

## **Pirates vs. pirates**

I strongly disprove of international pirate fishery activities, something Canadian East Coast fishers have suffered from for years. I am equally opposed to a group taking vigilante actions, even though their goal may be laudable. Sea Shepherd, and its founder Paul Watson, has for decades taken vigilante action against a number of targets ("Thunder gone under," *International*, April 27), including those pursuing legitimate activities in Canada. The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco said, "When you ram ships; hurl glass containers of acid; drag metal-reinforced ropes in the water to damage propellers and rudders; launch smoke bombs and flares with hooks; and point high-powered lasers at other ships, you are, without a doubt, a pirate, no matter how high-minded you believe your purpose to be." Yet Sea Shepherd continues to prosper, aided by uncritical, unquestioning journalism.

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