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Sustainability of Fisheries in the Seto Inland Sea, Japan

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Abstract

Fish catch per unit area per year of 20.6 ton/km<sup>2</sup>/year in the Seto Inland Sea, Japan is the largest in the semi-enclosed coastal seas in the world. However, the fish catch in the Seto Inland Sea has decreased after 1986 mainly due to water pollution and over-fishing. On the basis of interdisciplinary study carried by not only physical, chemical and biological oceanographers but also engineers, economists and lawyers, we have proposed some measures in order to develop a sustainable fisheries in the Seto Inland Sea.