

Roiled Waters

Sector Allocation in New England's Groundfish Fishery

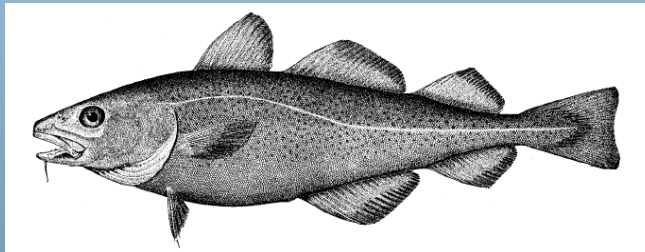
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Background

- Presentation Goals
 - Explain the evolution of Sector management
 - Sector allocations
 - Outlook for community allocations



Presentation Outline

- Intro and Background
- Problem Statement
- A Delicate Balancing Act
- New England Sectors
- Sector Allocation
- Results
- Management
- Success?
- Conclusions & Summary
- Next Steps



Problem Statement

Sector allocation allows
communities of fishermen the opportunity
to balance goals of conservation with
objectives of a profitable fishing business.



A Delicate Balancing Act

- Conservation Goals
 - Sustainability
 - Diversity
 - Preservation
 - *more*
- Business Objectives
 - Profitability
 - Stability
 - Flexibility
 - Accountability



New England Sector Management

- Sector Definition

- “... a group of 3 or more persons, none of whom have an ownership interest in the other two persons, holding limited access vessel permits, who have voluntarily entered into a contract and agree to certain fishing restrictions for a specified period of time, and which has been granted a TAC(s) in order to achieve the objectives consistent with applicable FMP goals and objectives. ” (NEFMC)

- **“voluntary cooperative that allows a community of fishermen to collectively manage and harvest an annual allocation of fish. ”** (CCCHFA fishermen)

New England Sector Management

- Motivating Factors for Development
 - Discarding w/ DAS and trip limits
 - Declining profitability
 - Declining fish populations
 - Increasing regulations
 - Inequities between gear types
 - Preservation of small dayboat fleet
 - Lack of voice in decision-making & policy representation



Sector Allocation

How large is the pie, who gets to eat, and how much?

Sector Allocation

- Sector allocation goals, according to A16 (NEFMC):
 - *Address bycatch issues*
 - *Simplify management*
 - *Give industry greater control over their own fate*
 - *Provide a mechanism for economics to shape the fleet, rather than regulations (while working to achieve fishing and biomass targets)*
 - *Prevent excessive consolidation that would eliminate the dayboat fishery*

Sector Allocation



- Objectives:
 - Long time period
 - Recent time period
 - Accurate baseline data
 - Stability
 - Historical participation*



Results

- Existing sectors (2) maintained baselines for existing allocations
 - 1996-2001 for GB cod for 2 sectors (2 allocations)
- New allocations established on new baselines
 - 1996-2006 for all else, incl. GB cod for new sectors
 - 16 allocations x 17 sectors – 2 existing = 270 add'l allocations

Allocation Management

- Initial Allocation
 - Sector allocation, not individual (not an ITQ)
 - Annual allocation (not a LAPP)
- Internal Redistribution
 - Decision of membership and/or Board of Directors
- Transferability
 - Intra and Inter
- Thresholds and Buffers



Evaluation of Success

Has Sector Allocation been successful?

- **Address bycatch issues**
- **Simplify management**
- **Give industry greater control over their own fate**
- **Provide a mechanism for economics to shape the fleet, rather than regulations (while working to achieve fishing and biomass targets)**
- **Prevent excessive consolidation that would eliminate the dayboat fishery**

Conclusions & Summary

- Key to success is well-defined goals and proper evaluation.
- Sector allocations have provided solutions to the fatal flaws of the previous Days-At-Sea system.
- New England has tackled the difficult issue of allocation through the lens of community allocation.



The seal of the Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association is a circular emblem. It features a central figure of a fisherman in a boat, surrounded by a ring of text that reads "CAPE COD COMMERCIAL HOOK FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION". The seal is rendered in a light blue color against a darker blue background.

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