

We will be in the field between September 2015 and January 2016 and we'd like to hear your opinions.

For more information, questions, comments, or to provide feedback please contact:

hicatchshares@gmail.com

To view a short video related to this brochure, visit the link below:

<https://youtu.be/LaIc5Qmqmpw>



Socioeconomics Program

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

NOAA Fisheries



Joint Institute For Marine and Atmospheric Research

Options in Designing Catch Shares Programs

The catch share, or portion of allowable catch (quota), can be allocated to an individual, a boat, a permit, a cooperative, or some other group of stakeholders. These types can be combined and adapted to creatively meet the needs of the participants in this fishery. Allocations can be fixed, dynamic, transferable, or a mix of these types. Quota allocations have been determined by historical catch, even distribution, vessel size, auction-based allocation, or some mix of these methods.

Where Have Catch Shares Been Used?

Nearly 20-25% of global landings by volume and 15-20% of value are managed under catch shares.¹ In the United States there are 24 catch share programs that cover 117 unique species.¹ The Alaska Region has the most programs, but 6 of 8 federal Fishery Management Councils have implemented at least one program.

Catch Shares Can Be Allocated To



An Individual



A Boat



A Permit



A Cooperative or Other Group of Stakeholders

Considering Catch Shares Management for the Hawaii Longline Fleet

This brochure introduces catch shares management concepts and options to stakeholders in the longline fishery in order to help answer the following questions:

What are catch shares and where have they been used?

What conditions or issues in the Hawaii longline fishery might catch shares management help?



¹ <http://fisherysolutionscenter.edf.org/map-global-catch-share-fisheries>

Catch Shares Management for the Hawaii Longline Fleet

What is a catch shares program?

A catch shares program is a strategy of managing a fishery under a quota which allocates a portion of the total allowable catch to an individual, boat, permit, cooperative, or other entity within that fishery. When participants have caught their portion of fish, they must stop fishing or acquire rights from another participant.

Why consider catch shares management for this fishery?

The Hawaii longline fleet is currently subject to catch quotas for bigeye tuna assigned by two regional fisheries management organizations, one in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) and the other in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. The quota for bigeye tuna catch has been reached in recent years and the quota in the WCPO is scheduled to decrease further in the future.

Potential objectives of a catch shares program:

- Manage the fishery in a way that discourages fleet-wide closure, especially during the end of the year holiday season when demand is high
- Provide vessel owners/operators the choice to fish when they deem most profitable (including concerns of maintenance, fish prices, catch, competition, etc.)
- Reduce volatility in the market by stabilizing supply

Things to consider about catch shares for the Hawaii longline fleet

Allocation

How will allocation occur?

Transferability

Should rights be able to be traded or sold?

Entries and Exits

How would new entrants and people exiting the fleet be treated?

Crew Considerations

How would crew members be considered in this program?

Authority

Who would manage the operations of the program?

Consolidation Concerns

Do you want to limit concentration of shares?

Equity

Who decides if it is fair?

Regulations, along with new boats entering the fishery, and record catch per unit effort this year resulted in the quota being reached sooner than in past years. With increasing competition, a catch shares program could help regulate the supply of longline fish to the market and allow fishermen to decide when they want to fish.

This is an opportunity for fishery stakeholders to help guide the decision-making process by telling us about your concerns. JIMAR researchers will be in the field between September 2015 and January 2016 to talk to fishermen and fishery stakeholders.

We'd like to hear your opinions on:

1. Current fishery conditions
2. What are your concerns about the Hawaii longline fishery?
3. How would you like this fishery managed to meet your needs?
4. What is your outlook for the future of this fishery? Why?
5. What is your knowledge of catch shares?
6. What is your interest, if any, in pursuing catch shares management?



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