My Thoughts - Four Years of Listening

Council Workshop 2004

Dr. William T. Hogarth
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
NOAA Fisheries
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Sustaining, Protecting, and Rebuilding Our Nation's Living Oceans
Administration supports fisheries

- VADM Lautenbacher:
  - By expanding our inclusive audience, we will make progress – it's the big tent philosophy.

- Deputy Secretary Kassinger:
  - Knowledgeable fishermen must be a part of a comprehensive management process.
## Appropriations

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<th>FY 04 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 05 President's Budget</th>
<th>FY 05 House</th>
<th>FY 05 Senate</th>
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<td>$621.3</td>
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<td>$100.0</td>
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* 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
Put regulations in place for multiple years
Simplify regulations and create a business
Move to stabilize fishing industries

Working together we can:
Things we can do:
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, cont'd.

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!
Thank you for attending.

Have a safe trip home.

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