

February 19, 2013

The Honorable Susan Collins  
United States Senator

The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte  
United States Senator

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

The Honorable William M. Cowan  
United States Senator

The Honorable Jack Reed  
United States Senator

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator

The Honorable Christopher Murphy  
United States Senator

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

The Honorable Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator

Dear Senators:

We the undersigned are members of the Northeast Seafood Coalition and active operating members of Northeast Fishery Sectors. We are writing today to express our very serious distress over the recent decision by policy-makers to accept the lowest of low allowable catches for our fishery in 2013 and beyond while simultaneously expecting an industry on the brink of economic ruin to absorb monitoring costs. We are in immediate need of your help.

The forced transition of our New England groundfish fishery to catch share management and hard TACs 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. There is no stability. There are only repeated, record reductions in catch limits. Prosperity is a discarded dream. This is a real disaster.

Three weeks ago, NMFS Regional Administrator John Bullard told us at the Council meeting that this was our day of reckoning. This is not our day of reckoning - we've done nothing wrong to reckon. We didn't cause this problem. The problem was caused by the failure of government policies and programs to accept and adequately contemplate the reality that current scientific capabilities are inadequate to manage this "fishery" safely. For too long we've been subjected to the volatility and futility of pretending to know the knowable. For nearly a decade now our fishery has fished at or below every

catch limit set by the government on every stock. We lived within their quotas, but it is now our businesses, our families and our communities that will be paying the price.

This totally unpredictable process for developing catch advice has destroyed all prudent attempts by industry to develop business plans that may have created at least some limited capacity to accept a level of financial burden for monitoring. Government cannot expect our industry to continue to be subjected to drastic cuts in allowable catches while placing additional, government imposed expenses upon us.

When Amendment 16 was being developed and implemented the Northeast Seafood Coalition (NSC) repeatedly warned the Council, NOAA Fisheries and Congress that the success of the groundfish catch share program would depend on adequate federal funding and sufficient allocations to sustain a fishery. Sure enough, here we are - less than 3 years after sector implementation - and the agency is telling us there is not enough money to monitor or enough fish to sustain our fishery. It's difficult for many of us to believe that this was just a coincidence.

The Secretary of Commerce finally declared our fishery a disaster last September. More than a year before that many Members of Congress had already told NMFS there was no way we could afford to bear the cost of the at-sea or dockside monitoring programs. That was before anyone really knew just how bad things were going to be for fishing year 2013.

Nevertheless, Mr. Bullard delivered the second blow to us three weeks ago when he announced we have yet another price to pay—that we will have to pay at least half of the agency's cost of at-sea monitoring in fishing year 2013. This is incomprehensible. If we couldn't afford the cost of at-sea monitoring before the fishing year 2013 cuts were announced, how does anyone think we can afford it now?

We know that you have worked very hard and closely with our representatives at the NSC to help us survive this travesty. And maybe the only reason we are still standing here today has been all that hard work combined with our guts and determination. We can never thank you enough for all your efforts and support. Fishing is in our blood – it always had been and always will be. But we cannot go fishing unless something is done—a lot is done. We are standing on the edge of a cliff and there is no bridge. We need a bridge.

First, NMFS should reconsider their decision to reject the Council's request for interim measures on Gulf of Maine cod and haddock and should adopt the ABC for Georges Bank yellowtail as recommended by the Council for fishing year 2013. For many of us, this is a bridge. How are we – those who have endured the brunt of efforts to rebuild groundfish stocks for over two decades now - expected to survive until all those promises of stock abundance are fulfilled? Who are the fishermen who will be catching those fish? Not our sons or daughters, or their children. Did the NMFS lawyers really get it right? Or, was this just an unfortunate policy decision influenced by NGOs or the threat of litigation?

Second, NMFS simply must cover the cost of at-sea monitoring in FY 2013 and continue to do so until things really turn around. That's a given. We know you know that. All we can do is ask you to do whatever is necessary to make that happen in time. Fishing year 2013 begins on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Third, NMFS needs to fix their stock assessments. We have paid closer and closer attention to the assessment process and the more we see and understand, the worse it looks. Everything—the stocks and our lives—ultimately depend on the science and all we see are problems. The situation is simply unacceptable. The Magnuson-Stevens Act now demands more from the science than it can produce. That law also needs to be fixed, and Congress can do it. No more arbitrary goals that have no basis in biological or economic reality.

