

## World running out of new places to fish

The world's fishing industry is fast running out of new ocean fishing grounds to exploit as it depletes existing areas through unsustainable harvesting practices, according to a recently published study. Expansion into unexploited fishing grounds allowed global catches to increase for decades, and disguised the fact that older areas were being depleted, according to researchers at the University of British Columbia and National Geographic. "We knew the expansion was going on, but this is the first time we have quantified it," said Daniel Pauly, a scientist from a Vancouver-based university. About 19 million tonnes of fish were landed in 1950, and that increased to a peak of 90 million tonnes a year in the late 1980s. By the late 1990s, the world's fishing fleets



had largely run out of new fishing grounds to exploit, the researchers said. The data shows that efforts on a larger scale have to be made in order to ensure that the existing fish stocks are protected. reuters

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