SEMINAR

Our use of global marine life

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**12:10 pm**

**Ramsay Wright, Room 432**

Mapping global fisheries continues to suggest that there are obvious limitations to what we can harvest, and even what we can grow through aquaculture. We use an increasing portion of global ocean production and our fleets forage to the most remote waters. We need to increase our understanding of the limitations of global marine systems and how they change through exploitation and human-induced environmental changes. Though the future seems daunting there are major changes underway from importers and consumers that are rapidly forcing changes in current practices. We should seek some solace that we have successful husbanded many resources for centuries and that recovery of many stocks is possible. It seems likely to many, however, that our future population demands will require changes to marine ‘production’ which many will consider a dismal dystopia. Some even suggest that geo-engineering of world oceans to remove greenhouse gases and enhance productivity is inevitable. We continue to investigate the bigger picture of marine foods in the wider context of food security and global trade, how it impacts marine and non-marine wildlife, how it contributes to climate changes, and how it might sustain future generations.



PLENTY MORE FISH IN THE SEA?

R.A. Watson et al. 2015. Fish and Fisheries

Newfoundland cod: Cumulative harvest over time vs estimated population abundance (green)

BIO: In addition to his position of Professor of Fisheries and Ecological Modelling at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) at the University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia, Reg works as a researcher and analyst to map global fisheries, and their interactions with marine ecosystems. With over 40 years of experience with international fisheries - both hands-on and computer modelling, he collaborates in global studies of marine biodiversity, economics of fishing, and impacts on birds and marine mammals; and desires to develop better ways to assess the health of marine systems, the impacts of climate change, and the social consequences of mismanagement.

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