Finally, we ask you to please continue your hard work to find a way for Congress to fund the fishery disaster declarations. We fear we have become a political football and we know you are fighting hard against that. We have seen this great nation step up time and time again to help those that have suffered disasters at the hands of nature to get back on their feet—from hurricanes to droughts to tsunamis. Our disaster is the same. Again, we need a bridge.

Thank you for your consideration. And we thank you again for working with NSC and other industry leaders on all of these difficult issues. For many of us this is probably our last shot at survival.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Akerley  
F/V Explorer II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Antonio Giacalone  
F/V Caterina G  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Busty Brancaleone  
F/V Tina & Tom  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Vito Giacalone  
F/V Jenny G  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Corrado Buccheri  
F/V Horizon  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Dean Holt  
F/V Katie May  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Newburyport, MA

Mark Carroll  
F/V Harvest Moon  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Joseph Jurek  
F/V Mystique Lady  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Daniel Connors  
F/V Early Times  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Newburyport, MA

Ramond Lofstad  
F/V Olivia Joan  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Shinnecock, NY

Albert Cottone  
F/V Sabrina Maria  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Matteo Logrande  
F/V Little Sandra  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Giuseppe Dimaio  
F/V Capt Joe, F/V Princess Laura, F/V Orion  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Paul Metivier  
F/V Debra Ann II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Salisbury, MA

Daniel Murphy  
F/V Bantry Bay  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Stefanie Noto  
F/V Grace Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Sam Novello  
F/V Capt Novello  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Dennis O'Connell  
F/V Lady Elaine  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Rockport, MA

Joe Orlando  
F/V Padre Pio  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Giuseppe Palazzolo  
F/V Francesca & Carlo  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Joe Randazzo  
F/V Razzo  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Dennis Robillard  
F/V Julie Ann II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Vincenzo Russo  
F/V Mary and Josephine, F/V Miss Trish II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Clark Sandler  
F/V Seafarmer II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Ignazio Sanfilippo  
F/V Cat Eyes  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Joseph Sanfilippo  
F/V Maria G S  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Sal Sanfilippo  
F/V Janaya & Joseph  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Gus Sanfilippo  
F/V Lily Jean  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Accursio Sanfilippo  
F/V Captain Dominic  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Frank Sciortino  
F/V Christina Eleni  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Russell Sherman  
F/V Lady Jane  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Edward Smith  
F/V Special K, F/V Claudia Marie, F/V Britannika II  
Northeast Fishery Sector II & III, Gloucester, MA

Vincenzo Taormina  
F/V Miss Sandy  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Thomas Testaverde  
F/V Midnight Sun  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Paul Theriault  
F/V Terminator  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

James Vanderpool  
F/V Alyssa & Andrew  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Rockport, MA

Paul Vitale  
F/V Angela And Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

David Williams  
F/V Kathryn W  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

Steven Wojcicki  
F/V Kristine Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector II, Gloucester, MA

William "BG" Brown  
F/V Kathryn Leigh  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Richard Burgess  
F/V Lori B, F/V Ryan Zachary  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Mark Byard  
F/V S S Melon III  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Christian Chadwick  
F/V Native Son  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Paul Cohan  
F/V Sasquatch III  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Matthew Cooney  
F/V Miss Meredith  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Daniel Dunbar  
F/V Little Mako  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Peter Eshenfelder  
F/V Sharon E, F/V Hannah Story  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, New London, CT

Peter Fadden  
F/V Catherine F  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Marblehead, MA

Michael Frontiero  
F/V Dunlin  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Douglas Germain  
F/V Labor in Vain  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

John Greenleaf  
F/V David & Jenna II  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Brian Higgins  
F/V Toby Ann  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Thomas Hill  
F/V Karoline Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Thomas Lupo  
F/V Jennie C  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

John "Spice" Montgomery  
F/V Chandelle  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

William Muniz  
F/V Never Satisfied  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Thomas Porter  
F/V Susan Kimberly  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Craig Porter  
F/V kenneth J Duncan, F/V Manford L Porter  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Philip Powell  
F/V Foxy Lady, F/V Foxy Lady  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

James Santapaola  
F/V Amanda & Andy II, F/V Amanda Leigh, F/V  
Amanda & Andy  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Arthur "Sooky" Sawyer  
F/V Miss Carla  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

William Skrobacz  
F/V Toots  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Scott Swicker  
F/V Aaron & Alexa, F/V Ashley & Anthony  
Northeast Fishery Sector III, Gloucester, MA

