A brief overview of Main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery:
- A traditional hook-and-line fishery
- Targets bottomfish that are a part of the 14-species bottomfish management unit species (BMUS) complex.
- Many fishermen target high-value Deep 7 snapper and grouper.
- Since 2007, this fishery has been managed under a total allowable catch (TAC) regime.

2010, a cost-earnings survey was fielded to the Main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishermen with the following objectives:
1. Create an economic profile of the bottomfish fleet.
2. Evaluate their attitudes and perceptions of recent changes to management of the fishery.
3. Collect feedback on a potential catch share management system.

Survey booklets were mailed to 1,012 bottomfish fishermen with the following objectives:
- Many fishermen target high-value Deep 7 snapper and grouper.
- Targets bottomfish that are a part of the 14-species bottomfish management unit species (BMUS) complex.
- 9% noncommercial fishermen with a federal noncommercial bottomfish permit.

Fisher Profiles
How do you define yourself as a bottomfisherman?

Mean vessel purchase price: $35,940
92% Owner-operated

Mean horsepower: 201 hp
Mean boat length: 23.3 ft

Average trips per year: 15 trips
Average hours per trip: 11 hours
Average crew size: 2 persons

In the past 12 months, how many of your fishing trips were primarily bottomfishing trips?

What is your primary target when you bottomfish?

How much money was spent on your most recent bottomfish trip?

What characteristics of a TAC program would you support?

Management Perceptions
What is your opinion of previous and current management actions on promoting a sustainable bottomfish fishery in Hawaii?

How satisfied are you with bottomfish management agencies?

TAC and Catch Share Opinions
A total allowable catch (TAC) limit was needed to maintain a sustainable bottomfish fishery?

Do you feel the TAC in each year was set...

Conclusions
The bottomfish fishery is a complex mix of commercial, recreational, cultural, and subsistence fishermen.
Bottomfish fishing has important economic, social, and cultural linkages.
Perspectives from fishermen should help guide management.
Collecting economic and social information provides improved understanding of the full implications of fisheries management.

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