

Catch Shares Task Force – Conference Call #1  
June 30, 2009

The Task Force convened on June 30, 2009, from 2-4 pm ET for the first of three conference calls, chaired by Monica Medina. All participants were present via phone. Ms. Medina reminded the Task Force that this group was not intended to come to a consensus, but rather to provide individual opinions and input to NOAA. The committee provided individual feedback on the Terms of Reference and the proposed schedule for the next three months.

The idea of a long-term Council Coordinating Committee (CCC) subcommittee on catch shares was also presented. The CCC had replied to Ms. Medina's previous inquiry requesting creation of a subgroup that the entire CCC would serve as the point of contact initially, and based on experience, a subgroup option would then be considered.

The majority of the call focused on the Term's of Reference first objective proposed by NOAA Under Secretary Lubchenco: "To develop a new NOAA policy on catch shares that ensures they are fully considered when Councils take up fishery management plan (FMP) amendments." The participants gave their views on the meaning of the term "considered" in the objective. In addition, participants stated their ideas on what stage of FMP development would be most appropriate to vet a potential catch shares program. Several participants indicated the scoping phase as the preferred time to discuss catch shares in a relatively neutral and informational context. However, the lack of public knowledge regarding catch shares design options led some participants to state their preference for more FMP-specific analyses to attract serious consideration by stakeholders. One participant indicated that Councils may likely need to outline specific management goals in the context of catch shares, and then develop program scenarios or potential alternatives. Several task force participants expressed that Council and regional NMFS resources, both in regards to capacity and technical support, are lacking; additionally, many Councils are currently facing competing Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements for resources. Monitoring requirements and socioeconomic issues were also identified as contentious points for stakeholders that should be addressed in any policy.

Ms. Medina indicated that any NOAA catch shares policy would emphasize that there is no "one size fits all" approach to catch shares design and implementation, and that the policy would be in the form of guidance rather than a formal rulemaking. The group is tentatively scheduled to meet for a second conference call on July 16<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm. In the meantime, participants were asked to become familiar with the trigger questions and documents on the Task Force website.

Participants:

Lee Anderson  
Eugenio Pineiro  
Justin Kenney  
Alan Risenhoover  
Mark Holliday  
Jessica Dutton  
Sam Pooley

Steve Murawski  
Monica Medina  
John Oliver  
Sasha Pryborowski  
John Pappalardo  
Pat Kurkul  
Roy Crabtree

George Geiger  
Bob Gill  
Dave Hanson  
Eric Olson  
Sean Martin  
Jim Balsiger