

## Reading Guide for *The Perfect Storm*: STPA 35, Spring 2001

If you're very organized, you may want to get a head start on the quarter by reading Sebastian Junger's book *The Perfect Storm* early in the quarter. The book is a good tale, but mixed in with the story is quite a bit of oceanography.

As you read, think about answers to the following questions. Please also notice the full range of oceanographic topics in the book, and make note of any issues that you think might be relevant to our class discussion.

(1) What types of people are influenced by the events of the perfect storm? What professions/job categories/hobbies are mentioned in the book that are influenced by the ocean?

(2) What does *The Perfect Storm* tell you about the fishing industry? How has fishing changed in recent years? What has happened to fish stocks?

(3) Should the fishing industry be changed? What reactions might you expect to see if Congress or OSHA suddenly required fishing boats to maintain safer operations?