

**Governor, take note ...**

# When this little fish



# disappears

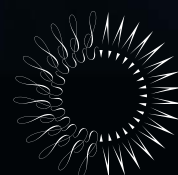
**big fish (and the rest of us) are in trouble.**

All along the East Coast, little Atlantic menhaden are vital to the diet of bigger fish, along with seabirds, whales and other species. But humans now haul in menhaden by the millions, grinding them up for fertilizer, pet food, dietary supplements, and other products. And their populations have plummeted – to less than 10 percent of their original levels.

If the menhaden collapse is allowed to continue, it will cripple our commercial and sport fishing industries and undermine the whole marine ecosystem. Striped bass in the region already show signs of malnutrition.

**Governor: In November, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will meet to discuss this problem, and one option they're considering is to do nothing. That's unacceptable. Measures are needed now to increase menhaden populations to at least four times their current size.**

**Atlantic menhaden  
need protection now.**



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[PewEnvironment.org/Menhaden](http://PewEnvironment.org/Menhaden)