

Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance



The Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance's mission is to restore and enhance an enduring marine system supporting a healthy diversity and an abundance of marine life and human uses through a self-organizing and self-governing organization. For the past decade, we have set the standard for effective collaboration in the pursuit of one question: if we truly care about the health of our oceans does it matter how, where and when we fish; and, who catches the fish that end up on our dinner plates?



Fleet Consolidation Diversity is Key to Sustainability

Fleet consolidation can take on many forms - concentration of ownership, reduction in number of active vessels, fewer ports where fish are landed, fewer gear types, and a narrower scale of vessel size/capacities serve just to name a few. Consolidation also takes place in the quota leasing market.

We know from other areas of the economy that unchecked consolidation can have disastrous consequences. For example, consolidation in our land-based food system resulted in displacing family farmers, degrading our lands, and reducing the quality of our food.

Like with our farmers, we believe that 'Who Fishes' has enormous ecological, social/economic, and food-system significance. Therefore, we need to get the facts on where consolidation is heading us and ensure we do not repeat past mistakes.

For more information please visit www.namanet.org

What we want:

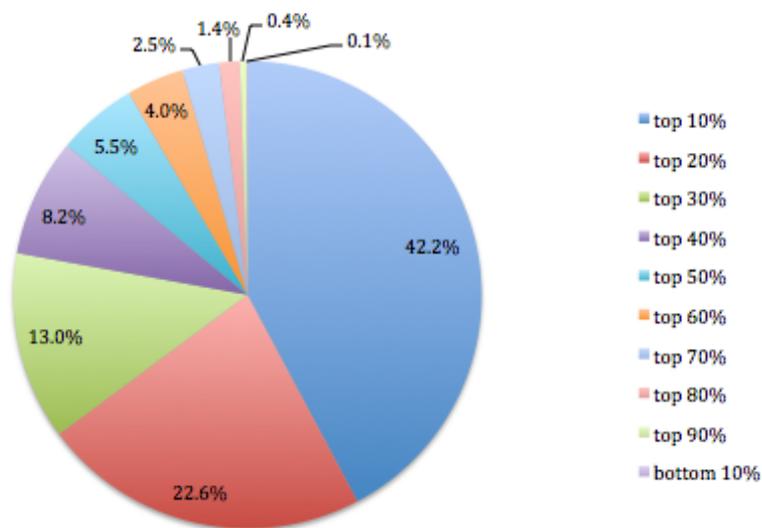
- Policies that safeguard a more diverse fleet including different gear types, boat sizes, and geographic locations.
- Limit the concentration of quota for any one entity.
- Establish policies that ensure quota is fished by fisherman and not used solely as an investment tool.
- Institute quota set-aside programs to reward sectors that are able to meet certain benchmarks in order to promote fleet diversity.
- Establish mechanisms to keep offshore boats offshore for example restrictions from fishing in multiple broad stock areas.
- Establish leasing and permit trading constraints that maintain affordability for smaller fishing operations and new entrants.



How we are achieving this:

- For the past three years NAMA and the Fish locally Collaborative have been weighing-in to fisheries managers to keep amendment 18 on the table and ensure community based fishermen are at the forefront of guiding the policies forward.
- Through the Think Global; Eat Local Seafood mantra, NAMA is building a market for the catch of ecologically responsible, local fisheries that will allow us to build a base of support for the long-term health of the marine ecosystems that sustain the economic health of small-scale fishing communities.

Revenue from all species (all trips) among vessels, 2011



What can you do?

- Join our petition to fight Big Box Boat's, sign up at <http://bit.ly/fightbigboxboats>
- Subscribe to our newsletter for updates and opportunities for weighing in on fleet consolidation policies sign up at <http://bit.ly/NAMAnewsletter>
- Join the Fish Locally Collaborative and help shape policies going forward, for more information visit <http://namanet.org/fish-locally-collaborative>

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