

Training Regional Fishery Management Council Members: Development of a National Strategy

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Background: Fishery management is changing.



The focus of management has changed.

1976 FCMA

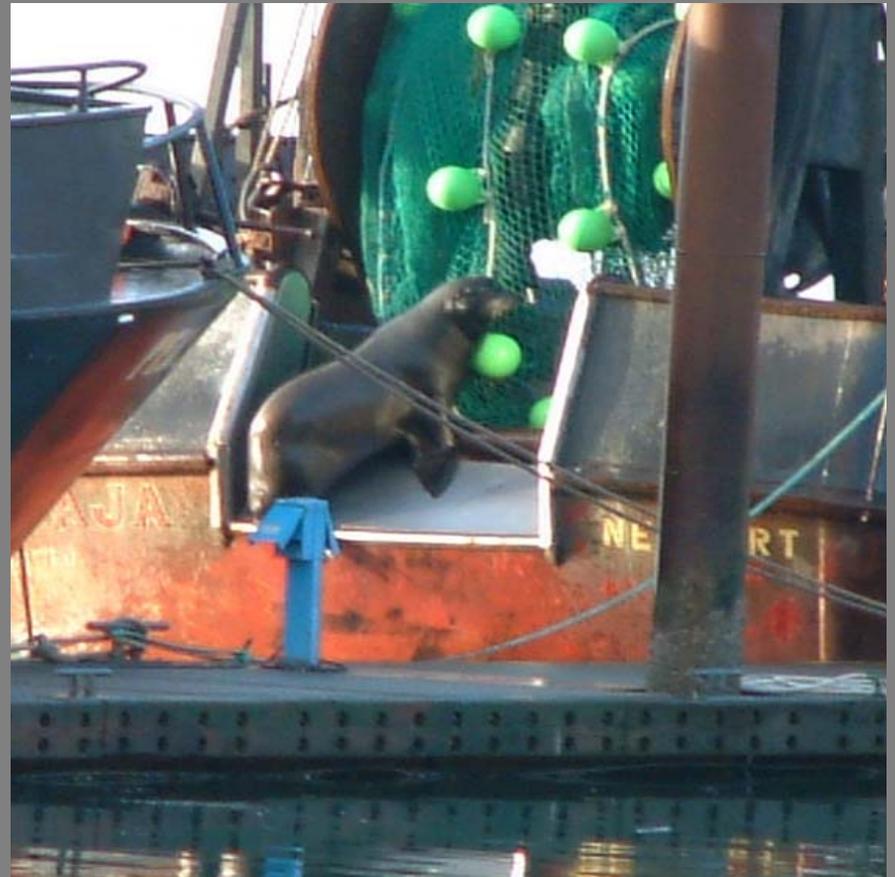
- investment
- expansion
- regional control
- traditional constituent base



The focus of management has changed.

1996 SFA

- protection of fish stocks and habitat
- rebuilding and tradeoffs
- movement toward ecosystem base
- broader constituent base



Context: What's driving the interest in training?



U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy Recommendations

2004 USCOP

- training for new RFMC members
- biology, economics, social science and fishery law
- voting contingent on training



2001 International Workshop Building Capacity for 21st Century Fisheries Management

Finding

Worldwide, the level of fishery management training is insufficient for current needs.

Recommendations

- define needed competencies for each management context
- base training strategies on needs
- develop certifiable training programs



