Science, Service, Stewardship

Social Science in the Council Process:
Current Policy Directions and Emerging Applications

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Outline

- Today's Objectives
- Performance Measures
- Data Needs/Social Science Research
- Emerging Policy Questions

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Objectives

Introduce initiative to develop social science performance measures for US fisheries, and implications for decision makers

Discuss the role of social science in the context of national policy directions

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Performance Measurement

"National Standard 1 is King" At Agency level, we have several Government Performance Results Act/related metrics: measuring fish stock sustainability, # fish stocks with adequate assessments, # rebuilt stocks, etc.

But of the 47 Council and NMFS FMPs, only a handful have explicit social or economic goals and objectives Using a single, not triple bottom line

Result? Difficult to know when to declare success

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Social Science Imperative

Our fisheries policies and management actions need to sustain species and habitats AND support and sustain coastal fishing communities.

Under various laws and Executive Orders, required to predict the impacts, both social and economic, on participants in the fishery.

Includes Regulatory Impact Reviews, Social Impact Analyses, Fishery Impact Statements, Effects on small businesses, Effects on environmental justice, etc.

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What Ingredients do we Need to Recognize Success?

To mark improvements and monitor progress we need a reference point to where we are (data) and what outcome we seek to achieve (performance measure or metric).

We'll look at both in the next few slides….

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Why Now?

- NOAA's Catch Share Policy November 2010
- Significant interest across the country from constituents, Councils, members of Congress, and others regarding the performance of catch share programs
- Key focus areas:
  - Social (e.g., changes in participation)
  - Economic (e.g., changes in revenue, costs)
  - Ecological (e.g., changes in bycatch)

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Performance Indicators Project

- Standardizing work on regional performance measures across fisheries
- Tiered approach
  - Tier I – readily available data in all regions
  - Tier II – data available in some regions
  - Tier III – data not currently available but important
- Phased Approach
  - Phase I – Catch Share Programs
  - Phase II – Non-Catch Share Fisheries

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Tier I Performance Indicators

- Catch and Landings
- Effort
- Revenues
- Participation
- Cost Recovery

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Tier I Derived Indicators

- Prices
- Revenues
  - Revenue by activity level
- Catch and Landings
  - Utilization
  - Change in bycatch
- Baseline is average of 3 years prior to implementation

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Timeline – Catch Share Programs

Year 1 – Tier I

- December 2011
  - Southeast: Red Snapper and Grouper/Tilefish
  - Northeast: Multispecies Sector and Golden Tilefish
  - Alaska: Crab Rationalization
- Second Round – February 2012
  - Northeast: Surf Clam, Ocean Quahog and Scallop IFQ
  - Northwest: Trawl Rationalization, Sablefish Permit Stacking
  - Alaska: Halibut/Sablefish, Gulf of Alaska Rockfish, Non-Pollock Groundfish Cooperatives, AFA Pollock

Year 2 – November 2012

- Tier I
- Selected Tier II

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Northeast Multispecies Sector Program*

	Baseline	2010 Sectors	2010 Entire Fishery
Catch Share Revenue			
Average price	$1.28	$1.42	$1.42
Revenue per active vessel	$142,596	$246,207	$183,617
% Utilization	25.5%	35.4%	35.0%
Decreased bycatch	N/A	Y	Y
Total revenue**	$120,906,620	$98,846,875	$105,098,793
Total revenue** per active vessel	$197,667	$324,098	$233,553

*These data and further analyses are available in Kitts, et al. 2011. Final report on the Performance of the Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fishery (May 2010 – April 2011). http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/publications/crd/crd1119/

**Total revenue includes landings of groundfish and non-groundfish on groundfish trips.

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Tier II – Available in Some Regions

Require additional research and design

- Distribution of revenue
- Net revenue
- Vessel productivity
- Profits
- Rents
- Vessel Safety
- Crew Information

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Performance Measure Timeline

- Fact Sheets
  - Drafts *available* – *Summer 2012*
- Compilation Document
  - Description of design of each U.S. catch share program
  - Web site – *May/June 2012*
- Full Report
  - Draft – *Summer 2012*

Contact Dr. Rita Curtis for more information rita.curtis@noaa.gov

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Data/Information Needs: Social and Economic Void

Investment in data and metrics heavily skewed towards stock assessments, ABCs, ACLs, B_{MSY} versus social and economic data

Long list of social and economic needs:

- Crew information/Employment/Demographics
- Profitability
- Well-being
- Tracking institutional change
- Attitudes toward the environment/stewardship

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Data/Information Needs – What Can A Council Member Do?

1. Set Explicit Goals and Objectives in FMPs
2. Promote Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements
3. Use Advisory Panels to Capture Data
4. Improve 5-Year Research Plans to NOAA
5. Request more Social Science Cooperative Research

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Shift Gears to Emerging Policy Initiatives

1. Building Fishing Community Capacity & Sustainability
2. Redefining Fishery Management Unit
3. Planning for Competing Ocean Uses
4. Devolving Governance/Management

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1. Supporting Fishing Communities

Financial Assistance/Business Planning

- Limited Access Privilege Program Loans
- Permit Banks
- Fisheries Innovation Fund / Set-Aside Programs
- Grant Programs - Saltonstall-Kennedy, Economic Development Admin.

Organizational

- Regional Fishery Association, Fishing Community
- Community Trusts
- Cooperatives

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1. Supporting Fishing Communities (cont.)

Marketing

- Cooperatives
- Community Supported Fisheries
- Traceability / Value-chain initiatives

Communication

- Training / Workshops / Town Halls
- Web Portals
- Council Processes
- *Visioning* Project

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2. Redefining the Fishery Management Unit

Trend to Ecosystem Based-management

- Forage species interactions
- Habitat integration with stock rebuilding
- Merger of multiple FMPs into broad assemblages

Issues of scale, allocation

Non-Commercial Sectors –

- Recreational
- Tribal, Indigenous, Subsistence, Customary

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3. Competing Ocean Uses

National Ocean Policy

- Multiple authorities
- Regional Planning Bodies
- Multi-sector uses and non-uses (energy-- wind, wave, oil and gas; transportation; military; aquaculture; sanctuaries/reserves)
- Societal trade-offs

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4. Devolving Governance

Models

- Catch shares, Territorial Use Rights Fisheries (TURFs)
- New England sectors/Consolidated permits
- Cooperatives and Risk Pools

Shifting Responsibilities & Costs for:

- Data, Reporting, Observers, Catch accounting
- Enforcement, compliance?
- Science and stock assessment?

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Conclusions - Social Science in the Council Process

- Expand sustainability outcomes to include fishing communities
- Social science data and metrics still lagging
- Need more service and support, not just science, to improve fishing community capacity
- Be alert and agile to threats and opportunities outside fisheries