



WWF Perspective on aquatic food systems

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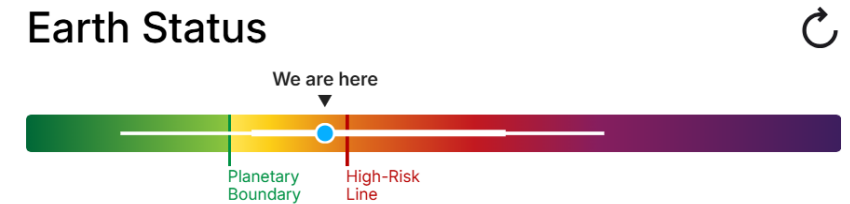


Global perspective on aquatic food system

Ocean climate regulation role is at risk

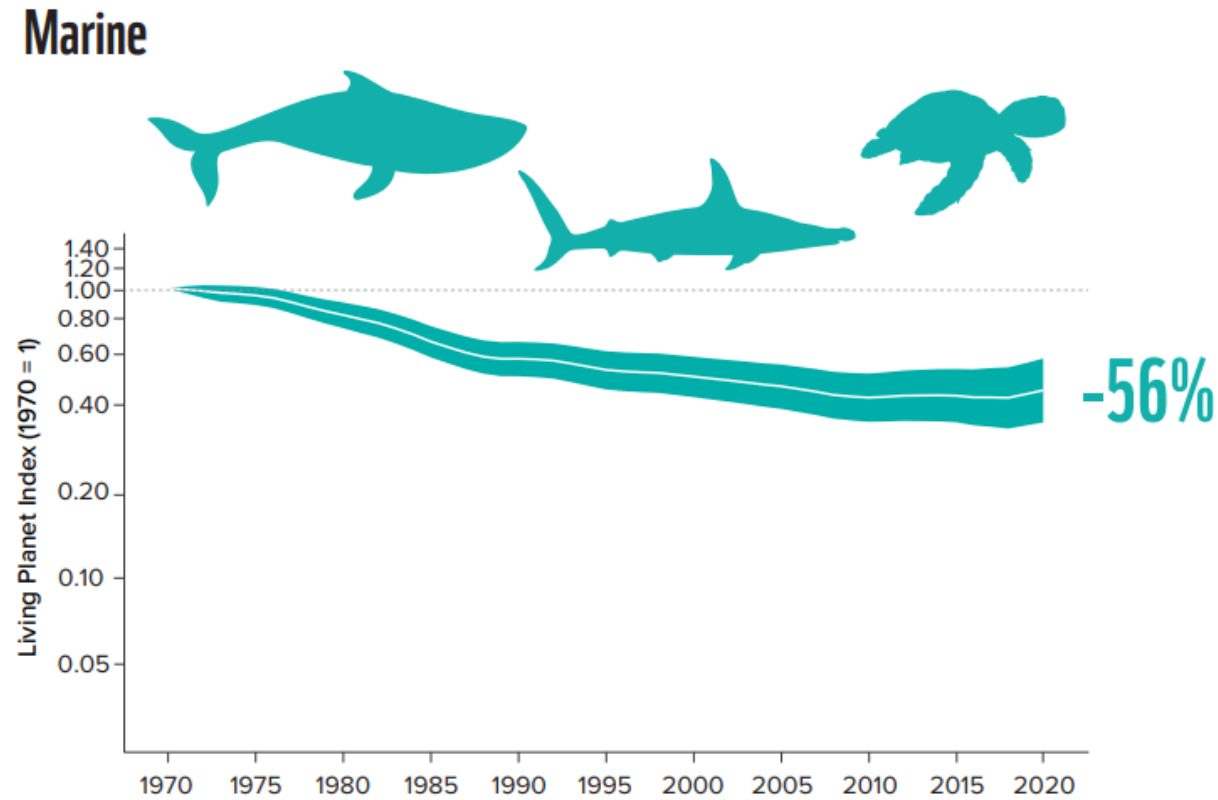


- When cumulative impacts reach a threshold, the change becomes self-perpetuating, resulting in substantial, often abrupt and potentially irreversible change. **6 global tipping points are fast approaching** (incl. Mass die-off of coral reefs, collapse of subpolar gyre, ice melting etc.)
- **7 out of 9 Planetary Boundaries have been breached** (i.e. climate change, change in biosphere integrity, land system change, freshwater change, modification of biogeochemical flows, introduction of novel entities, ocean acidification for the first time in 2025)



