



## The Network at a Glance

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The Marine Fish Conservation Network (Network) is the largest national, non-profit coalition solely dedicated to promoting the long-term sustainability of marine fish populations by pressing for changes in the way we manage our ocean's fish. With almost 200 member groups including environmental organizations, commercial and recreational fishing associations, aquariums and marine science groups, the Network is a unique coalition because it brings together groups that historically have been at odds over fisheries management. The Network uses its distinct voice and the best available science to educate policymakers, fishing interests, and the public about the need for sustainable fishing practices and better management strategies.

Over the years, the Network has remained steadfast in its commitment to ensure a lasting future for fish and fishermen. The 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the cornerstone of American marine fish conservation, marks the culmination of years of hard work and negotiations between the Network, Congress and others involved in fisheries policy. At present, the coalition continues to coordinate with the eight regional fishery management councils and the National Marine Fisheries Service - the federal entities responsible for the stewardship of our ocean fish resources - to make certain that the spirit and ideals of the Sustainable Fisheries Act and the Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization are upheld in the execution of federal laws and regulations.

The Network is also advocating for ecosystem-based management of America's oceans and urging the federal government to more conservatively manage forage fish species as an attainable first step toward ecosystem-based management. The Network is partnering with the National Coalition for Marine Conservation in this effort to manage forage, or prey, fish for the needs of the oceans' food web in addition to the demands of human consumption. By taking this first step, the Network can help move fisheries management toward a healthier future for our oceans.

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*The Marine Fish Conservation Network is the largest national coalition solely dedicated to promoting sustainable management of marine fish and wildlife, and our oceans. The Network, made up of almost 200 environmental groups, commercial and recreational fishing associations, aquariums, and marine science organizations, uses its distinct voice and the best available science to educate policymakers, the fishing industry, and the public about the need for sound marine conservation and best marine management practices.*