Development of a National Strategy



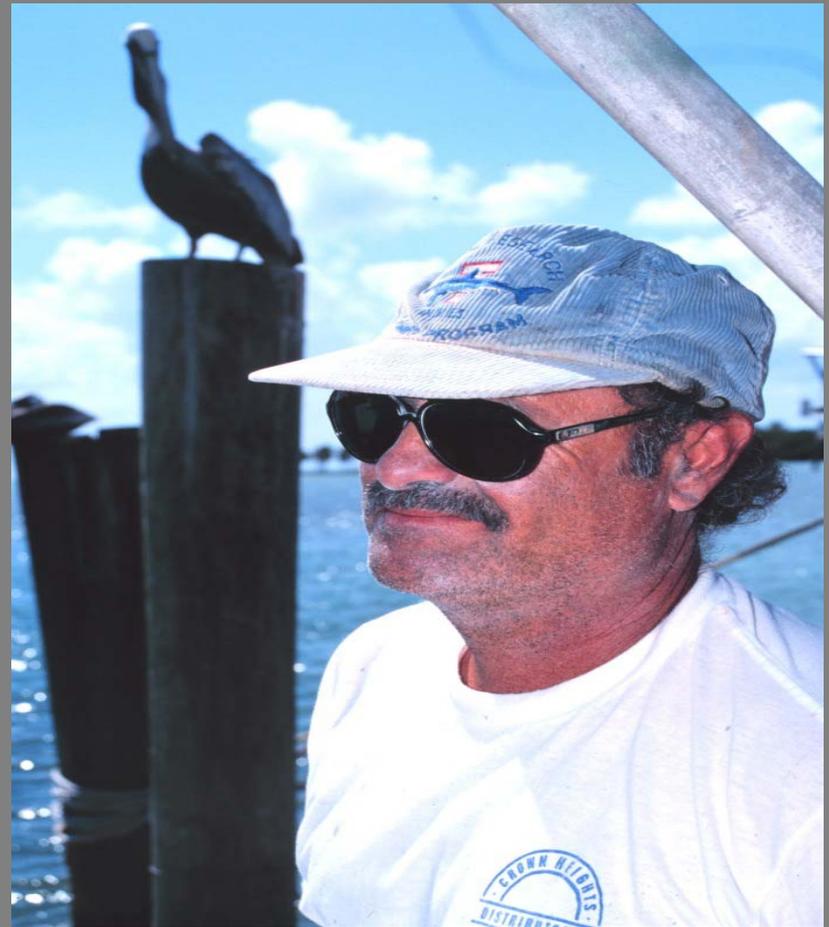
A National Strategy for RFMC Training

Goal

Improve U.S. fishery management capacity

Guiding Principles

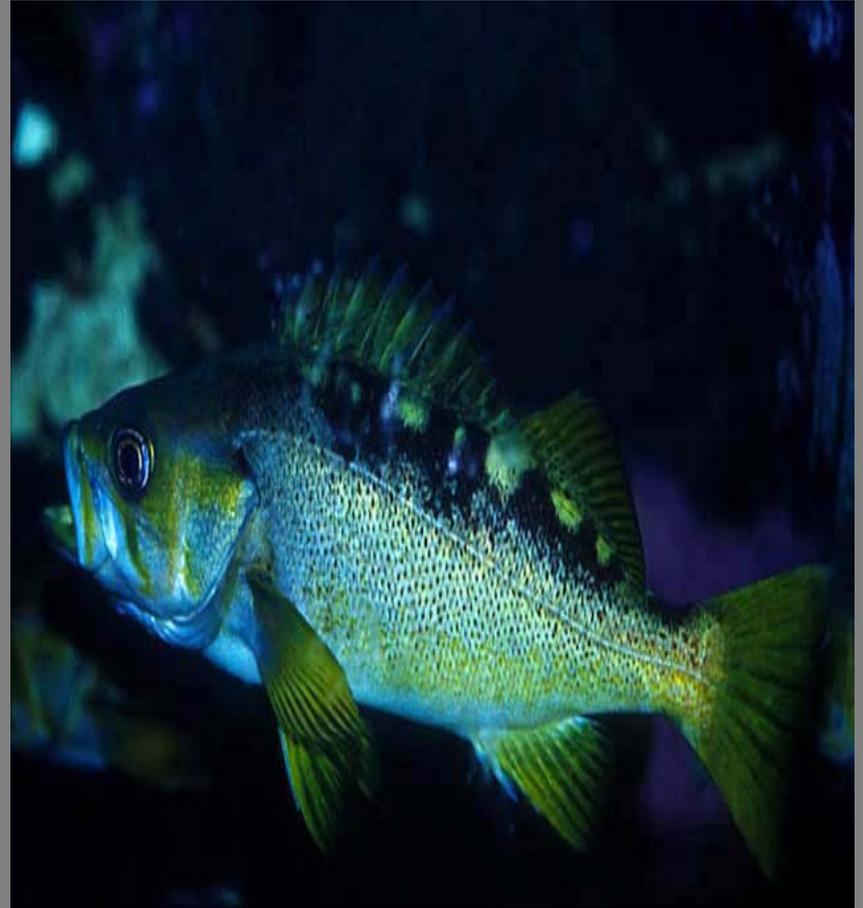
- ensure involvement of RFMC participants in design
- emphasize flexible approaches
- include benchmarking, evaluation, and adaptability
- integrate with other NOAA Fisheries training



A National Strategy for RFMC Training

Approach

- form a steering committee including RFMC members
- survey RFMC members on training needs
- conduct a national workshop to identify RFMC training needs and approaches
- with RFMC partners, design a training curriculum and program
- develop an implementation plan



A National Strategy for RFMC Training

Workshop Discussion

- Would RFMC member training help RFMCs meet their responsibilities?
- What are the critical training needs?
- Does the proposed strategy make sense?

