

Petition P4-0013, filed on behalf of Michigan channel catfish fishermen.

Background:

On February 13, 2004, the *Federal Register* published notice that a group of fishermen in Michigan had filed a petition for trade adjustment assistance on behalf of all channel catfish fishermen in Michigan.

The petition indicated that the marketing year impacted by imports of farm raised catfish was January - December 2003. The 5-year base period used for the purpose of a price comparison was 1998-2002.

Analysis:

The yearly prices used in this analysis consist of the weighted average price for all transactions reported, in that year, by fishermen to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. These data were used to derive an average price for Michigan catfish sales over the period 1998 to 2003. In 2002 and 2003 there were several transactions where a quantity was reported but no price. These transactions were excluded in the average yearly price calculation. The average price for 1998-2002 was \$0.564 per pound. The average price for catfish sales in 2003 was \$0.464 per pound. Therefore the average price for the petition year was 17.7 percent lower than the average price for the period 1998 to 2002. .

Reason for denial of petition:

To qualify for TAA, prices must decline by more than 20 percent for the most recent marketing year when compared to the 5 previous year average. A notice to deny the petition was published in the *Federal Register* on March 19, 2004.