

**OUR OCEAN WORLD  
BACK TO THE FUTURE**

**:57**

MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD THE PHRASE: "TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THE PAST." GOOD ADVICE--AND SCIENTISTS SAY IT ALSO APPLIES TO FISHERIES MANAGEMENT. AN OCEAN SCIENTIST LOOKS "BACK TO THE FUTURE" TODAY ON OUR OCEAN WORLD.

:14

(SFX: TRY SAILING SHIP, NV 3 - 7 :UNDER)

HOW CAN WE TELL THE SIZE OF FISH POPULATIONS LONG AGO? SCIENTIFIC RECORDS GO BACK ONLY A FEW DECADES. CAN WE TRUST THE REPORTS OF EARLY EXPLORERS, WHO SAY CODFISH WERE SO NUMEROUS, YOU COULD ALMOST WALK TO SHORE ON THEIR BACKS?

:14

**PAULY:** "AND THESE REPORTS, WHEN YOU READ THEM NOW, THEY SOUND INCREDIBLE."

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DANIEL PAULY, A FISHERIES PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, THINKS REPORTS LIKE THESE ARE FACT, NOT "FISH STORIES." HE EXAMINES UNUSUAL KINDS OF HISTORIC DATA--LIKE THE RECORDS KEPT BY WHALING SHIPS. THESE RECORDS CONFIRM THAT WHALES WERE FAR MORE ABUNDANT THAN THEY ARE TODAY.

:17

**PAULY:** "NOW THAT IMPLIES THAT THEREFORE THEIR PREY MUST ALSO HAVE BEEN ABUNDANT."

:04

(SFX: CROSS FADE TO WAVES :UNDER)

WHY ARE ACCURATE MODELS OF PAST FISH POPULATIONS SO IMPORTANT?

:04

**PAULY:** "THESE POSSIBLE MODELS OF THE PAST (EDIT) ARE ALSO POSSIBLE MODELS OF THE FUTURE."

:06

IF WE LOOK ONLY AT THE CURRENT SIZE OF FISH POPULATIONS TO DEVELOP MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY PLANS, PAULY SAYS, WE'LL BE SETTING OUR SIGHTS TOO LOW. I'M MARILYN COOLEY.

:10

## **OUR OCEAN WORLD FISHING DOWN THE FOOD WEB**

TODAY, “CALAMARI” IS A POPULAR DISH. BUT THIRTY YEARS AGO, SQUID WAS MOSTLY USED FOR BAIT. FISHING BOATS GO AFTER SQUID TODAY BECAUSE MANY OF THE BIG FISH ARE GONE. WE’LL TALK ABOUT “FISHING DOWN THE FOOD WEB” IN OUR OCEAN WORLD. :12

DANIEL PAULY, A FISHERIES PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA COINED THE TERM “FISHING DOWN THE FOOD WEB.” HE DESCRIBES HOW THIS PROCESS HAPPENED IN THE GULF OF MAINE. THE EARLIEST EUROPEAN EXPLORERS WENT AFTER LARGE MARINE MAMMALS—WHALES AND SEALS. :14

**PAULY:** “THEN PEOPLE WENT FOR THE FISH. WHAT FISH? THEY WENT FOR COD. WHICH IS A TOP PREDATOR WHEN IT’S BIG. (EDIT) THEN THE COD DISAPPEAR, SO WHAT DO YOU TAKE? YOU TAKE HERRING, YOU TAKE MACKEREL, ETC. AS THESE BECOME SCARCE, (EDIT) YOU START CATCHING SHRIMP, WHICH ARE THE FOOD OF THE COD, AND YOU START CATCHING SEA URCHINS, WHICH ARE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD WEB, THEY’RE EATING ALGAE.”

:26

PAULY SAYS THE TREND IS CLEAR: THE ANIMALS WE NOW CONSUME ARE SMALLER, AND THEY’RE FOUND LOWER ON THE FOOD CHAIN. IF THIS TREND CONTINUES, THERE WON’T BE FOOD FOR THE LARGER SPECIES TO EAT OR TO SUPPORT STOCKS OF LARGER FISH.

:14

**PAULY:** “WE HAVE TO STOP AND REVERSE THAT TREND. STOPPING, REVERSING THAT TREND MEANS REESTABLISHING SOME OF THE ECOSYSTEM STRUCTURE THAT WE HAD BEFORE. THAT’S THE STORY!”

:12

I’M MARILYN COOLEY.

:03

**Grace Ong**

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**From:** Daniel Pauly  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2007 10:11 AM  
**To:** robrien@flpradio.com  
**Cc:** Grace Ong  
**Subject:** FW: Our Ocean World Radio Program  
**Attachments:** Back to the Future.doc; ATT1108577.htm; Fishing Down the Food Web.doc; ATT1108579.htm

You have my ok.  
Daniel

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**From:** Regina O'Brien [mailto:robrien@flpradio.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 16, 2007 8:03 AM  
**To:** Daniel Pauly  
**Subject:** Our Ocean World Radio Program

Dear Dr. Pauly,

We produce the daily 90-second radio program entitled Our Ocean World. For more information about this program or about our company you can visit [www.flpradio.com](http://www.flpradio.com). Several years ago the company ran segments for Our Ocean World about fish populations, containing clips from an interview with you. We believe that the information from the scripts is still relevant and of interest to our listeners. With your permission, we would like to re-run the features.

I've attached the scripts for you to review. If you could send us just a quick e-mail response, letting us know if we have your permission to re-run the features as they are or with your updates, we would greatly appreciate it. Thank you very much for your time.