

Testimonials

Governments

“Global Fishing Watch is going to be transformative. It will really change the way we manage fisheries because we can see what’s happening instead of just trying to envision what’s out there on the water. We will know, and therefore, we can make smarter decisions... Right now commercial fishers know that no one can actually see where they are and what they’re doing. And while many of them abide by the rules, many of them do not. Global Fishing Watch is going to change that, because now somebody can be watching, purely and simply. We can see what they are doing and that’s going to make a big difference.”

— **Dr. Jane Lubchenco**, *Distinguished University Professor, Oregon State University; the first U.S. Science Envoy for the Ocean, U.S. Department of State; former Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*

“Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing is a global crime. To put an end to it, we have to use all the tools we have to ensure that all fishing efforts in our waters are seen and recorded. Once Global Fishing Watch kicks in, no fishing boat will be able to hide.”

— **Minister Susi Pudjiastuti**, *Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia*

“Global Fishing Watch will greatly reduce illegal fishing when fishing companies are aware their movements are being watched from high up in the sky. This technology is most crucial to apply in the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA) which, as of January 1, 2015, is fully closed from commercial fishing. As a world heritage site, we have to maintain its natural pristine environment.”

— **Tukabu Teroroko**, *Director, Phoenix Islands Protected Area*

Researchers

“Using data from Global Fishing Watch, we can finally begin evaluating whether these massive marine protected areas are being enforced properly and really helping ocean wildlife... there are hundreds of really interesting research and management questions that can be answered.”

— **Dr. Douglas McCauley**, *Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara*

“Global Fishing Watch will be a groundbreaking tool to help ensure that fishers are following the rules that govern where and when they can fish. As a result, every scientist, government and ocean advocate will be well equipped with information to help reverse current trends and rebuild ocean abundance.”

— **Dr. Daniel Pauly**, *Professor, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries & Department of Zoology, The University of British Columbia; Principal Investigator, Sea Around Us*

“Global Fishing Watch now opens a new possibility for doing away with the guesswork and replacing it [with] hard data. It could be a game changer purely from a scientific point of view, for understanding our effects on the oceans, and also for proper management and enforcement.”

— **Dr. Boris Worm**, *Marine Research Ecologist and Professor, Dalhousie University*

Journalists

“It’s interesting to be able to follow a given ship and to look back at where it’s been. So if they claim one thing, as a journalist you can go back and say ‘no you were not there, you were here at that time.’ So that’s new... To journalists I think the big story is going to be how Global Fishing Watch is going to change the way illegal fishing is done. Until now, boats could turn on or turn off their AIS systems and nobody really noticed. But now, it’s going to be a lot harder.”

— **Chris Pala**, *Freelance Journalist*

NGOs and Activists

“Global Fishing Watch is a transformative tool to identify fishing activity and verify fleets are fishing both sustainably and responsibly.”

— **Alexandra Cousteau**, *Ocean Advocate*

“Global Fishing Watch is a godsend to ocean conservation. It is the only remote vessel tracking system that is global and publicly available. This is the beginning of the end of illegal fishing.”

— **Dr. Eric Sala**, *Explorer-in-Residence, National Geographic Society*

“Prior to Global Fishing Watch, the location of fishing vessels was largely a mystery to the science and conservation community and only available as cryptic historical data. ‘Revolutionized’ is an appropriate word when it comes to the open access, synthesis and user friendly platform Global Fishing Watch has provided...It is an innovation that should be appreciated by responsible fishermen and conservationists alike.”

— **Dr. Greg Stone**, *Executive Vice President for Conservation International’s Betty and Gordon Moore Center for Science and Oceans; Marine Biologist*

Seafood Industry

“Global Fishing Watch is an exciting new tool in the struggle for transparency and traceability in the long and opaque seafood supply chain. Along with the new Seafood Import Monitoring Program, it creates new and significant obstacles to IUU fishing in support of global fisheries management and the well-being of American fishermen and the traditional communities they support.”

— **Michael Dimin**, *Founding Director, Sea to Table*

“By connecting Trace Register with the Global Fishing Watch platform, fishing events can be validated and directly linked to the seafood that was produced from those activities. Harvesters will be able to use Global Fishing Watch data to provide assurances they operate in a legal and responsible manner and seafood processors, distributors, retailers, foodservice providers, and ultimately the consumer can verify their seafood was legally and responsibly produced.”

— **Phil Werdal**, *CEO, Trace Register, LLC*