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Global Warming Could Shift Fish Populations

According to a new report, global warming may dramatically shift the global distribution of commercial fish populations--and greatly alter the industries they support.

The research projects 1,066 effected sea life species, many commercially vital or fundamental ecosystem supporters.

The study, published in *Global Change Biology*, is the first to quantify the effect of global warming on fisheries. It finds that tropical ocean ranges will be hit hardest, with native species moving northward and leaving stocks down up to 40 percent in affected regions.

"Countries that are in the tropics, for example in the Caribbean or Southeast Asia, will lose out," said Daniel Pauly, an author of the study and a fisheries scientist at the University of British Columbia. The U.S. is also projected to be hit hard by the shifts.

October 14, 2009

Posted by Global Warming Staff

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