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NOAA's latest annual living oceans report claims that in most areas of the USA overfishing has ended and stocks are not overfished. Overfishing is continuing to occur in New England and the Gulf of Mexico. The report describes the increasing use of catch share programs to manage fisheries supporting coastal communities. The report describes halibut as an example of an effective catch share program. That program has extended the season from less than a week to eight months, helped raise the value and quality of the catch in the marketplace, improved fishermen's safety and reduced unintended bycatch of juvenile halibut and other species

The latest version of Our Living Oceans is now available at http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/LivingOceans.html

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