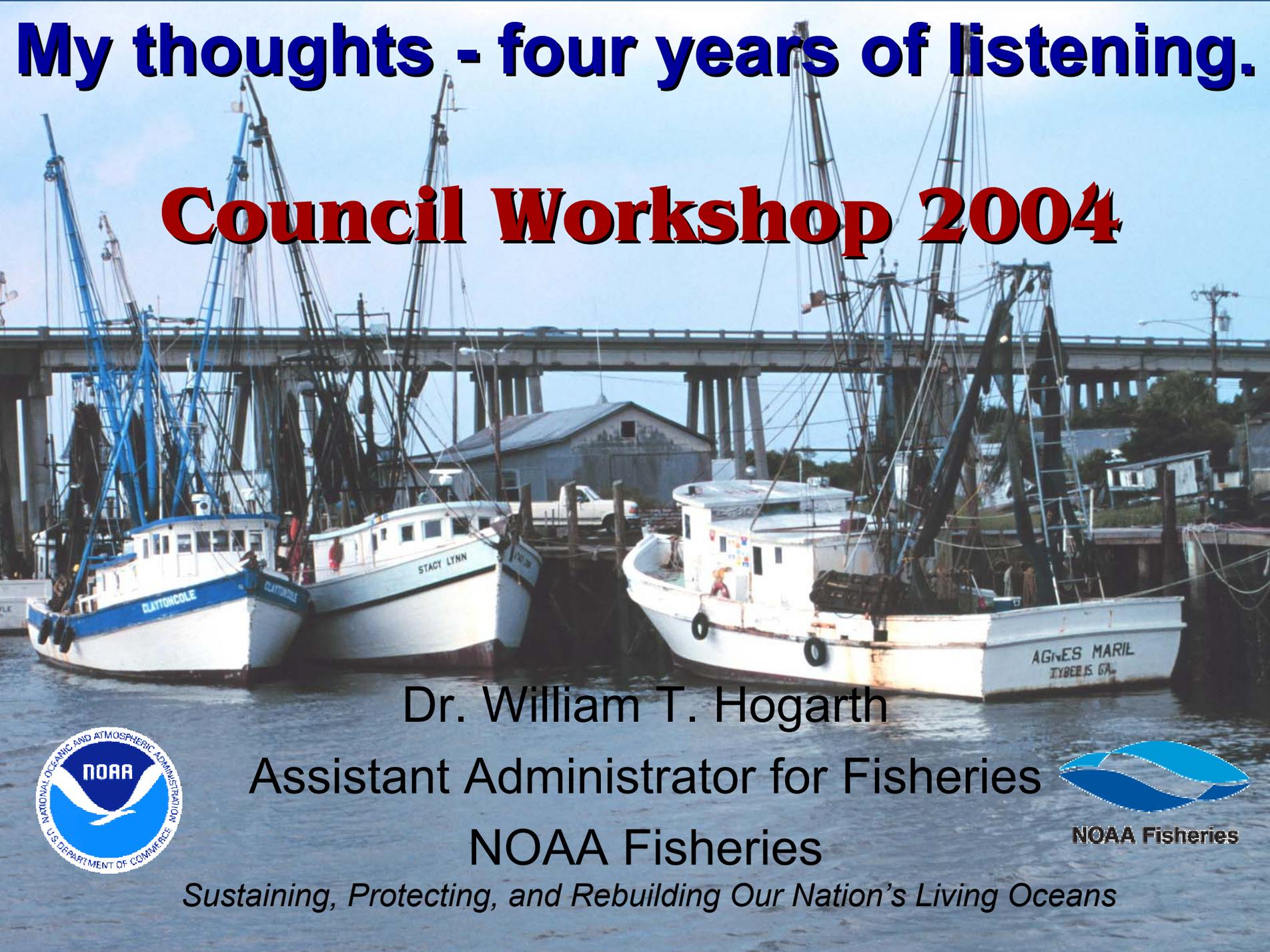


My thoughts - four years of listening.

Council Workshop 2004



Dr. William T. Hogarth

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

NOAA Fisheries

Sustaining, Protecting, and Rebuilding Our Nation's Living Oceans



NOAA Fisheries

Administration supports fisheries

- VADM Lautenbacher:
 - By expanding our inclusive audience, we will make progress – its the big tent philosophy.
- Deputy Secretary Kassinger:
 - Knowledgeable fishermen must be a part of a comprehensive management process.

Appropriations

	FY 04 Enacted	FY 05 President's Budget	FY 05 House	FY 05 Senate
ORF	\$ 621.3	\$ 623.2	\$ 525.7	\$ 713.0
PAC	\$ 21.9*	\$ 2.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 20.5*
PCSRF	\$ 89.1	\$ 100.0	\$ 80.0	\$ 99.0
Total	\$ 732.3	\$ 725.2	\$ 610.7	\$ 832.5

* Includes \$ 11.9 million in 04 and \$ 15 million in Senate 05 for NOAA Pacific Islands Regional Office

My vision:

- Continued improvement in status of U.S. stocks
- Better partnerships
 - Councils and Commissions
 - Industries
 - NGOs
 - Partners and Public
- Unified approach to fisheries management
- A 'better' Magnuson-Stevens Act

Near-term Actions:

Get the 'good news' out

Need the Council's views on "NEPA relief"

Build consensus between NOAA Fisheries, the Commissions and the Councils on responses to Ocean Commission recommendations

Mid-term Actions:

Continue to work with councils to streamline the regulatory process

Long-term Actions:

Evolve the present fishery management system to an Ecosystem-based approach

- Maximize results from four pilot projects

Integrate improved, more timely information from observation systems into management

Incorporate regional input from other “users” who influence the ecosystem process

National Research Council

- Two studies:
 - Recreational fishing data improvements
 - Contaminants in seafood

NOAA Fisheries Strategic Plan

- Now available for comment
- Providing copies to councils
- Please give us your input

Things we can do:

Working together we can:

Move to stabilize fishing industries

Simplify regulations and create a business environment for fishermen

Put regulations in place for multiple years

Things we can do, contd.

Evaluate and utilize the tools we already have

Better recreational and commercial data, including socio economic

Cooperative research

Things we can do now

Science Centers provide Councils with ranges for allowable catch and probability numbers

Council record must contain justifications for the TAC they select

Things we can do now, contd.

Enforcement must have greater involvement in regulations development

We must stop overfishing for all species and put rebuilding plans in place for all overfished stocks

2005 Workshops

Managing by fishing mortality

Managing recovering stocks

Permit overhaul

ESA recovery plans

Fishing for the Future – meeting of
constituent organization leaders

Council/NMFS March 2005 meeting – M-S
Reauthorization

Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization

- Paint with broad strokes
- NEPA/APA
- Litigation
- Speed up the process
- Buybacks
- National Standard 1
- Relationship to other statutes

Final words for today:

**Fisheries Management Works –
Get The Word Out!**

A sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden reflection on the water's surface. Two silhouettes of fishermen are visible in the foreground, one on the left and one on the right, both holding fishing rods. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds.

**Thank you for
attending.
Have a safe trip home.**

Visit <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov>