HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The best way to participate in this research is to complete a survey and partake in a short interview. The survey is available in paper and electronic formats and short interviews can be conducted by researchers. The researchers will schedule a time to meet with you either in person or over the phone and can administer the survey electronically when necessary. The survey/interview process takes most people approximately 1 hour to complete.

Several options are available to participate in this research.

1. Email NWFSC.Study@noaa.gov and indicate that you would like to participate. A researcher will contact you.

2. Call Suzanne Russell at (206) 860-3274 to coordinate your participation.

3. Contact a researcher for your state/community listed on the back of this flyer.

4. Check out our website @ http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/research/divisions/cb/ecosystem/humandim/groundfish-study.cfm

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

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Pacific Coast Groundfish Trawl Fishery Social Study 2015/2016

PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

The West Coast Groundfish Trawl Fishery and the Whiting mothership and catcher-processor sectors moved to a catch share management system in January 2011. The Catch Share Program or individual quota system includes the shoreside fishery and a co-op program for the at-sea sectors. Changes such as catch share programs in fisheries management not only result in changes for the fisheries, but also affect the people in the fishery.

Scientists from the Human Dimensions Program at Northwest Fisheries Science Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service are conducting a study to collect social and cultural information from those participating in the Pacific Coast (West Coast) Groundfish Fishery. This project will allow us to better understand and describe the people involved in the groundfish trawl fishery and fishing communities.

The first data collection effort was conducted in the fall of 2010, prior to the implementation of the new program. A second round of data was collected in 2012, approximately 1 year after the program started. These data sets allow for comparisons of early effects of the catch shares program. Currently, in 2015/2016 we are collecting another round of data after quota shares are transferable. This new data collection will be compared to the prior two years of data we have already collected. Additionally, it will provide information on longer term cultural changes. The information provided during the current round of data collection, along with the comparison to prior years, will all contribute to the 5 year review of the program and other reports that will be publicly available.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- Provides industry members a forum to communicate information from their unique perspectives.
- Clarifies and expands our existing knowledge of fishing communities.
- Increases the amount of social information available about fishing communities and industry members.
- Improves the accuracy of information available about fishing communities and industry members.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

The information collected in this study will be used to describe and understand individuals in the fishing industry and fishing communities. This research effort will expand our foundational knowledge of fishing communities. The ability to compare the information we collected in 2010, 2012 and now in 2015/2016, with any data collected in the future is very important. It will help identify any changes in fishery and help to understand the impacts of fishery management measures.

How will this study be used?

All information collected will be made available to contribute towards improving future fishery management programs, including the upcoming 5 year review. It will also serve to meet regulatory requirements including those concerning information about fishing communities in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act: National Standard 8, and those concerning minorities and environmental policy in Executive Order 12898 – the Environmental Justice Initiative. The information will be publicly available.

Who does this study include?

We invite anyone who works in the Pacific coast groundfish trawl fishery, shoreside and at-sea sectors, including but not limited to vessel owners, former limited entry permit owners/holders/lessees, quota share permit owners, quota share allocation recipients, fishermen, operators, crew, processors, processor employees, buyers/first receivers, observers, directly associated shoreside business such as net, equipment, and fuel suppliers, fishermen's wives/partners, and others who feel they are part of the industry and may be affected by fishery management changes to participate in the study.

NOAA FISHERIES
Northwest Fisheries SCIENCE CENTER

Are my answers confidential?

This is a confidential survey. Analysis of the survey results will be anonymous and/or aggregated. Information in this survey will be subject to the confidentiality requirements of the National Marine Fisheries Service and will not be provided or presented in any way as to identify individual respondents.

Do I have to participate?

Your participation and input is **VERY IMPORTANT** and will help us to better understand the unique opportunities and challenges of this fishery. However, this is a **VOLUNTARY** survey and you may choose to skip any question or end at any point in the survey.

For more information on how you can participate in the study, please call Suzanne Russell, Principal Investigator, at (206) 860-3274 or email us at NWFSC.study@noaa.gov. Additional contact information for all researchers is available on the back side.