Steve Arnold  
F/V Elizabeth Helen  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Charles Brayton  
F/V Kelsi & Morgan  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Chris Brown  
F/V Proud Mary  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Oscar Diaz  
F/V Second Wind  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Howard Follett  
F/V Atlantic Queen  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Steve Follett  
F/V Heather Lynn  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Donald Fox  
F/V Determination, F/V Excalibur, F/V Lightning  
Bay, F/V Rebecca Mary, F/V Stephanie & Bryan  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Jim Fox  
F/V Rayda Cheramie  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Bob Guzzo  
F/V Jenna Lynn II  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Stonington, CT

Jim Jordan  
F/V Hopefull  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Ken Ketcham  
F/V Linda Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Eric Lundvall  
F/V Rayna & Kerstin  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Portland, ME

Sam Martin  
F/V Anticipation  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Cape May, NJ

Niles Pearsall  
F/V Black Sheep  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Sid Smith  
F/V Merit  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Greenport, NY

Rodman Sykes  
F/V Virginia Marise  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

Chuck Weimar  
F/V Rianda S  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Montauk, NY

Bob Westcott  
F/V Ocean State  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Point Judith, RI

John Windels  
F/V Mary Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector V, Shinnecock, NY

Tory Bramante  
F/V American Pride, F/V America  
Northeast Fishery Sector VI, Boston, MA

Michael Walsh  
F/V Atlantic Prince, F/V Guardian  
Northeast Fishery Sector VI, Boston, MA

Warren Alexander  
F/V Collin & Warren III, F/V John & Nicholas  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, Cape May, NJ

Willis Blount  
F/V Ruthie B  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Charles Borden  
F/V Mandrake, F/V Drake  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, Westport, MA

William Borges  
F/V Holly Jean, F/V Sao Paulo  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Pedro Cura  
F/V Fisherman  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Armando Estudante  
F/V Endurance  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Tim Hauser  
F/V Shelby Ann  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, Point Judith, RI

William McCann  
F/V Pilgrim, F/V Shamrock  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Manuel Puga  
F/V Mayflower  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Mario Ribeiro  
F/V Lucimar  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Antonio Sao Marcos  
F/V Sao Marcos II  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Michael Smith  
F/V Majestic  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Tim Stevens  
F/V Fish Tails  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, Gloucester, MA

Manuel Vinagre  
F/V Sea Siren  
Northeast Fishery Sector VII, New Bedford, MA

Stanley Adamczewski  
F/V Humbak  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Carlos Camarao  
F/V Santa Queen, F/V Virginia Sands  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Antonio Cravo  
F/V United States  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Paul Lemieux  
F/V Hustler, F/V Resilient  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

William Norton  
F/V Galaxy  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Pedro Pelicas  
F/V Iberia II  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Peter Reposa  
F/V Olivia Catherine, F/V Alexis Martina  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, Point Judith, RI

Jeffrey Skaar  
F/V Thor  
Northeast Fishery Sector VIII, New Bedford, MA

Carlos Alberto  
F/V Luso American I  
Northeast Fishery Sector IX, New Bedford, MA

Joao DosSantos  
F/V Neves  
Northeast Fishery Sector IX, New Bedford, MA

Antonio Pereira  
F/V Blue Seas II  
Northeast Fishery Sector IX, New Bedford, MA

Carlos Rafael  
F/V Green Acres, F/V Lady Patricia, F/V Olivia &  
Rafaela, F/V Triunfo, F/V My Way, F/V Destiny,  
F/V Sasha Lee, F/V Southern Crusader II, F/V  
Ilha do Corvo, F/V Resolute, F/V Edward L  
Moore, F/V Drake, F/V Apollo, F/V Cowboy, F/V  
Bulldog, F/V Hera, F/V Vila No  
Northeast Fishery Sector IX, New Bedford, MA

William Amaru  
F/V Joanne A III  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Chatham, MA

Edward Barrett  
F/V Sirius  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Boston, MA

Timothy Barrett  
F/V Odessa  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Plymouth, MA

Tom Bell  
F/V Michael Brandon  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Philip Brazao  
F/V Sarah Ann  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Green Harbor, MA

Timothy Caldwell  
F/V C W Griswold  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Ronald Gustafson  
F/V Cheryl Ann  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Christopher King  
F/V Donna Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Provincetown, MA

Mark Krzyzewski  
F/V Underwing  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Green Harbor, MA

Gordon Lyman  
F/V Annie Wilder II  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Sandwich, MA

Phillip Lynch  
F/V Mary Elizabeth, F/V Paula Lyn  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Frank Mirarchi  
F/V Barbara L Peters  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Lance Ricci  
F/V Silver Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA



