

NOAA Fisheries Economics and Social Science Workshop, Oct. 26 – 28, 2004

Last week NOAA Fisheries held its biennial Economics and Social Science Workshop in New Orleans, LA. The Workshop was well attended by NMFS social scientists and three invited experts from the University of Rhode Island and the University of Delaware. The Workshop gave NMFS scientists the opportunity to present original research and data collection efforts and discuss programmatic issues and strategic planning.

Highlights of the Workshop included:

Best Paper Awards

For the first time since the Workshop was initiated, Best Paper Awards were given to NMFS social scientists presenting original research in the categories of Scientific Research and Regulatory Analysis. First, second, and third place awards were given in each category:

Scientific Research

1st Place: Ron Felthoven, for “Multi-output, Nonfrontier Primal Measures of Capacity and Capacity Utilization”

Ron Felthoven (AKC) and Catherine J. Morrison Paul (UC Davis)

2nd Place: David Tomberlin, for “Participation in a Limited Entry Fishery: An Options Approach”

David Tomberlin (SWC) and Valentina Bosetti (Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei)

3rd Place: Ron Felthoven, for “Directions for Productivity Measurement in Fisheries”

Ron Felthoven (AKC) and Catherine J. Morrison Paul (UC Davis)

Regulatory Analysis

1st Place: Scott Steinback, for “Using Ready Made Regional Input-Output Models to Estimate Backward Linkage Effects of Exogenous Output Shocks”

Scott Steinback (NEC)

2nd Place: Jennifer Sepez, for “Fishing Communities of the North Pacific Volume I: Alaska”

Jennifer Sepez (AKC), Heather Lazrus, Christina Package, Bryan Tilt, and Ismael Vaccaro

3rd Place: Minling Pan, for “Quantitative Measurement of Excess Capacity and the Implication to Fishery Management”

Minling Pan (PIC) and Guang D. Nguyen (University of Hawaii at Manoa)

Session Topics

In addition to the Best Papers, NMFS social scientists presented research on a wide variety of topics, including

- The Economics of Spatial Management
- Habitat Economics
- Communities and Community Profiling
- Commercial Fisheries Economics
- Issues with Stated Preference Methods
- County Business Patterns
- Fisheries Information Systems
- Cumulative Effects in Fisheries

Mark Holliday from the Office of Policy also presented ‘Policy Level Issues Affecting Economics and Social Science at NMFS’ and led a productive discussion among Workshop participants.

Invited Experts

Two economists and one anthropologist also made presentations at the Workshop.

Lee G. Anderson (NOAA and University of Delaware) presented on “Excessive Shares Guidance”

Richard Pollnac (University of Rhode Island) presented on “Social Impact Assessment Models”

Chris Anderson (University of Rhode Island) presented on “Experimental Economics and Alternative Rules for Permit Trading”

Program Planning

The Workshop provided an important opportunity for the three thematic areas – Commercial Fisheries, Recreational Fisheries, and Communities – to meet for half a day of discussion and brainstorming about future directions and program needs.