane flounders.

For these reasons we strongly support the following action:

The formation of a blue ribbon panel of assessment scientists, which includes government and academic and industry leaders to be coordinated by either the National Research Council (NRC) or the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), to determine the underlying causes of assessment failures. Based on these findings, provide binding recommendations to correct those causes in a transparent and collaborative manner and in time for the updated review scheduled for all groundfish stocks this coming September.

Michael Walsh	F/V Atlantic Prince, F/V Guardian	Boston, MA
Tory Bramante	F/V American Pride, F/V America	Boston, MA
James Hayward	F/V Heidi & Elisabeth	Eliot, ME
Carl Bouchard	F/V Stormy Weather	Exeter, NH
Albert Cottone	F/V Sabrina Maria	Gloucester, MA
Vincenzo Taormina	F/V Miss Sandy	Gloucester, MA
Sebastian Brancaleone	F/V Tina & Tom	Gloucester, MA
Joseph Jurek	F/V Mystique Lady	Gloucester, MA
Giusseppe Randazzo	F/V Razzo	Gloucester, MA
Daniel Murphy	F/V Bantry Bay	Gloucester, MA
Joseph Orlando	F/V Santo Paulo	Gloucester, MA
Clark and Susan Sandler	F/V Sea Farmer II	Gloucester, MA
Russell and Christine Sherman	F/V Lady Jane	Gloucester, MA
Richard Beal	F/V Explorer IV	Gloucester, MA
Sam Novello	F/V Capt. Novello	Gloucester, MA
Mark Novello	F/V Capt. Novello	Gloucester, MA
Francesco Paul Vitale	F/V Angela Rose	Gloucester, MA
Frank Sciortino	F/V Christina Eleni	Gloucester, MA
Vincenzo Russo	F/V Miss Trish II	Gloucester, MA
Sebastian and Stefanie Noto	F/V Grace Marie	Gloucester, MA

Giuseppe Dimaio	F/V Capt. Joe, F/V Tyler, F/V Orion	Gloucester, MA
Thomas T. Testaverde	F/V Midnight Sun	Gloucester, MA
Thomas J. Testaverde	F/V Midnight Sun	Gloucester, MA
Ignazio Sanfilippo	F/V Cat Eyes	Gloucester, MA
Accurssio Sanfilippo	F/V Lilly Jean	Gloucester, MA
Accurssio Sanfilippo	F/V Captain Dominic	Gloucester, MA
Joseph Sanfilippo	F/V Maria GS	Gloucester, MA
Salvatore Sanfilippo	F/V Jenaya & Joseph	Gloucester, MA
David Williams	F/V Kathryn W	Gloucester, MA
John Deltorchio	F/V Amber and John	Gloucester, MA
John Montgomery	F/V Chandelle	Gloucester, MA
Bill Skrobacz	F/V Toots	Gloucester, MA
Pete Mondello	F/V Allison Carol	Gloucester, MA
Tom Lupo	F/V Jennie C	Gloucester, MA
Jim Santapaola	F/V Amanda Leigh, F/V Amanda & Andy II, F/V Amanda & Andy III	Gloucester, MA
Doug Germain	F/V Labor in Vain	Gloucester, MA
Mark Byard	F/V SS Mellon 3	Gloucester, MA
Bonnie Akerley	F/V Explorer II	Gloucester, MA
Randall Morgan	F/V Miss Dolores	Greenbackville, VA
Richard Syphers	F/V Ashleigh	Hampton, NH
Dean Holt	F/V Katie May	Hampton, NH
David Goethel	F/V Ellen & Diane	Hampton, NH
Peter Lagerstrom	F/V Miss Maura	Hampton, NH
Troy Dwyer	F/V Langley Douglas	Hampton, VA
Ed Smith	F/V Special K, F/V Claudia Marie	Manchester, MA
Richard Burgess	F/V Lori B, F/V Ryan Zackery	Manchester, MA
Vincent Carrilo	F/V Kahuna	Montauk, NY
Mark Phillips	F/V Illusion	Montauk, NY
Dan Farnham	F/V Megan Marie	Montauk, NY
Kevin Maquire	F/V Evening Prayer	Montauk, NY
Willis Blount	F/V Ruthie B	Nantucket, MA
William P. McCann	F/V Shamrock, F/V Pilgrim	New Bedford, MA
Todd Bragdon	F/V Resilient	New Bedford, MA
Jack Morris	F/V Brittany Eryn	New Bedford, MA
Standley Adamczewski	F/V Humbak	New Bedford, MA
Antonia Cravo	F/V United States	New Bedford, MA
Armando Silva	F/V Iberia II	New Bedford, MA
Tomas Vinegra	F/V Hustler	New Bedford, MA
Pedro Cura	F/V Fisherman	New Bedford, MA
Antonio JR Borges	F/V Sao Paulo	New Bedford, MA