Daniel Shannon  
F/V Sorry Charlie  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

John Shea  
F/V Yankee Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Kevin Shea  
F/V Endeavor  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Scituate, MA

Paul Unangst  
F/V Destiny  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Green Harbor, MA

Stephen Welch  
F/V Holly & Abby, F/V Mystic  
Northeast Fishery Sector X, Boston, MA

Richard Anderson  
F/V Bridget Leigh  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Rye, NH

Michael Anderson  
F/V Rim Rack  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Rye, NH

Jeremy Davis  
F/V Karen Lynn I  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Kittery, ME

Jon Drake  
F/V Paniolo  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Rye, NH

Jay Driscoll  
F/V Karen Lyn  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Rye, NH

Charles Felch  
F/V Lady Victoria  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Seabrook, NH

James Hayward  
F/V Rolling Stone, F/V Heidi & Elisabeth  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Portsmouth, NH

James Jones  
F/V Wil-Mar  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Rye, NH

Peter Lagerstrom  
F/V Kysea Lynn  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Great Kills, NY

Kurtis Lang  
F/V Alanna Renee  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Portsmouth, NH

Thomas Lyons  
F/V Marion J  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Seabrook, NH

Randall Morgan  
F/V Miss Dolores  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Greenbackville, VA

Norman Pike  
F/V Sandi Lynn, F/V Hope Lynn  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Seabrook, NH

Vincent Prien  
F/V Katie-Rue  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Portsmouth, NH

Richard Syphers  
F/V Ashleigh E  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, Hampton, NH

Jeff White  
F/V Jacquie And Nicole  
Northeast Fishery Sector XI, York Harbor, ME

Yvonne Dobre  
F/V Jennifer K, F/V Ann Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector XII, Portsmouth, NH

David Goethel  
F/V Ellen Diane  
Northeast Fishery Sector XII, Hampton, NH

Peter Kendall  
F/V Elizabeth Ann  
Northeast Fishery Sector XII, Rye, NH

Geordie King  
F/V Ocean Pride III  
Northeast Fishery Sector XII, Portsmouth, NH

Craig Mavrikis  
F/V Marion Mae  
Northeast Fishery Sector XII, Portsmouth, NH

John Ainsworth  
F/V Hope & Sydney  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Einar "Bunky" Barlow  
F/V Lena Pearl  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Robert Cabral  
F/V Provider  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Vincent Carillo  
F/V Tenacity  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Barnegat Light, NJ

Victor Carpenter  
F/V Kate & Sean  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

John Curzake  
F/V Emilia Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Michael Doyle  
F/V Seafarer  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Dick Grachek  
F/V Anne Kathryn  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Mystic, CT

James Haitz  
F/V James & Matthew  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Patrick Knapp  
F/V Conor And Michael  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Hank Lackner  
F/V Jason & Danielle  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Montauk, NY

Brent Loftes  
F/V Damariscotta  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Montauk, NY

Chuck Mallinson  
F/V Miste Rose  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Montauk, NY

Frank Mazza  
F/V Rose Marie  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Fairhaven, MA

Malcolm McClintock  
F/V Rhonda Denise  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Montauk, NY

Paddy McGlade  
F/V Cody, F/V Enterprise  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Bart McNeel  
F/V William Lynn  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Portland, ME

Mark Phillips  
F/V Illusion  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Greenport, NY

Clark Reposa  
F/V Mattie And Maren  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Donald Roebuck  
F/V Margaret Holley, F/V Debbie Sue  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Christopher Roebuck  
F/V Karen Elizabeth, F/V Yankee Pride  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Herb Smith  
F/V Curlew II, F/V Mischief, F/V Buzzards Bay  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, New Bedford, MA

Julia Westcott  
F/V Prevail  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Narragansett, RI

Thomas Williams  
F/V Tradition, F/V Heritage  
Northeast Fishery Sector XIII, Point Judith, RI

Cc: C.M. "Rip" Cunningham, Jr., Chairman, New England Fishery Management Council  
Sam Rauch, NOAA Fisheries Assistant Administrator (Acting)  
John Bullard, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Administrator  
The Honorable Paul LePage, Governor of Maine  
The Honorable Maggie Hassan, Governor of New Hampshire  
The Honorable Deval Patrick, Governor of Massachusetts  
The Honorable Lincoln Chafee, Governor of Rhode Island  
The Honorable Dannel Malloy, Governor of Connecticut  
The Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York