



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### STORMY WEATHER HAMPERS FISH SUPPLY

Stormy weather in some of the major fish producing areas of the country during the past two weeks has reduced supplies of fresh fish reaching the markets, causing some increases in market prices at New England and Middle Atlantic points, but little effect as yet in other areas, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported today. Should weather conditions continue unfavorable to fishing, price increases at producing points will be reflected in other areas, the Service predicted. Scattered reports from retailers indicate that rising prices were meeting considerable consumer resistance.

Representatives of the fishing industry, at a meeting held in Washington in October with the Citizens' Food Committee, headed by Charles Luckman, pledged to produce additional fish and at reasonable prices to meet new demands created by meatless and poultryless days. Adequate stocks of frozen fish, plus the possibility of increasing production at least 25 percent above normal, were the basis on which the industry advised the committee that the public could be provided with one more meal of fish each week to fulfill the slogan "SAVE GRAIN - SERVE FISH."

A survey of important markets, said the Fish and Wildlife Service, shows that retail prices for fresh and frozen fish have shown little change during the past month of increased demand brought about by meatless and poultryless days. Field offices report the following market conditions and some of the better buys which consumers may find:

**SEATTLE:** Prices have not changed materially since a month ago. Petrale sole, English sole, lingcod, rockfish, and salmon are the best buys in this market.

**DETROIT:** Supplies fair to good but production down because of storms and closed seasons on Great Lakes. The opening of lake trout season on Lake Michigan brought increased supplies of this species and some reduction in prices. Generally, however, storms have created firmer market with some prices up 10 to 15 percent. Best buys are Lake Erie perch, blue pike, lake herring, sheepshead, buffalofish, flounders, whiting, mullet, carp, and rosefish or sea perch.

BOSTON: Bad weather, poor fishing resulted in light supply; demand somewhat better but customer resistance to higher prices being experienced. Reduced landings have caused some retail prices to increase as much as 5 or 10 cents per pound.

NEW YORK: Bad weather in Middle and North Atlantic has limited supply with prices somewhat higher. Better buys are butterfish, whiting, mackerel and cod fillets.

NEW ORLEANS: Situation relatively unchanged. Better buys are whiting, rosefish fillets, cod fillets, and haddock fillets.

DENVER: Supply and price situation unchanged in this area. Whiting, rosefish, cod and haddock fillets; pan-dressed whiting are reported among the better buys; salmon and halibut in the higher priced ranges.

LOS ANGELES: No apparent change reported in general market conditions. Pacific fillets reported somewhat scarce but sole fillets, haddock fillets, lingcod fillets, cod fillets, pan-dressed whiting and halibut steaks among better buys.

WASHINGTON, D. C.: Little change reported with good buys of haddock fillets, rosefish or sea perch fillets, and striped bass or "rock."

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