For what to fish: Different answers from Different periods of Chinese fishery history

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China is an ancient while a young marine and inland fishery tope nation in the world, with a long-known fishery history. For what and for whom have people been fishing? There have been very different answers in different historical periods according to the experience of China's fishery history development. During the long, long ancient and traditional time of China, the answer was very clear: the aim of fishing and fisheries is mainly for people's food, to meet people's diet-delicious demand. But now, it has been changed after China begin entered into the "modern market economy time". The new answer now has become mainly as "for money". In such a newly contemporary time, fishery and fishes are just tools, resources and means for making money. So, that is the very reason why there comes the newly fishing ships and nets which can catch all the fishes even with all the little fish-babies, and exhaust all fishery resources along their roots whenever and wherever they reach; why the 85-90% land-based pollution into the seas and lakes destroying the ecological environment of fishery resources meet with no strong methods; why almost all of China's coastal and inland fishery resources have been damaged and endangered, and almost all of the traditional fishery areas have been changed and disappeared? why the large number of poor fisherman have lost their fishing seas and rivers and lakes, and had to abandon ships ashore? and thus why the aquaculture fishery has been fast developed, with toxic and harmful fishery products flooding the market? What is the way out? The grim reality of China and the profound lessons tell us that the return to tradition, fishing for peoples’ food demand, rather than making money, is the only path for sustainable fisheries development.

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