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Theme: Special Sessions

Session: WeG3 - Economics and property rights 2

Title: **The Promises and Perils of Building a Co-Management Regime:
An Assessment of New Zealand's Efforts between 1999 and
2005**

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Abstract: Fisheries co-management is now well-established in the literature as a fisheries governance approach (e.g., Wilson et al, 2003; Hanna, 2003; Pomeroy et al, 2001). While co-management regimes have historically developed from the amalgamation of traditional community management with government authority (e.g., Acheson, 2003; Makino, 2005) However, another key insight is that the expansion of role of property rights provides the incentive for resource users to manage a resource sustainably (Schlager & Ostrom, 1996). In New Zealand, an expansive interpretation of what property rights ITQs represent provided a means for the development of fisheries co-management regimes (Yandle, 2003). In 1999, a co-management regime was codified and continues today.

This paper tracks the development of New Zealand's co-management regime over its first six years. A variety of techniques are used including: multiple surveys (1999, 2001, 2005) of Commercial Stakeholder Organizations (CSOs) - the organizations largely involved in the implementation of New Zealand's co-management regimes; interviews with key participants in government and industry; and document analysis. Results show that while co-management made rapid initial progress, recent efforts have stagnated. Institutional analysis (e.g., Ostrom, 1990; Ostrom et al, 1994; Imperial & Yandle, 2005) is used to examine why this stagnation occurred, how it could have been avoided, and possible implications for future co-management development in large developed fisheries.