



Advancing Opportunity,
Prosperity, and Growth

CASTING THE NET: A MORE EFFICIENT APPROACH TO U.S. FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC – On September 10th, The Hamilton Project hosted a forum at Brookings to discuss new opportunities for improving the economic prosperity and long-term sustainability of the U.S. fishing industry. The Project released two new papers: (1) an [economic overview of the U.S. fishing industry](#), and (2) a [new paper by economist Christopher Costello](#) of UC Santa Barbara proposing amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requiring that fisheries meeting certain criteria be required to undertake a comparison of the economic, social, and ecological trade-offs between status quo management and alternative management structures, including catch shares.

In a roundtable around the new proposal, Costello was joined by **Lee Crockett**, Director of U.S. Oceans at the Pew Charitable Trusts; **John Mimikakis**, Associate Vice President of Oceans at the Environmental Defense Fund; **John Pappalardo**, Executive Director of the Cape Cod Commercial Fisherman’s Alliance; and Captain **Steve Tomeny** of Steve Tomeny Charters. **Melissa Kearney**, Director of The Hamilton Project, moderated the roundtable. The program opened with remarks by former U.S. Treasury Secretary **Robert E. Rubin**.

Links to audio and video of the roundtable discussion, and the new papers, can be found below:

Audio: [Download and listen to the full event, including the opening remarks and roundtable discussion.](#)

Video: [Watch the full event, including the opening remarks and roundtable discussion.](#)

Photos: [See photos from the event.](#)

Transcript: [Read the full, unedited transcript.](#)

New Papers: Read two new papers on the importance of strengthening U.S. fisheries management:

- [Tomorrow’s Catch: A Proposal to Strengthen the Economic Sustainability of U.S. Fisheries](#), by Christopher Costello
- [What’s the Catch? Challenges and Opportunities of the U.S. Fishing Industry](#), by Melissa S. Kearney, Benjamin H. Harris, and Brad Hershbein

Please contact us with questions, or if you'd like to speak with one of the authors.

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