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# **Beyond Bluefin: Management of non-Bluefin Tuna Species**

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## Science Review

- Pacific Bigeye tuna experiencing overfishing
- Pacific Yellowfin tuna experiencing overfishing
- Pacific Albacore tuna experiencing overfishing
- Atlantic Bigeye tuna experiencing overfishing
- Atlantic Yellowfin tuna experiencing overfishing
- Atlantic Albacore tuna experiencing overfishing



# Shared Responsibility

Science

Policy

Market/Industry



## Vision: Long-term profitable fishing

- Lower capital investment
- Larger, more resilient, and stable fish stocks
- Reliable income for fishing communities
- Capital for environmental Stewardship
  - End open-access and race for the last fish
  - Manage fisheries via ecologically constrained economics
    - Incentive Based Management



# Long-term Profitable Fishing

## Components

- Science-based, fully-enforced catch limit
- Controls on bycatch
- Protection of key habitat



## Science

- Fisheries assessments
  - Fisheries data AND
  - Non-fisheries research and data
- Total Allowable Catch
  - Based on Reference Points
  - Flexible and based on regular assessments



# Policy

- Follow scientific advice
- Traceability – Catch Documentation Schemes
- Divide the TAC and assign rights
- Align resource sustainability and fishermen's economics
  
- Paradigm shift
  - from input and operational controls
  - to performance metrics with accountability for conservation



# Long-term Vision for Tuna Fisheries

- MSC Certified Tuna Fisheries
- Incentive-Based Management of Tuna Fisheries



## MSC Certified Tuna Fisheries

### America Albacore Fishing Association

- First and Only MSC Certified Tuna Fishery
- Certified in September 2007
- Fishermen are the clients and fishermen making money
- Additional Albacore fishermen clamoring to get in

### Western Fish Boat Owners Association

- Entering full assessment for North Pacific Albacore



# MSC Certified Tuna Fisheries

## Challenges

- Highly Migratory/Straddling Stock
- Managed by RFMOs
  - Consensus decision-making = lowest common denominator
  - Enforcement and monitoring
- Defining fisheries/clients



# Incentive-Based Management

## Current Misdirected Tuna Management

- Effort Restrictions
- Gear Restrictions
- Day Restrictions
- Increasingly Complex but Less Effective



# Incentive-Based Management

## Mark Stevens Model

1. How many fish?
2. How many can we catch?
3. Divide and assign.
  - Bycatch (same model?)
  - Habitat Protection



# Incentive-Based Management

## Evaluation

Sustaining America's Fisheries and Fisheries Communities – An Evaluation of Incentive-Based Management

## Results

- Catching within limits
- Improved science and monitoring
- Reduced Bycatch
- Limiting Fishing Impact on Habitat
- Safety
- Economic Performance
  
- BUT...



# Incentive-Based Management

Seven federal United States Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPP)

Three British Columbia LAPPs with shared US-Canadian Stocks



# Incentive-Based Management

## Challenges

- Highly Migratory/Straddling Stock
- Managed by RFMOs
  - Consensus decision-making = lowest common denominator
  - Enforcement and monitoring
- Countries Acting in Self-Interest
- Etc.



Discuss...

