To explore a compensated allocation transfer mechanism between the commercial and recreational sectors

To research the feasibility of a recreational fishery participating in a catch share program

CASE Study: Alaska Guided Sport Fishery
Problem

- Halibut stocks are in decline
- Guided anglers are facing restrictive regulations
- Charter businesses are struggling to attract clients

Potential Solution

Provide a permanent, market-based approach, to transfer allocation between the commercial and guided sectors independent of the Council actions.
Methodology
  Stakeholder meetings
  Expert Consultation
  Review of literature and Council documents

CATCH Report posted on
www.catchalaska.org

Background
Research Results
Executive Summary

Integrating a recreational Fishery into a catch share program

Guided Angler Catch Share Pool
Allocation + Purchase = Revised Allocation
Provide a market-based mechanism to relieve the economic impacts of restrictive harvest measures, while still ensuring the conservation of the halibut resource
Must provide flexibility in achieving catch limits
Able to accommodate un-guided sector in future
Executive Summary

Guided Angler Holding Entity

Formation of a RQE (Recreational Quota Entity)

One board of directors with sub-regional quota share management

Depending on funding, form either a regular non-profit corporation or a regional non-profit association
Quota Transfer Mechanism

Goals

3A – Two Halibut of Any Size Bag Limit
2C  - Initially One Halibut of Any Size Bag Limit

Transfers under least restrictive environment
Two-way leasing as a solution to recreational harvest uncertainties and optimum yield of fishery
Flexibility such as roll-over allowances should
Executive Summary

Accountability

Flexibility in achieving harvest goals
- Buffers
- Roll-Over Allowances
- Two-way Leasing

Electronic Log Book Reporting
Measuring lengths of fish
Funding

Priority – State Halibut Stamp
Alternative – Charter Assessment Tax
Ownership to belong to guided anglers and not charter operators.
Conclusion

Feasible approach to increasing guided sector allocation
RQE could be modeled after existing CQE Program would operate under willing seller and willing buyer, market-based transfer system and would not affect conservation goals
Least restrictive transfer rules will lead to best economic asset values for both sectors
Flexibility is needed when achieving catch limits for a recreational fishery
Questions?