

# Overfishing of the ocean essay



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The water resource problem in this video is the overfishing of the ocean.

Overfishing of the ocean has shifted the entire ecosystem. The ocean today has far less fish life than it used to. One estimate shows only one-tenth of the sharks, tuna, cod and other large predatory fish swim in the ocean around the world. The loss of fish continues.

Overfishing occurs when fish and other marine species are caught at a faster rate than they can reproduce. There is a high demand for fish. The commercial fishing industries use grill nets, purse seines and drift nets to catch their fish. However; this still leaves over 27 million tons of fish that are wasted through these methods.

Another factor is that other habitats which are crucial to the regeneration of fish stocks are also destroyed. Marine mammals and birds are also caught in the nets used by commercial fishing. The wasted fish and marine life is referred to as bycatch. Bycatch leaves huge amounts of dead matter in the water also making it dangerous for fish, other ocean life, and humans. There are new and improved techniques used by commercial fishermen to catch their fish.

The overfishing will eventually cause extinction. The marine environment is also affected by the depletion of fish. The natural ocean ecosystem is disrupted ultimately threatening many non-fished marine species as their natural food supply is removed. Overfishing not only destroys the natural balance of our ocean but also results in great financial loss.

Fish are obtained for the commercial fishing industries, for recreation, to obtain ornamental fish or fish oils. There are fishing activities where the fish are not used for consumption. These places are called industrial fisheries. Fisheries are usually marine and not freshwater.

The fish that are usually caught are not always used for human food. There is about 40% of fish that are used for other purposes such as fishmeal to feed the fish grown in captivity. The increase in human population also causes the ocean to be overfished. In order for there to be plenty of fish in the years ahead, fisheries will have to sustainable fisheries and some will actually have to close down. The fisheries cannot produce enough to steady the supply and demand ince there too breed in healthy ecosystems. The fishing industry, governments, environmental scientist and consumers must all try and work together to learn how to stop destructive fishing.

If we can develop a plan that can be properly managed our oceans can continue to produce an abundant supply of fish indefinitely. We need a policy that strikes a balance between economic demands and environmental concerns. My plan to reduce the overfishing of our ocean is to develop a policy to have a set limit to the mount of fish commercial fisherman can bring in per year. In order to accomplish this type of program we need to develop new jobs with employees who will oversee the process for all commercial fishing companies.

There would need to be laws and regulations with appropriate actions that will occur if the policies are not followed. This type of program would need to be implemented on a local level. The first step would be to write up the plan

and present it to the appropriate people for approval. This could take years to develop and get approved.