## Adding Value to the North Carolina Seafood Industry through Use of Collaborative Partnerships

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North Carolina Sea Grant Research Symposium:

Investments & Opportunities

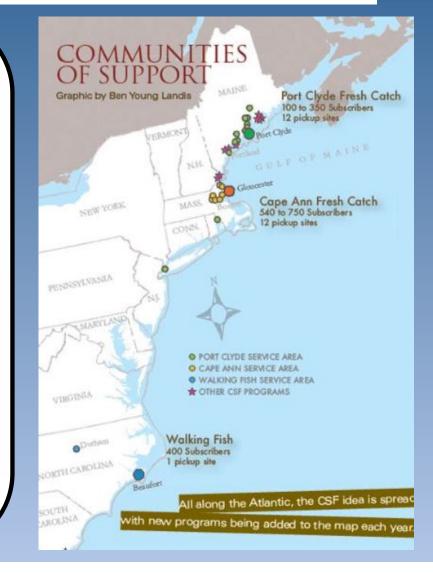
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- The NC seafood industry is contracting at a time when demand for locally-sourced food has never been greater.
- Sea Grant extension efforts designed to benefit broad segments of industry.

## **Community Supported Fisheries**

- 2005, Initiated in NC
- 2007, First successful pilot in Maine
- 2009, Two CSFs in NC
- 2014, Between ~35¹ and ~70² CSFs in operation



<sup>1</sup>LocalCatch.org <sup>2</sup>Dr. Susan Andreatta, UNCG, pers. com. Coastwatch Winter 2010

Community Supported Ingenuity



- 184 NC shrimpers received 2,256+ hours of training and ~\$2 M in financial assistance through TAA.
- NCSG co-authored "Shrimp Marketing Opportunities" course taken by 2,103 shrimpers from NC-TX.
- Course served as a template for the Lobster TAA program
  taken by 1,434 fishermen.

  Baker-UNCW TAA final report, 2012



- 76.6%¹ of respondents reduced their business costs.
- 75.2%<sup>1</sup> reported their business being better situated to succeed as a result of the TAA program.
- "The program forces individuals to take a hard look at their finances and decide whether or not to make changes to either increase profits, expand business, or look for alternatives."

  1SRRMEC TAA Summary report, 2014

**Building Branding Programs** 



- Debuted in 2005 (CC), 2009 (BC, OF) and 2010 (OBC)
- Salient message of each brand is "fresh, seasonal seafood harvested by local fishermen."

## **Building Branding Programs**



- In 2011, 78% of seafood festival respondents said the 4 brands would help to identify local seafood products.
- Success of the 4 branding programs resulted in the development of NC Catch (<u>www.nccatch.org</u>) in 2012.