

*Compass Lexecon questionnaire for Northeast multispecies fishery sector participants and interested parties. Fall 2013.*

Have members of the sector limited their fishing activity as the result of limited availability of Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE) for non-targeted species that are unavoidably caught?

- Describe the factors that lead to a stock being limiting.
- Is it possible to accurately predict at the beginning of (or early in) a fishing season the which stocks will be limiting?
- Are there different stocks that are limiting season to season?
- Describe how the individuals and the sector adapt year-to-year to changes in annual catch limits and to changes in the catch of different species?

What stocks are limiting for sector members?

- Has the sector or its members purchased ACE of the limiting stocks?
- Describe the economic decision that goes into making such a purchase?
- Do constraints on financing limit the trading of ACE for individuals or for the sector?
- Has the sector had trouble identifying available ACE for the limiting stocks to purchase?
- Have sector members stopped fishing because necessary ACE was unavailable? Please describe the circumstances.
- In general, when the sector members have wanted to continue fishing for non-limiting stocks, have the members or the sector been able to acquire the necessary ACE (including ACE for bycatch)?

Has the sector ever sought to recruit a member with Potential Sector Contribution (PSC) that would be valuable to the sector, say, because the member held PSC of stocks that were expected to be limiting?

- Are there benefits to the sector for having members with a desirable suite of PSC?

Describe the process for trading ACE during a fishing season.

- What factors determine the price of ACE?
- How do you/boat owners track the price of ACE?
- Does the price of ACE move during the season? Is there a pattern (*e.g.*, higher at the beginning of the season and lower at the end of the season)?

*Compass Lexecon questionnaire for Northeast multispecies fishery sector participants and interested parties. Fall 2013.*

- What factors determine how much the sector or a sector member will pay for ACE?
- What stocks' ACE has low or no value? Why?
- What stocks' ACE has high value? Why?

Does the sector have a fishing plan agreed among members? Alternately, do the members fish independently using their harvest shares?

- If applicable, describe the development of sector fishing plans to maximize the use of the sector's harvest share?
- How is the fishing plan developed and implemented?
- Does the sector acquire ACE to support its fishing plan?

Describe the different types of transactions used to trade ACE: fish for fish, cash, other?

- What factors determine the type of transaction?

Are you aware of instances where an individual or sector had unused ACE but was unwilling to sell or trade it?

- If you know, what was the reason for the refusal to sell or trade?
- Did the individual (or sector) eventually sell or trade any of its ACE? Under what circumstances?

How have prices for fish responded to changing supply levels?

- Are members somewhat protected from low annual catch limits by increased prices resulting from the reduced supply of fish?
- If not, why have prices not increased with decreased catch levels?

Please identify your role related to the Northeast multispecies fishery (*e.g.*, vessel owner, fleet owner, sector manager, academic researcher, etc.) and the species and locations with which you are most familiar.