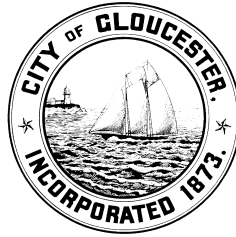


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**CITY OF GLOUCESTER**  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 11, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Greetings from America's oldest fishing community. Here in Gloucester, Massachusetts, where our fishermen have been feeding this great nation for 400 years, livelihoods and our economy hang in the balance waiting for a response from the Obama administration on a number of fisheries issues.

A broad coalition of elected officials from many states including Governor Deval Patrick, Senators John Kerry and Scott Brown of Massachusetts, fishermen, and industry advocates, have made multiple pleas for relief on the new regulations that are putting fishermen out of business. We have had no satisfaction whatsoever from your staff including NOAA Administrator Dr. Jane Lubchenco, and Commerce Secretary Gary Locke.

Rather than get into the technical details, I have a simple request. Come to Gloucester. See for yourself the hardworking fishermen who have spent years conserving the fisheries resource only now to be shut out of their livelihood at a time when the fish are rebounding.

My family and I, including our two young children, were among the millions of people who made the trip to Washington, DC to take part in your Inaugural celebration. Our city makes this appeal to you with the great hope that you will come to agree that the overzealousness of government is unnecessarily putting small fishing businesses out of business, and leading to job loss and despair in our fishing communities.

Sincerely yours,

Carolyn A. Kirk  
Mayor