

Data & Research Issues



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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE



Topics for Consideration

- **Proposal for National Data Workshop**
- **Overview of Federal Cooperative Research Programs**
- **Update on 3 High-Profile National Research Council Studies Currently in Progress:**
 - **Recreational Fishery Data**
 - **Ecosystem-Level Effects of Fishing**
 - **Benefits and Risks of Seafood Consumption**

Cooperative Research

- What is it?
- What do scientists and fishermen gain?
- Summary of funding levels
- Overview of the national and regional NMFS cooperative research programs
- What are some of the challenges for successful cooperative research programs?



...courtesy, Dr. John Boreman

What is Cooperative Research?

Cooperative Research:

... a scientific activity involving two or more partners that gain more collectively than separately in the pursuit of a shared research goal



What Do Scientists & Fishermen Gain?

- Increase survey precision and expand survey scope
- Provide supplemental information about fishing operations
- Use the knowledge gained from fishing to help design and implement research
- Build mutual understanding and respect among scientists and fishermen
- Possible retention and sale of fish caught during the project to fund the research

Potential Partners

- Fishery scientists and managers (emphasis on NMFS scientists & fishermen)
- State management fisheries agencies
- Commercial fishermen and fishing industry
- Recreational fishermen and fishing industry
- NGO's
- Universities



Levels of Participation

- Depends on regional & fisheries-specific research needs and opportunities, program costs, and potential benefits
- Lesser involvement in logbook reporting programs
- Medium level of involvement in conservation engineering studies
- Greatest participation where stakeholders involved in all phases of research program
- Typically a variety of opportunities for fishermen are provided

