

## News Summary: November 15, 2011

### **Today's Main Story: New England fleet asks Congress not to enact 'dangerous' proposals**

A huge swath of New England vessel owners, from Carlos Rafael in New Bedford to Chris Brown in Rhode Island, and hundreds of others, have written a letter to Congress to ask them not to enact 'dangerous' proposals that would destabilize and cause chaos in New England. Some of the ideas in Congress are to cut off all funding for catch share and sector programs, to terminate such programs if employment falls by 15%, or in other ways enact legislation to turn the New England industry upside down. These boat owners, representing about 40% of all active groundfish vessels, have gone on record saying they want to work out the kinks in the existing system, not introduce more chaos into the region's fisheries.

In other news, some analysts are growing more optimistic about foodservice recovery, and suggest a stronger than expected holiday season may be in store. Most foodservice companies are seeing traffic increases, and comps will improve over the same period over the next few months. The sharp fall in salmon prices has taken a toll, pushing a Norwegian salmon investment company into bankruptcy. Real Salmon was an investment company focused on the salmon market, and has not been able to recover from the collapse in salmon prices. Losses will likely be born by salmon farmers who invested with the company.

Nutreco released its results, and says that it is making a push into non-salmonid aquaculture feeds, and it expects those feeds to account for 40% of revenue by 2016.

NMFS is moving forward with a new observer system in Alaska that will allow observers on smaller vessels for the first time. The new rules begin in 2013.

In Georgia, the strict immigration law passed this year has caused an exodus of workers from the state, and the restaurant association says their members have been directly impacted. They are closing off some sections of dining rooms, and simplifying menus because they say they cannot hire employees. The association wants a workable guest worker program.

Finally, an MSC praised UK chip shop is banning cod for a week in the name of sustainability; somehow not clueing to the fact that cod stocks have been surging in most parts of the North Atlantic. It just goes to show that ignorance is not confined only to consumers, but even some in the trade can get caught up in environmental myths and distortions -- one of the biggest of which has been the recent status of Atlantic cod.

John Sackton, Editor And Publisher , Lexington, Massachusetts

[Seafood.com News](http://Seafood.com)

1-781-861-1441

[Email comments to jsackton@seafood.com](mailto:jsackton@seafood.com)

Subscription info: Seafood.com is a subscription service, published by Seafood.com and Urner Barry. Urner Barry's COMTELL subscribers receive Seafood.com news as part of their subscription package. Other companies and individuals need to subscribe to read our stories. If you or your company has not signed up yet, please consider doing so. 2011 Subscription prices for Seafood.com News are \$24 monthly for a single user, \$39 for 2-5 users, and \$54 for 6-20 users. For questions about subscriptions or passwords, please Urner Barry at 1-800-932-0617, or subscribe on-line with a credit card by clicking the subscribe button. [Subscribe Here.](#)