Planetary Health Check, screenshot,
27/01/2027

Decline of global marine biodiversity



WWF (2024) Living Planet Report 2024 – A System in Peril. WWF, Gland, Switzerland. [Link](#)

Extensive pressure on marine ecosystems



- Current cumulative impacts (2010 to 2020) for 10 pressures on 20 marine habitats to future projected cumulative impacts (2040 to 2060)
- By mid-century, we project that **cumulative impacts will more than double** and potentially triple their current (already high) levels.

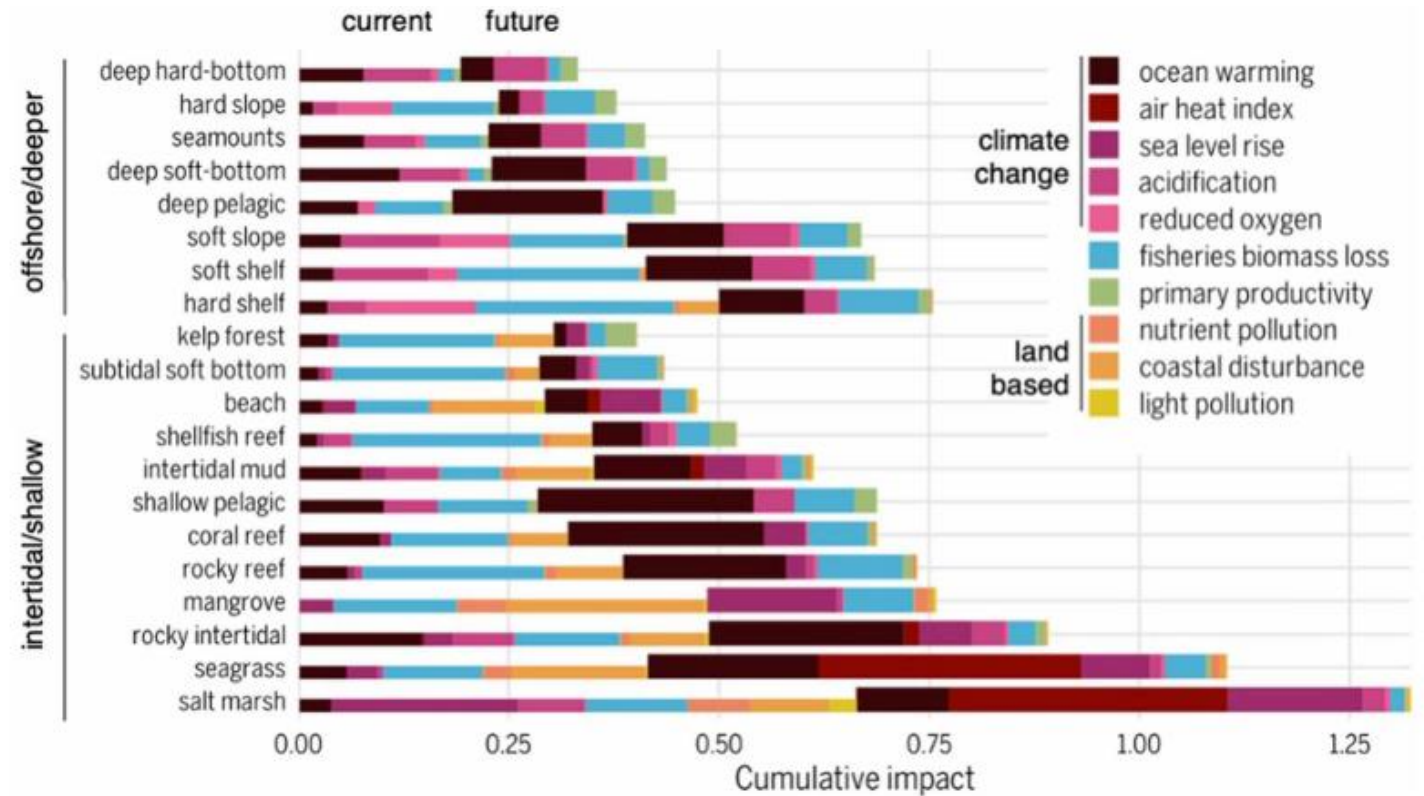


Fig. 3. Future impacts on marine habitats

Halpern, Benjamin & Frazier, Melanie & O'Hara, Casey & Vargas Fonseca, O. & Lombard, Amanda. (2025). Cumulative impacts to global marine ecosystems projected to more than double by midcentury. Science (New York, N.Y.). 389. eadv2906. 10.1126/science.adv2906.



Challenges of EU aquatic food systems

Ecosystem services underpin the EU economy



According to [DG ENV](#), up to **36%** of the EU's gross value added significantly **depends on nature**.

