



Top left photo: Makah nation and Waatch river. Credit: Flickr user Sam Bebee. Top right photo: Monterey Bay marina. Credit: Josh Lindsay. Bottom right photo: California coast. Credit: Flickr user Jason Pratt. Bottom left photo: Fishing boats in San Pedro. Credit: Flickr user Blake Hadley.

## REGIONAL INTERESTS AND FLEXIBILITY

During the 2010 workshop, participants discussed various elements of catch share programs. The group had concerns with individual fishing quotas (IFQs or ITQs) and had mixed views on permit stacking and sector and community allocation methods. However, they viewed regional allocations more favorably as a potential means to recognize social and cultural differences among the primary regions in which the Pacific sardine fishery is executed (i.e., southern California, central California, and the Pacific Northwest, with a potential split between Oregon and Washington fisheries).

Speakers and panelists in this session discussed their experiences building flexibility into their programs to accommodate diverse interests. The two presenters covered the Northeast Groundfish Sector Program and the Alaska Rockfish Program, both of which included provisions for choice models and pooled quotas. In both programs, participants were able to choose whether to join a quota sharing group (i.e., sector or co-op) or remain in a limited entry program and continue to competitively fish under a common pool quota. While this choice model provided flexibility for individual fishery participants who wished not to participate in the catch share program, it required additional administrative resources to operate a dual management system. In addition, pooling the catch shares into quota holding groups provided flexibility to communities and fishing groups to address their unique needs and interests through co-management opportunities, such as sustainability plans. Following the regional flexibility session presentations, panelists shared their lessons learned and gave advice for considering flexibility when designing rights-based management programs.