

Bloomberg Businessweek

Oil on Troubled Waters: The Gulf faced major threats before the BP disaster, and they remain

Overfishing

The West Atlantic population of bluefin tuna, which spawns precisely when and where the spill occurred, has been endangered by overfishing in international waters.



Quantity of fish in population by weight

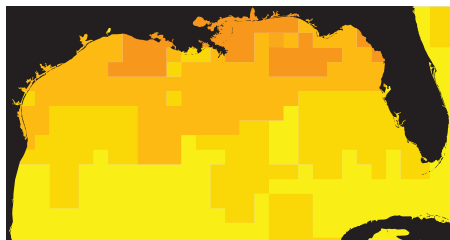
1970	45,000	metric tons
2007	8,500	metric tons

DATA: INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS

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Global Climate Change

Warming oceans are encouraging the spread



Temperature compared to average sea surface temperature from 1985-90, plus 1993

■ +0.5-1.0°C ■ +1.0-1.5°C ■ +1.5-2.0°C ■ +2.0-2.5°C

DATA: NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

of invasive species such as lionfish and the Chinese tallow tree.

Wetlands Destruction



Coastal marshes absorb fertilizer runoff from farms and buffer civilization from Gulf storms.

Losses in coastal watersheds, 1998 to 2004

Great Lakes	20,000	acres
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Atlantic	110,000	acres
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