Cost for not implementing MSFD and non-MSFD measures evaluated to **€11,651 million euros**.

The European Central Bank has estimated that nearly **75% of all bank loans** in the euro area are to companies that are **highly dependent on at least one ecosystem service**.



EU self-sufficiency rate demand strong traceability



- Self-sufficiency rate at its lowest level in 2023 with **37,4%**
- According to [WWF 2021 analysis](#), the risk of 1 in 6 fish consumed in the EU being untraceable

CHART 4
EU APPARENT CONSUMPTION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY RATES FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS
Source: EUMOFA, based on EUROSTAT (online data codes: [fish_ca_main](#), [fish_aq2a](#) and [DS-045409](#)), FAO, national administrations and FEAP data. Details on the sources used can be found in the Methodological background.



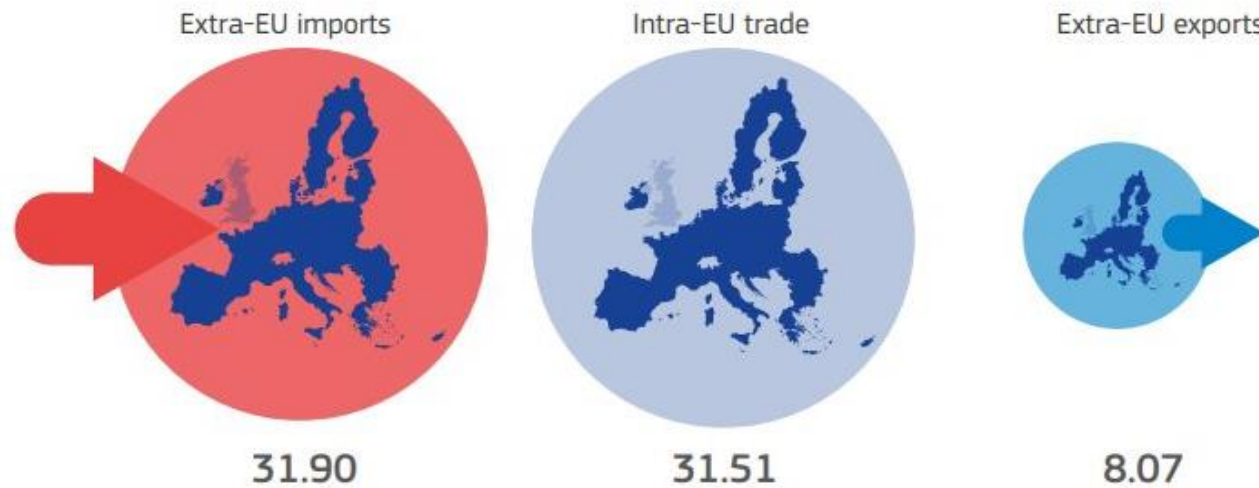
EU Fish Market 2025

Strengthen EU-wide import control



Extra- and intra-EU trade (2022)

