

# **MARINE FISHERY ALLOCATION ISSUES**

**Report submitted to NMFS  
by George Lapointe  
December 2012**

# PURPOSE

---

**to identify allocation issues  
through discussions with  
fishery management leaders  
throughout the nation**

# 114 DISCUSSIONS

# BY REGION

---

•WESTERN PACIFIC	3
•NORTH PACIFIC	11
•PACIFIC	24
•CARIBBEAN	3
•GULF OF MEXICO	9
•SOUTH ATLANTIC	20
•MID ATLANTIC	23
•NEW ENGLAND	21
•NO REGIONAL AFFILIATION	17

# PER STATE, TERRITORY, JURISDICTION

---

• WESTERN PACIFIC	0.7
• NORTH PACIFIC	3.7
• PACIFIC	6.0
• CARRIBEAN	1.5
• GULF OF MEXICO	1.8
• SOUTH ATLANTIC	5.0
• MID ATLANTIC	3.3
• NEW ENGLAND	4.2

# Respondents were

---

- **Interested in Issue**
- **Engaged in Discussions**
- **Heartfelt in Responses**
- **Concerned About What's Next**

# Options for Consideration

---

- **Stakeholder engagement**
- **Increased biological and social science research**
- **More formalized review of allocation decisions**
- **Compilation of allocation decisions**
- **Guidance on issues to consider in allocation deliberations**
- **Revision of National Standard 4**

# Stakeholder engagement

---

- **Little consensus or vision on allocation**
- **Define and reinforce allocation language**
- **Clarify roles in allocation processes**

# Stakeholder engagement, cont.

---

- **NMFS role in allocation discussions and decisions**
- **Council's role in allocation discussions and decisions**
- **Fair and open allocation process  $\neq$  consensus**
- **Guidance on allocation issues**
- **Compilation of allocation systems and decisions**
- **Review of allocation decisions**
- **Length of time for allocations to remain in place**
- **Impacts of changing human demographics**
- **Impacts of climate change**

# Increased biological and social science research

---

- **Lack of information mentioned by many people as an impediment to allocation decisions**
- **Biological because of uncertainty impacting ACLs**
- **Social science because**
  - **Many decisions are made without social science data**
  - **Desire for new methods for allocation decisions**

# More formalized review of allocation decisions

---

- What constitutes a review?
- How often reviews have taken place?
- Thoroughness of review
- Language used impacts perception about permanence or tenure

# Compilation of allocation decisions

---

- **Many said a compilation of systems and decisions would be helpful**
- **In Progress**
- **Morrison and Scott - Review of Laws, Guidance, Technical Memorandums and Case Studies Related to Fisheries Allocation Decisions**

# Guidance on issues to consider in allocation deliberations

---

- **Checklist**
  - **Accumulation limits**
  - **Crew**
  - **Community**
  - **New entrants**
  - **Review period**

# Revision of National Standard 4

---

- **No Change Recommended**
- **No Additional Tools to Revise Standard**
- **Allocation is a Judgment Call on the Part of Decision Makers**

# Next Steps ?