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ENVIRONMENT STORY

World fisheries expert to visit New Zealand

10 August 2004

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Without heavy regulation of commercial fishing, seafood lovers will be left eating plankton stew, a visiting fisheries expert says.

Head of University of British Columbia's fisheries centre, Professor Daniel Pauly, is to visit New Zealand next week to promote marine conservation.

A world authority on declining fish stocks is an advocate for fishing "no-go zones" in oceans to safeguard the future of fisheries resources.

"If commercial fishing is not heavily regulated, there will be little left to harvest in the seas outside of the lowest levels of the food chain," he said in a statement today.

"So you don't need to worry about these problems as long as your children like plankton stew."

He will visit Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch from August 17 to 22 at the invitation of the Department of Conservation to share results of his research on fisheries trends and participate in discussions.

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