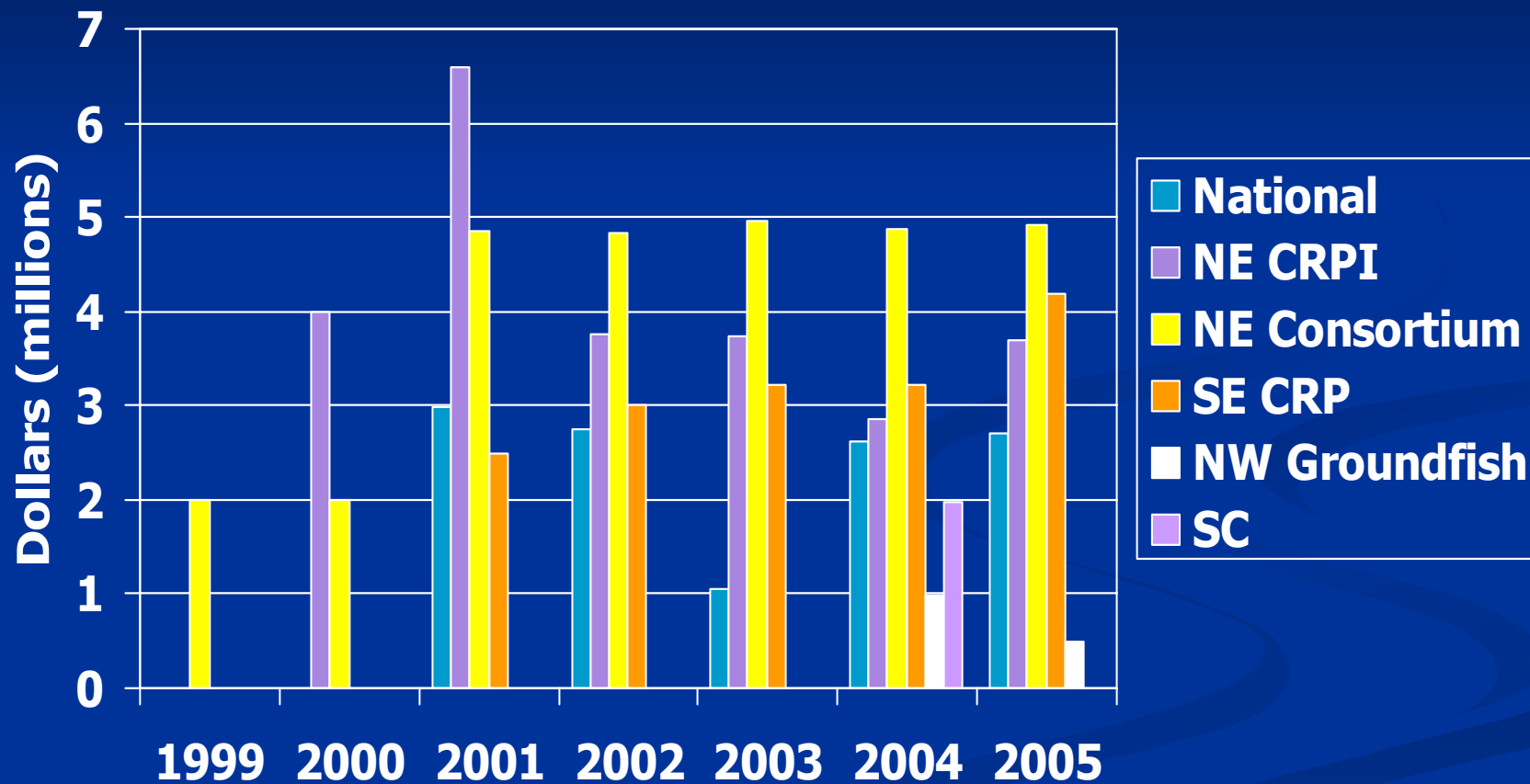


Summary of Funding Levels

- Congressional appropriations since 1999
 - National CR Program
 - NE CRPI
 - SE CRP
 - NW Groundfish CR Program
 - NE Consortium
 - SC Cooperative Research



Summary of Appropriations (cont'd)



National Cooperative Research Program

- National coordination of activities and use of results
- Funding allocations for national funds
- Policy development
- Enhance communication
- National outreach activities



Southeast Cooperative Research Program

- BRD effectiveness in finfish reduction and shrimp retention
- Cooperative Statistics Data Collection
- Cooperative Shark Research
- Competitive Awards Process



Northeast Cooperative Research Partners Initiative (CRPI)

- Long-term research and monitoring projects:
 - Industry-based resource surveys
 - Study fleet pilot study
 - Atlantic cod and yellowtail flounder tagging programs
- Short-term projects funded through a competitive awards process



Other NEFSC Cooperative Research Programs

- Programs funded through other than Congressional cooperative research funds:
 - Black sea bass cooperative tagging project
 - Cooperative monkfish survey
 - Cooperative ocean quahog/surf clam survey
 - Cooperative shark tagging program
 - *Illex* squid data collection for real-time management



Alaska Cooperative Research

- Resource surveys on chartered fishing vessels
- BSFRF cooperative research
- Sablefish logbook program
- Seabird mitigation measures
- Conservation engineering studies



Northwest Groundfish Cooperative Research Program

- Resource surveys
- Port liaison project
- Industry initiated research proposals
- PWCC juvenile hake and rockfish survey
- Outreach and fisheries research websites



Southwest Cooperative Research

- Adult sardine survey
- Nearshore groundfish survey
- Albacore tagging with AFRF
- Acoustic/ROV survey of hard bottom rockfish
- Bycatch reduction experiment for longline



Pacific Islands Cooperative Research

- Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) lobster tagging program



Issues in Assuring Successful Cooperative Research

- Stable long-term funding
- Administrative overhead for complex projects
- Additional duties for scientific staff
- Assuring Adequate Peer Review
- Permits and other regulatory requirements
- Training for fishermen in proposal writing



AFS Cooperative Research & Management Symposium

- Making a difference from working cooperatively
- Making cooperative research and management work
- Linking cooperative research and management



Anchorage AK, September, 2005

Final Comment



- Cooperative research is a growing and necessary part of a well-rounded marine science program.
- As we move into the era of ecosystem-based fisheries management, partnering with industry, academia, and non-profit organizations will undoubtedly become more important to successful stewardship of living marine resources.