## Conservation Threat at NAFO Heightened by Cod Recovery Remarks

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The WWF remarks on cod recovery released in advance of this week's NAFO meeting will only serve to fuel the unbridled greed of the EU fishing fleets. The EU continues to ignore its NAFO-agreed bycatch quota, after decades of raping and pillaging the Grand Banks fish resources. The amendments to the NAFO Convention, ratified by the Harper government last December in blatant contempt for the will of Parliament, will do nothing to improve the situation but instead will further weaken Canada's ability to seek sustainable management of the straddling stocks. The WWF remarks can only be considered as irresponsible under the circumstances and damage its image as a conservation organization. Let us hope that the Canadian delegation to NAFO stands firm against any re-opening of the Grand Banks cod fishery. Any such re-opening at this time would have disastrous consequences.

TAGS: Grand Banks cod, NAFO meeting, overfishing, EU, WWF, irresponsible remarks, bycatch, stainable fisheries, fishing