NAB Oil & Gas: Fishery Industry Concerns

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United Catcher Boats
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Outline of My Talk

- **Who is United Catcher Boats**
  - Sixty Seven Trawl Catcher Vessels
  - North Pacific Groundfish and Crab fisheries
- **Characteristics of the EBS Fishing Fleet**
- **Value of the EBS Federal Fisheries**
- **Fishery Participation within the proposed Sale 92 area of the North Aleutian Basin**
- **Concerns of NAB Oil and Gas Development**
Characteristics of the EBS Fisheries

- Trawl, Longline and Pot
  - 120 Trawl Catcher Vessels
  - 40 Trawl Catcher-Processors
  - 30 Longline Catcher-Processors
  - 150 Pot Catcher Vessels
North Pacific Trawl Vessels
Value of the North Pacific Federal Fisheries

- 2006 Total Ex-vessel Value Groundfish Fisheries $753 million, 2.2 million mt
  - Over $200 million for EBS Pollock Harvest of 1.5 mmt

- Total Annual Ex-vessel Value of the EBS Crab Fisheries Roughly $80 million
Pink polygon represents Sale 92
Overlap with N. Aleutian Basin
## Groundfish fisheries

- **Target fisheries occurring in the area:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trawl</th>
<th>Longline</th>
<th>Pot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pollock</td>
<td>Pacific cod</td>
<td>Pacific cod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific cod</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flatfish</td>
<td>Pacific cod</td>
<td>Pacific cod</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Yellowfin sole</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Rock sole</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Flathead sole</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Fishery Harvest - 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishery</th>
<th>Harvested in 509, 516, 512</th>
<th>% of total BSAI harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pollock trawl</td>
<td>317,089 mt</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific cod trawl</td>
<td>26,023 mt</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific cod longline</td>
<td>13,300 mt</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific cod pot</td>
<td>4,727 mt</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowfin sole trawl</td>
<td>6,674 mt</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead sole trawl</td>
<td>2,292 mt</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock sole trawl</td>
<td>20,418 mt</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2005 Pelagic Trawl Fishery
pollock target

Based on 2005 fishery observer data
2005 Bottom Trawl Fisheries
Pacific cod, flatfish targets

Based on 2005 fishery observer data
General location of BSAI commercial shellfish fisheries in 1998
Bristol Bay Red King Crab Fishery 2005/06

• By week, anywhere from 1-51 vessels participating
• 2.5 million crabs harvested, 16.5 million lbs

Source: BSAI King and Tanner Crab SAFE report
Environmental Concerns

- Effects of Oil & Gas Development on Essential Fish Habitat within NAB Area
  - Impacts of Seismic Surveys
    - Effects on Fish and Crab
    - Gear and Vessel Conflicts
  - Impacts of Drilling Rig Locations within Core Fishing Areas
  - Impacts of Ocean Floor Pipelines
  - Impacts of Tanker Transportation of Oil & Gas
Concerns of a Spill Disaster

Effect of a Spill on the EBS Groundfish and Crab Fisheries and Markets
- Biological Effects on Fish Stocks and Fish Habitat
- Market (Value) Effects
- Loss Compensation Mechanisms
Fishery Conservation Management Example

- Area Closure Regulations to Protect Essential Fish Habitat, key life-history stages, and Gear and Sector Allocations
- A Zoning Approach to Fishery Management
- Goal is to protect key habitat areas
- NMFS Identified EFH for over 20 Fish Species within NAB Lease Area
- Suggest a Similar Zoning Approach for the Oil and Gas Industry?
Fishery Closure Zones