

Science, Service, Stewardship



Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) – Potential Long- Term Actions

Highly Migratory Species
Management Division
NMFS/NOAA

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Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs)

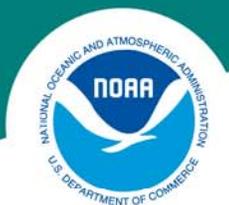
CURRENTLY

Atlantic HMS fisheries have no LAPPs; however, the Atlantic tuna purse seine fishery is a type of catch share program.

POTENTIAL OPTIONS

- Implement LAPPs in other HMS fisheries
- Considerations:
 - Applicability in HMS fisheries
 - Individually assigning quotas
 - Biological, social, and economic impacts

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Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs) (cont.)

- What aspects of LAPPs in HMS fisheries have the most potential to increase operational flexibility, harvest timing flexibility, and fishing efficiency?
- Would LAPPs in HMS fisheries result in increased profitability for fishermen?
- What biological, social, or economic impacts might be associated with implementation of LAPPs in HMS fisheries?
- What criteria should NMFS consider when evaluating LAPPs for HMS fisheries?



Limited Access Privilege Programs – Public Comments

Generally, commenters expressed doubts/concerns or opposition to catch shares in HMS fisheries

- HMS are not conducive to catch shares because of their highly migratory nature which causes their distributions and concentrations to change over time especially as stocks expand and contract
- HMS management should not move toward catch shares at this point because HMS are not solely a domestically managed resource



Limited Access Privilege Programs – Public Comments

- It is difficult to realize benefits of such a domestic catch share program amid international participation in the fisheries
- If catch shares are implemented internationally, following a U.S. lead, it will be more difficult to manage effort (potentially based on shares becoming viewed as an entitlement)
- Opposed to allocation of public natural resource to a restricted and select group of individuals



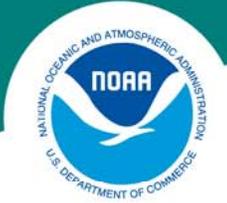
Limited Access Privilege Programs – Public Comments

- Fails to provide the public with just compensation for exclusive access to the fishery
- Does not necessarily eliminate the incentive to over-harvest and may lead to high-grading of fish
- Most catch share programs that have been implemented have experienced a substantial reduction in the number of crew members in the fishery which negatively impacts fishing communities
- Could ensure a long-term entitlement to certain groups which might come at a loss of access to a fishery by other groups



Limited Access Privilege Programs – Public Comments

- Assurances must be made that a group is not forever “locked out” of a fishery due to original allocation of TAC/quota or unavailability of shares for new entrants
- Concern was expressed in areas with variations in success of the fishery (such as BFT off NC) that might cause longliners to be rewarded during initial allocation while other group’s access is marginalized (this might also occur if a vessel cannot fish during extensive repairs)



Limited Access Privilege Programs – Public Comments

- Negative opinions expressed by BFT General Category permit holders based on the open access nature of the General Category and the relatively few numbers of BFT landed per permit holder
- If catch shares are implemented, the shares should be “use it or lose it”
- NOVESID permits should not be allocated any catch share
- Catch share implementation is not favorable in small communities because it sets neighbor against neighbor when vying for shares

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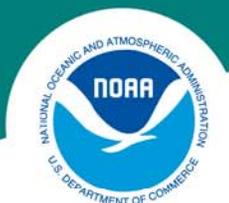
Individual Bycatch Caps (IBCs)

CURRENTLY

Limits on the bycatch of protected species are established for the pelagic and bottom longline fisheries on a fishery-wide basis

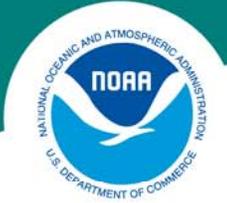
POTENTIAL OPTIONS

- Implement Individual Bycatch Caps in HMS fisheries
- Considerations:
 - Distribution of allowable amounts of bycatch interactions to vessels (individual or grouped) or on a regional basis
 - Biological, social, or economic impacts



Individual Bycatch Caps (IBCs) (cont.)

- How might IBCs in HMS fisheries affect the status of bycatch species?
- What aspects of an IBC system in HMS fisheries might be or might not be advantageous to fishery participants?
- What efficient and effective ways of monitoring IBCs are there?
- Social, biological, or economic impacts of IBCs?
- What should NMFS consider when evaluating IBCs for HMS fisheries?



Individual Bycatch Caps (IBCs) – Public Comments

Generally, few comments received on this issue

- IBCs have been effective in protecting bycatch species in some north Pacific fisheries and have potential for use in HMS fisheries
- Could be beneficial depending on how they are implemented
- Commenters recognized that the expense of needed technology could be a barrier