Sunset in Santa Barbara Channel

IV. WRAPPING UP THE WORKSHOP

These proceedings provide a summary of the wide array of information that the participants of the CPS Catch Share Workshop accessed, discussed, and synthesized in San Francisco, California February 2-4, 2010. In their discussions, participants deliberated the advantages and disadvantages of rights-based management approaches in relation to the management of CPS fisheries. They highlighted many issues to consider for the potential use of catch share management in U.S. West Coast CPS fisheries. They also identified a variety of issues to consider for improvements to the conservation and management of the fisheries overall. These discussions elicited new ideas about how conservation and management could be more tailored to the specific circumstances of unique fishery sectors through both short-term fixes and long-term changes. Although there were numerous concerns expressed about the use of catch shares for management of the U.S. West Coast CPS fisheries, it was frequently heard that many elements of rights-based approaches appealed to participants as a potential means for individual fishery sectors to obtain and manage allocations based on their particular interests and needs.

In terms of moving forward, Mr. Helvey reminded the participants that the intent of the workshop was to provide relevant information to fishery constituents and decision-makers, and that no further action was planned by NMFS at this point. He reaffirmed the need for industry as well as other conservation and fishery interests to continue to talk with each other about addressing short-term fixes or making changes to management for the long-term.