Topics Discussed

• How to define a community

• Identification of Problem

• Tools
  – Communication
  – Regulatory

• Recipes for Success
Identify Problems before Solutions

• Have you systematically identified the problem(s) of the communities at issue?

• Need a clear ‘diagnosis’ in order to get the right ‘prescription’ (to avoid one size fits all approach)

• Can we come to consensus as a community on the primary problems?
Identification of Problems

- Property rights are not well-defined in fisheries (Federal, State or private; subsistence vs commercial)
- Lack of local control
- Lack of enforcement
- Overcapacity
- Over-regulation breeds confusion
Problems continued…

- Lack of capacity to get involved in decision-making process (e.g., costs to attend/travel, time, lack of understanding of process, intimidation factor)

- Difficult to determine adequate representation for a community (sub-communities; everyone wears many hats)
Problems continued…

- Inadequate recognition of smaller user groups by regulators (e.g. on committee formation, few alternative opportunities to be heard)

- Ineffective communication

- Inadequate information dissemination (and information changes quickly, hard to stay informed)
Communication Tools

• The ‘study tour’
  BOF visit the Alaska Native regions on a regular basis
  Council visit more coastal communities, hold informational meetings

• Consider developing advisory committees in more remote locations
Communication Tools

• Process starts with community developing a written, well-articulated problem

• Concept of a course – ‘bureaucrats do work if you know how to use them’

• Communication has to be two-way
Regulatory Tools

• Local Area Management Plans
  Can be used as more than a ‘crisis tool’
  Process initiated through the BOF

• Buy backs

• Resource control (community allocations, quotas, etc.)

• Co-management systems

• Control of the local geography (local fishing areas)
Potential Tool: Creation of a Code on Community Resource Access

- Communication guidelines
- Assistance/impacts distribution
- Fairness principles
Recipes for Success

• Establish short and long-term priorities (e.g., subsistence area, economic base, development of infrastructure)

Resources are limited

Sometimes you go for the ‘low-hanging fruit’ to gain community consensus, experience, and trust

You can’t get everything you want

Be optimistic but reasonable
Recipes for Success

• Document the problem (‘the paper trail wins’)
• Be persistent (squeaky wheel)
• Request the data to make your case
• Know the regulatory bodies
• Use the local advisory committees available to you
Recipes for Success

• Communicate with individuals you know have been successful in the process

• Collaborate within and amongst communities when possible

• Be patient: success happens slowly and incrementally