**Subject:** FW:

**From:** Pia Bergholm [mailto:piabergholm@hotmail.com]
**Sent:** Thursday, June 25, 2009 11:36 AM
**To:** MARE CFP CONSULTATION
**Subject:**

Dear Mr. Borg,

Please find following a few suggestions in response to your Green Paper on the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

I would like to suggest that in the up coming CFP reform, there is a provision for making 40% of the beaches, coasts and seas around the EU into permanent Marine Reserves.

Currently only 0.04% of the seas are classed as Marine Reserves and this will not be sufficient if there was a need to re-stock after a fish stock collapse. Keeping 40% of the seas protected will also increase the fish available to be caught nearby these lush protected areas, as they spill over their bounty into the "normal" surrounding seas. Please see St. Lucia as a shining example of this theory in practice and concrete proof that all concerned parties benefit from a % of the sea being made into permanent Marine Reserves.

http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2001/12/1204_TVmarinereserves.html

http://cat.inist.fr/?aModele=afficheN&cpsidt=17421684

I would also like to ask that destructive commercial deep sea bottom trawling be permanently banned in as many areas as possible so as to allow the sea bed to regenerate in the long term. Making certain areas into designated trawl zones could also be part of this solution however.

It also seems obvious that as many bycatch reducing tricks as possible should be introduced fleet wide to immediately help cut back this ongoing and massive bycatch disaster:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Shrimp_bycatch.jpg

Further more, it seems that the current weight catch quota system is not working either, as many thousands of tons of fish are still caught over quota and are subsequently discarded dead or dying back into the water. It would seem logical that all fish caught must be landed into a port (such as in Norway) so as to make fishermen target their intended catch more accurately, or then receive a comparitive pittance in sales revenue for the more undesireable bycatch if they don't.

We may only have this one chance to act before more vital stocks go the way of the Cod on the Grand Banks and the Herring in the North Sea, so please give our oceans a fighting chance to survive long into the future by creating as many Marine Reserves as possible within the EU.

The politicians and fishermen have had hundreds of years to effectively regulate this industry into a sustainable industry, and it is obvious that self-regulation and the current EU policies have failed to help, as the EU's waters are still being unsustainably plundered on a massive scale.

Mr. Borg, If you change nothing else in the CFP, please help save our seas and make 40% of the EU waters into permanent Marine Reserves.

Your sincerely,
Pia Bergholm
Finland

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