Value in billion EUR

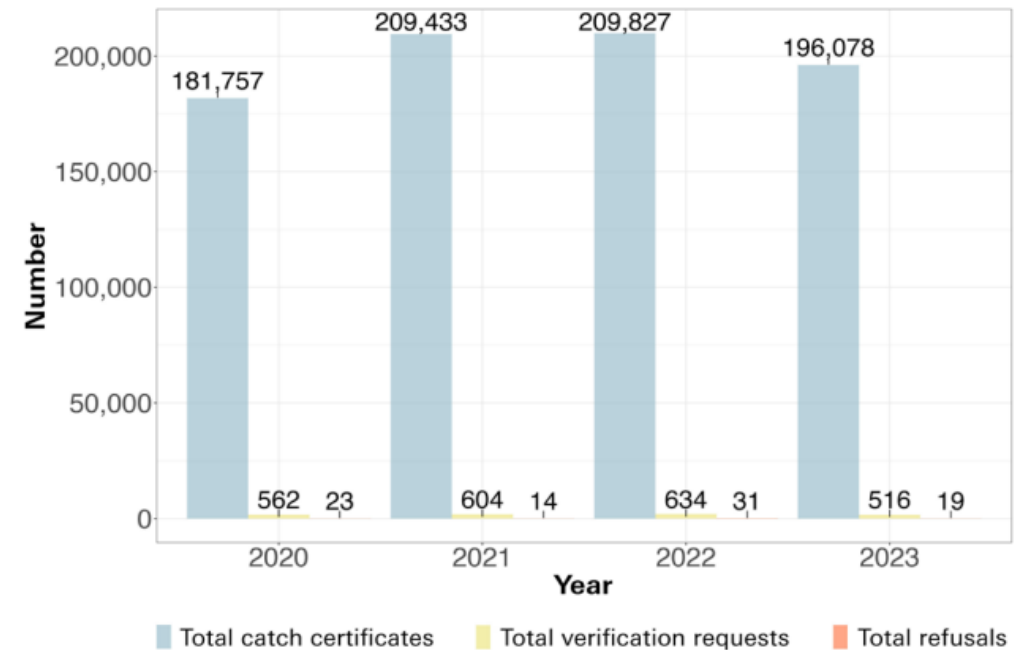


Source: Eumofa elaboration of Eurostat data.

DG Mare, Facts and Figures on the CFP, 2025. Accessible [here](#)

Low verification requests and refusal rate across all EU Member States

Verification requests and refusals modified to account for extreme number differences, actual values shown on bars



EU IUU Fishing coalition, Beyond CATCH: Why EU import controls still fail to keep illegal seafood out of the market, October 2025. [Link](#)



Call to action for a more sustainable, legal and fair aquatic food system

Call to action (1)



Minimise fisheries impact on marine ecosystems with the full and effective **implementation** of the **Common Fisheries Policy** and of the **Fisheries Control Regulation**

Don't sink the Common Fisheries Policy - fulfil its potential

OCTOBER 2025



Accessible [here](#)

Call to action (2)



Better traceability and control of seafood imports

- Ensure no seafood linked to **illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing** is sold on the EU market
- Ensure a **level playing field** between products imported into the EU and those produced domestically
- **EU accountability** to set sustainable fishing practices worldwide
- **Make business accountable** and implement due diligence across their value chains



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Thank you for your attention!

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and wildlife.

together possible.

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