

# Summary: Joint Workshop on Accumulation Limits and Fleet Diversity

NEFMC

June 22, 2011

Meeting held June 9, 2011

Participants: GF Cte, AP, PDT, SSC, public

Small discussion groups answered 5 questions

1. Which goals are more important related to diversity and accumulation limits?
2. What is an "excessive share"?
3. Should diversity goals and accumulation limits be responsive to changing industry conditions?
4. What range of measures should the Council consider for managing quota?
5. How do these measures relate to diversity recommendations from the morning session?

Goal was not necessarily consensus, but generation of ideas

Some groups reached consensus on some issues; others did not

\* Included in summary are themes that generated a lot of discussion and views that were shared by a broad number of participants (but not all!)

# Topic One: Goals and Objectives for the Groundfish Fleet

- Goals could be linked to maintaining certain characteristics of the current fleet
  - E.g. vessel size, gear type, geographic area, level of participation in various fisheries, inshore v. offshore
- Goals should be community-driven
  - Decentralization largely seen as desirable to achieve community objectives
  - No consensus on what constitutes “community” – CFAs? Sectors?

# Topic One (cont'd)

- Obtaining optimum yield (OY) should be a major priority
  - Seen as most important by several groups; participation will increase with increased opportunity
- “Excessive share” definition
  - Little consensus; recognized that it would mean negative effects on fishery
  - Requests for analytical work to determine access to leasing markets and fishing opportunity
- Goals and limits should be reassessed after a few years in the same way as FMPs

# Topic One (cont'd)

- More information is needed about the effects of Amendment 16
  - Statements that it takes time to get used to catch share system
- A more affordable fishery should be a goal
  - In order to upgrade vessels and preserve opportunities for access, etc.
- Effects on shore-side infrastructure should be considered in goal-setting

# Topic 2: Accumulation Limits and Diversity Measures

- Quota set-asides could be considered as a tool for meeting several goals
- Accumulation limits should be different for different stocks and fisheries
- The Council could consider a cap based on the numbers of permits held
- Enhancing regulatory flexibility may be a way to promote diversity

## Topic 2 (cont'd)

- A mechanism for grandfathering individuals could be desirable if accumulation limits are adopted
- Measures could be developed by communities or sectors
- Ownership caps could be considered IF there is a problem with fleet diversity
- Council should review if quota is being held and not fished



## Topic 2 (cont'd)

- Permit banks may play a role in allocating quota to protect diversity, but the Council should review them for effectiveness
- The percent of the overall ACE controlled by any one sector is irrelevant
- Leasing measures should be carefully considered, as there are many issues associated with restrictions on leasing
- ITQs could be examined
- Measures should be considered which make the fishery more affordable to participants

# Research Requests

- Analysis on efficacy of the permit bank program
- How active vessels are distributed among ports
- Details of groundfish permit ownership
- Suggestion to review p.6 of Clay, Pinto da Silva, Kitts for potential indices
- Definition of “part-time”/ “full time” and income (or %) should not be considered a measure
- % active vs. inactive vessels
- Analysis of measures of economic efficiency
- Tracking how well we are achieving OY and fully utilizing resource
- Supply chain analysis, to inform community objectives and business planning
- Assess what the optimum number of vessels would be for the GF fishery based on profitability of a fully rebuilt resource.
- Analysis of control of leasing market and access to fishery