Antonio Sao Marcos	F/V Sao Marcos II	New Bedford, MA
David Stanley	F/V Seven Seas	New Bedford, MA
Carlos Alberto	F/V CSM	New Bedford, MA
Michael Matuliatis	F/V Rose Marie	New Bedford, MA
Alex Smith	F/V Buzzards Bay	New Bedford, MA
David Stanley	F/V Kathy & Jackie	New Bedford, MA
Antonio Fernandes	F/V Vila Nova do Corvo I	New Bedford, MA
Cesar Verde	F/V Ilha do Corvo	New Bedford, MA
Brian Janelle	F/V Athena	New Bedford, MA
Saverio Viola	F/V Hera II	New Bedford, MA
Joao Abrev	F/V Southern Crusader II	New Bedford, MA
Roferio Paulino	F/V My Way	New Bedford, MA
Manuel Magalhaes	F/V Hera	New Bedford, MA
Jose Janardo	F/V Sasha Lee	New Bedford, MA
John Oliveira	F/V Triunfo	New Bedford, MA
Luis Fidalgo	F/V Destiny	New Bedford, MA
Antonio Pereira	F/V Poseidon	New Bedford, MA
Jose Dos Santos	F/V Olivia & Rafaela	New Bedford, MA
Domingos Goncalves	F/V Cowboy	New Bedford, MA
Thomas Simpson	F/V Bull Dog	New Bedford, MA
Shawn Machic	F/V Apollo	New Bedford, MA
Amilcar Esteves	F/V Green Acres	New Bedford, MA
Virgio Martins	F/V Hercules	New Bedford, MA
Antonio Rico	F/V Luso American I	New Bedford, MA
Carlos Alberto	F/V Luso American I	New Bedford, MA
Alan Sherman	F/V Resolute	New Bedford, MA
Arlindo Casteira	F/V Sao Jacinto	New Bedford, MA
Antonio Pacheco	F/V Predator	New Bedford, MA
Antonio Oliveira	F/V Sandra	New Bedford, MA
Virginia Martins	F/V Can-Do	New Bedford, MA
Francosco Garcia	F/V Casa Blanca	New Bedford, MA
Dan Connors	F/V Early Times	Newburyport, MA
Mike Doyle	F/V Seafarer, F/V Charlies Pride	Point Judith, RI
Tim Hauser	F/V Shelby Ann	Point Judith, RI
Donald Fox	F/V Determination, F/V Stephanie & Bryan, F/V Excalibur, F/V Lightning Bay, F/V Rebecca Mary, F/V Tenacity	Point Judith, RI
Patrick Knapp	F/V Connoe & Michael	Point Judith, RI
Troy Sawyer	F/V Debbie Sue	Point Judith, RI
Steve Roebuck	F/V Margaret Holly	Point Judith, RI

James Haitz	F/V James & Matthew	Point Judith, RI
Tony Faciano	F/V Shelby Ann	Point Judith, RI
Steve Follett	F/V Heather Lynn	Point Judith, RI
Cathy Harvey	F/V Ryan & Dillon	Point Judith, RI
Michael Gallagher	F/V Determination	Point Judith, RI
Joe Alvernes	F/V Yankee Pride	Point Judith, RI
Timothy Carrell	Seaside Fuel Inc.	Point Judith, RI
Dave Gallup	Rhode Island Engine Co.	Point Judith, RI
Thomas Williams	F/V Heritage, F/V Tradition	Point Judith, RI
Donald Roebuck	F/V Margaret Holley, F/V Debbie Sue	Point Judith, RI
Christopher Roebuck	F/V Yankee Pride, F/V Karen Elizabeth	Point Judith, RI
Brent Loftes	F/V Asher & Arianna	Point Judith, RI
Robert Cabral	F/V Provider	Point Judith, RI
Einar Barlow	F/V Lena Pearl	Point Judith, RI
Brian loftes	F/V Evan Christine	Point Judith, RI
John Ainsworth	F/V Hope & Sydney	Point Judith, RI
Stephan Arnold	F/V Elizabeth & Katherine	Point Judith, RI
Dennis Robilard	F/V Julie Ann II	Portsmouth, NH
Peter A. Flanigan	F/V Wendy Lee	Portsmouth, NH
Mike and Whitney Waltron	F/V Wendy Lee	Portsmouth, NH
Geordie King	F/V Brittany Lynn	Portsmouth, NH
Erik Anderson	F/V Scruffy	Portsmouth, NH
Jay Vanderpool	F/V Alyssa & Andrew	Rockport, MA
Jeff Tutine	F/V Lucky Strike	Rockport, MA
Paul Theriault	F/V Terminator	Rockport, MA
Dennis C O'Connell	F/V Lady Elaine	Rockport, MA
Jim Jones	F/V Wil-Mar	Rye, NH
Richard Anderson	F/V Bridget Leigh	Rye, NH
Jayson Driscoll	F/V Sweet Misery	Rye, NH
Jonathan Drake	F/V Paniolo	Rye, NH
Jean-Paul and Debra Metivier	F/V Debra Ann II	Salisbury, MA
Kevin Norton	F/V Yankee Rose	Scituate, MA
Dan Shannon	F/V Sorry Charlie	Scituate, MA
Kevin Shea	F/V Endeavor	Scituate, MA
Paul Unagst	F/V Destiny	Scituate, MA
Brainerd Ames	F/V Brenna Ashley	Scituate, MA
Frank Mirachi	F/V Barbara I Peters	Scituate, MA
Ronald Gustafson	F/V Cherylann	Scituate, MA
Charles Felch	F/V Lady Victoria	Seabrook, NH

Thomas Lyons
Peter Bessette
Phil Powell
Pete Fadden
William Borges

F/V Marion J
F/V Miss Karyn
F/V Foxy Lady
F/V Catherine F
F/V Holly Jean

Seabrook, NH
Stonington, CT
Swampscott, MA
Swampscott, MA
Westport, MA