

Establishing a 200-Mile Fisheries Zone

June 1977

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Establishing a 200-Mile" Fisheries Zone

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MAY 26 1977

The Honorable Ernest F. Hollings
Chairman
National Ocean Policy Study
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

The Honorable John P. Murphy
Chairman
Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairmen:

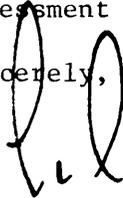
On behalf of the Board of the Office of Technology Assessment,
we are forwarding to you the report, Establishing a 200-Mile
Fisheries Zone.

This report concludes OTA's assessment of important problems
and opportunities which result from implementation of the
Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, which became
effective March 1 of this year.

The assessment was conducted in accord with a request from
the Senate National Ocean Policy Study in January 1974, and
a subsequent request by the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries
Committee.

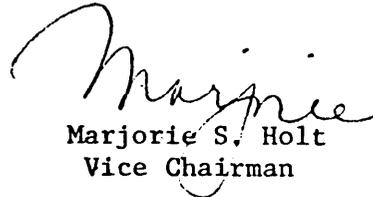
A draft of this report was made available to the committees in
March 1977, and the final report was approved by the Technology
Assessment Board on April 19, 1977.

Sincerely,



Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman

Sincerely,



Marjorie S. Holt
Vice Chairman

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MAY 26 1977

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman of the Board
Office of Technology Assessment
U.S. Congress
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The enclosed report, Establishing a 200-Mile Fisheries Zone, presents OTA's analysis of important problems and opportunities which result from implementing the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976.

The assessment which led to this report was requested by the Chairmen of the Senate National Ocean Policy Study and the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. The assessment was conducted by the Oceans Program staff of OTA with input from representatives of the fishing industry and government agencies which are involved in carrying out provisions of the legislation which extended U.S. jurisdiction over commercial fisheries out to the 200-mile limit.

The report analyzes four major aspects of the new fisheries law: 1) enforcement of fisheries regulations and U.S. jurisdiction over the fishery zone; 2) management of the new fishery zone; 3) information which will be needed for implementation of the law; and 4) opportunities for expanding and revitalizing the U.S. fishing industry as a result of implementation of the law. Among the conclusions of the report are suggestions for four pilot projects which could aid Federal agencies in determining the most successful and cost-effective means of implementing certain aspects of the law.

This transmittal includes two volumes: the assessment report and working papers which provide back-up material for discussions in the report.

Sincerely,



EMILIO Q. DADDARIO

Director

Acknowledgements

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Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf State Marine Fisheries Commissions
John M. Gates, *University of Rhode Island*

William Jensen, *Willamette University, Oregon*
Stanford Research Institute, *Menlo Park, California*
Synergy Inc., *Washington, D.C.*
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Robert E. Taber, *University of Rhode Island*
John Vernberg, *University of South Carolina*

The staff further wishes to acknowledge the assistance of former OTA staff member Cynthia Mercing, who worked on the early development of this study, and those other people and organizations, both public and private, which reviewed and commented on various draft documents circulated by OTA or provided other types of assistance:

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U.S. Department of Transportation, *Coast Guard*
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Walt V. Yonker, *Association of Pacific Fisheries*

Preface

This report, "Establishing a 200-Mile Fishery Zone," is the result of a study of the major problems and opportunities which may occur because of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. The study was requested by Senator Ernest F. Hollings on behalf of the Senate National Ocean Policy Study in January 1974, and by former Representative Lenore K. Sullivan of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee in April 1974. Upon retirement, Mrs. Sullivan was replaced by Representative John Murphy as Chairman of that Committee. These requests were endorsed by Senator Edward M. Kennedy in September 1975, and subsequently approved for execution by the Technology Assessment Board.

The report was prepared by the Oceans Program staff of OTA with the assistance of advisors from the fishing industry, Government, and academia who reviewed draft materials and provided guidance.

The work undertaken by the Office of Technology **Assessment, and** reported in this document, was confined to evaluation of techniques which will be used for enforcing regulations in the 200-mile fishery zone, problems which may be encountered in the management of fisheries, and information which will be needed in order to implement the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. This limited scope made it possible for OTA to offer specific criticism of existing systems and specific suggestions for congressional action to further improve fisheries conservation and management.

The Technology Assessment Board, governing body of OTA, approves the release of this report, which identifies a range of viewpoints on a significant issue facing the U.S. Congress. The views expressed in this report are not necessarily those of the Board, the OTA Advisory Council, or of individual members thereof.