EEL WORKGROUP MEETING SUMMARY January 10, 2017

The workgroup reviewed further examples of limited entry and open access systems that incorporate quota monitoring.

Want to prolong harvest throughout season, or any sub-season, as long as possible. Prefer slow downs better than closures, but some slow downs would be as economically unviable as a closure. Must be open March – November in some way, shape, or form.

Concerned that limited entry system(s) could impact seasonality of the fishery. A limited entry system remain the non-preferred approach because of the hesitancy to prevent others from entering the fishery and the desire to maintain some flexibility. However, latent effort/reporting concerns in an open access fishery are felt to be a significant threat to active fishermen.

Harvest data from 2010-2015 seem unusually high – none of the active fishermen felt that their harvest had spiked during that time. They have also expressed concern about why dealer data don't match harvester data. Need to have a separate meeting – January 23^{rd} – to discuss reporting issues, challenges, and tools to improve and/or monitor a quota.

Four workgroup members were in attendance, and one member of the public was there.