Permit banks: a local solution to address spillover effects of management measures

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Outline

• What is the management measure?
• What is its spillover?
• What does the permit bank do?
Terms

• Co-management
  o Permit banking
  o Community quota fund
  o Community quota program
  o Fisheries trust

• Catch shares
  o Quota shares
Catch shares

1 person’s share

Total Allowable Catch

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Catch shares

- A catch share allows you the right, or permission, to catch some of the fish allocated to the commercial fishery.

**Total Allowable Catch**

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Catch share programs in the US

- North Pacific
  - Western Alaska Community Development Quota (1992)
  - Halibut & Sablefish (1995)
  - Bering Sea American Fisheries Act Pollock Cooperatives (1999)
  - Bering Sea King and Tanner Crab (2005)
  - Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Pilot (2007)
  - Groundfish (non-Pollock) Cooperatives (2008)

- South Atlantic
  - Wreckfish (1991)

- Gulf of Mexico
  - Red Grouper
  - Pacific Sablefish Permit Stacking (2001)

- Gulf of Mexico
  - Pacific Grouper

- Pacific
  - Pacific Sablefish Permit Stacking (2001)
  - West Coast Groundfish (2010)

- Mid Atlantic
  - Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog (1990)
  - Golden Tilefish (2009)

- New England
  - Georges Bank Cod - Fixed Gear (2007)
  - Multispecies (groundfish) (2010)
  - Atlantic Sea Scallops (2010)

- South Atlantic
  - Wreckfish (1991)
  - Groundfish (non-Pollock) Cooperatives (2008)

- Gulf of Mexico
  - Pacific Grouper

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
West coast groundfish

- Rockfish
  Photo: Corey Arnold

- Sablefish also known as Black cod also known as Butterfish

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
West coast groundfish

An environmental success story

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Catch share spillover

- Good spillover
- Bad spillover

- Management measure - **Spillover** - Permit bank
Catch share spillover

Catch shares potentially end up in the hands of a few owners.
Catch share spillover

- Small-scale fishermen struggle to survive
- Communities could lose access to the fishery

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Permit banks

• To counter that spillover
• Organisation buys catch shares to lease them to fishermen
• Keep fishing rights in local hands
Permit bank organizations in the US

sources: Cape Cod Fisheries Trust at http://capecodfishermen.org/fisheries-trust
NOAA Alaska regional office at https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/cqp

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Monterey Bay, California

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
MONTEREY BAY FISHERIES TRUST

501 (c)(3) non profit organisation
Why we chose this route

• Mitigate detrimental effects of management measures
• Culture & history of Monterey Bay

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Adapting to new governance

• Procure quota in public trust
• Lease quota to local fishermen
• Priorities
  o Local landings
  o New entrants
  o Bycatch risk reduction (risk pool)
  o Gear innovations to reduce bycatch
  o Electronic reporting

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust

- Set prices to incentivize conservation
- Help to diversify local fishing
  - Species
  - Gears

- Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Support to procure and manage quota

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
MBFT function

- Funds
  - Lease quota
  - Buy quota
  - Eligibility
  - Applications

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Challenges

• Barriers to market entry
• Constraining species
100% observer coverage

• Observer cost
• Observer location & travel costs
• Observer day: 00:01 to 24:00
• Need to keep both observers and fishermen working
• Buybacks → few boats left
Few vessels left

Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank

Photo: Corey Arnold
So why bother?

• For the catch shares program to be a success, fishing communities need to survive
Address observer issues

- Working with observer companies
- Train local observers
- On-call work schedules
- Competitive wages & prices
Address constraining species

• California Groundfish Collective

• Risk pool
  o Fort Bragg Groundfish Association
  o Central California Seafood Marketing Association
  o Half Moon Bay Groundfish Marketing Association

• Management measure - Spillover - Permit bank
Future plans

• Continue to promote local landings, conservation, and new entrants
• Study local seafood supply chain
• Feasibility: seafood hub?
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Questions or comments welcome
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