

CATCH SHARE WORKSHOP SESSION

The Economic Impact of Different Management Decisions in the South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper Fishery

With funding and support from the Environmental Defense Fund, we will present an economic model for the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery that estimates the likely impact of different management and design choices on the overall fishery. This model categorizes vessels based on geographic location and gear used. In this presentation, we will discuss model assumptions and uses -- to calculate changes in number of fishing vessels and the average profitability of the fishing vessels in each category from various management decisions.

Purpose and Output

Previous analyses have suggested that the overall snapper grouper fishery may benefit economically from the implementation of a catch share. This analysis, in contrast, examines how different vessel groups (e.g., North Carolina Bandit, South Atlantic Pots and Traps, South Carolina Bandit, South Atlantic Longline, Florida Bandit, South Atlantic Spear and Florida Keys vessels) might be affected by current regulatory proposals as well as different catch share designs. By looking at how the number of vessels and how the average vessel profitability for each vessel group may be impacted, the presentation aims to provide the Council an additional tool for thinking about the future management of the fishery.



Data and Assumptions

The value of the model depends on the quality of data and the defensibility of underlying assumptions. We have examined ACCSP data and have interviewed fishermen to develop a core understanding of the average historic costs and revenues of the different vessel groups. We have talked with scientists and fishermen to understand which fish are more likely to be caught (regardless of management approach) by different vessel groups. We have developed assumptions about price, efficiency and entrance to and exit from the fishery which we will share with the group for feedback and critique.

Company Background

Michael Clayton founded Cap Log Group, LLC while working as a consultant to the Environmental Defense Fund and helping fishermen solve business and financial problems. The Group's unique network of fishermen, economists, entrepreneurs and bankers offers services to help fishermen solve business and financial challenges that appear during the transition to catch shares. It also develops web-based tools that help fishermen operate more successfully within catch shares.

Contact

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