

Location: Barnegat Light, New Jersey

Interview #7

Date: 12/15/05

INTERVIEW:

RES: Ok, so we start off with just some background stuff. (?) (001) here I can give you a blank one and you can look at it while we go through it. Oh on this you mean.

INT: Yeah, I don't know what the [] yeah, just so I get to write on top of it. You have a blank one you said?

RES: Yeah, and then you can kind of see what I want to ask about. All right, to start off with some background information is how old are you? Or actually birth date?

INT: June 8, 1961. I'm 44 years old.

RES: Alright, and where were you born?

INT: I was born in Irvington, NJ. Family of origin size, I have 4 siblings – 3 brothers and one sister.

RES: The reason we ask that is we're curious whether you came from a fishing family.

INT: No.

RES: No. And nobody, father, nobody fished?

INT: No.

RES: Next one's about education – just like a ballpark – high school or...

INT: Yeah, all [] school – all prep – and then I went to the University of RI, but only stayed there for 6 months. I was majoring in commercial fisheries and marine technologies, but I was [] to go fishing and make money.

RES: So what brought you into fishing?

INT: I always lived down there in the summertime, so I started working on XXXX. [] head boat when I was a kid making a quarter a day [].

RES: Right on. But obviously you liked it?

INT: Yeah definitely- definitely liked it a lot.

RES: We ask about whether or not you're married and whether you have kids, again about the family thing?

INT: Was married, divorced, re-married, one kid by the first marriage, and two step kids by the second marriage.

RES: Ok. And are any of them into fishing?

INT: My son is, absolutely.

RES: Yeah. So one of the reasons we ask is because we're trying to get a handle on whether people are encouraging their next generation to get into fishing or if they see it as kind of...like in Newfoundland, for example, a lot of people said no, this is it, we're the last generation. What do you think about that?

INT: [] an uncertain future. But I mean as far as his fishing capacity - absolutely knows what, you know, commercial fishing is and how I've done it, but he's only been involved in the recreational. He's aware of this completely, cause we make a living, cause he hears and lives it everyday.

RES: So he's involved more with the charter and head boats or...

INT: No, just [] take them out weak fishing and take them out, you know, striped bass fishing, and he loves to fish with rods and reels [].

RES: So what do you do now?

INT: Ok, I have ownership of two scallopers right now, and I work at XXXX full time. So I'm the [] to council [] here - sales. And then I [] you know []. I manage two of these boats, you know, the captains, the crews, cut it with a game plan, keep them coming and going, if anything that has to be fixed, whatnot like that.

RES: What are the two boats?

INT: The XXXX and the XXXX. I have ownership in each of those boats. I ran the XXXX for the first 9 years after it was built.

RES: Ok. So you were fishing then at that point? You were actually on the water?

INT: Yeah, I fished from 1980 to 1996, and whole time commercially- with tilefish in the early 80's and then scalloped the rest of it.

RES: Ok, and you switched to scallop around what year?

INT: Around 83. I tile fished for 3 full years.

RES: When you get started moving down here, when you got started, how difficult or easy was it to get started in fishing? What we're wondering about is the startup process. What I'm saying, you know, now to get into fishing in some sectors for sure is a hell of an expensive...

INT: As far as ownership is concerned or?

RES: For you, as you got started. You got started on tilefish...

INT: Well I got started commercially, I just kind of... I mean, there wasn't too much expense. It was 100 bucks for a pair of slickers, and a pair of boots, and a box of gloves, which really isn't... which is the same as far as a deck handling job.

RES: Ok, and that's how you started?

INT: And that's how I started. I would think that fishing is similar getting to be able to get started. You know, we need people to work just like we did then, but you'd like to get someone who's going to catch on; it's complicated...

Phone rings and interrupts him 044

INT: You don't want to take someone out in the ocean who's not going to work out, because you're going to be bringing them back. With a lot of the regulations now, it's even more so, because...

RES: How do you mean?

INT: Well I mean with the days at sea, you have stuff definitely. So if I take somebody out, and it doesn't work out for you, and I take them home, I'm wasting my days at sea number one. # 2, if production is really good, I need everybody to be able to produce the maximum amount. So if it's shucking on board in the scallop fishery for example...

RES: And you're talking about the scallop fishery for...

INT: Right now I am, yeah. I mean, you're only going to take out guys who can produce, so it's tough for some guys to just hop on a boat green. We have crew limits, so it's tough to say ok, you know, I have 7 men, well I'll take new guys that never been. It won't happen. Where years ago, if I had 12 guys on my crew...

RES: it didn't matter.

INT: it didn't matter, you're right. You had a helper that you paid a token to, so some of the stuff is changing where we're allowed in certain closed areas now. They're letting some more guys go to bring guys up to speed on, you know, to be able to learn how to fish.

RES: What do you mean by those closed areas. Those...

INT: Areas where you had a certain amount to take out of an area, and you had X amount of days to do it. And it doesn't matter if you do it with 5 guys or 20 guys; the weight's coming out, so they're letting us use some more guys.

RES: When did they start doing those closed areas?

INT: They're going to let you use more guys this year, but we started working in closed areas, I think, in 1999.

RES :Ok, and how long have they been closed?

INT: Actually, they're called access areas. You have access to an area that once was closed for different reasons.

RES: When you got into the scallop fishery, where there those closed areas?

INT: There was no closed areas.

RES: When did those come on?

INT: They started closing areas probably 1995.

RES: 95. And what did that mean at the beginning?

INT: 94-95. Well I mean they started to close some areas off of George's Banks for there were, you know, historically scallop grounds and trawl grounds. They closed for trawling for cod fishing for ground fishing habitat.

RES: So it had more to do with cod fish...

INT: It had everything to do with them - all the dragging. And we were only, you know, guilty by association, so then scallops grew, you know, to crazy levels in there. They let us back in, and still are on a very limited level.

RES: Ok. So that area [] for a closed area.

INT: Yeah, and we've had some out on the Hudson Canyon. I mean, our management has kind of, over the years through Amendment 10, moved more into a rotational management, so we are doing more of this. But they're, you know, you have X amount of area access, and then you have X amount of open days at sea where you can just go out and catch what you can catch wherever you're, you know, allowed to be in open areas. And those areas aren't...those areas are restricted by manpower.

RES: What do you mean?

INT: Well, they're not allowing you to have more men. There's only 7 men allowed on the boat in those areas.

RES: Ok, so those are the main restrictions now?

[]

INT: ...you started fishing, how easy was it?

RES: Yeah, we had []

INT: Yeah, yeah, you know I worked on a head boat, so I...I mean I knew a little bit of what was going on. In the commercial [] fish world no, but I mean had a little boat smarts for sure.

RES: And that's all it took at that time to really get...

INT: Yeah, yeah.

RES: So the next on is whether or not fishermen were organized socially/politically at that time. We're trying to get a handle on...

INT: We definitely were organized socially.

RES: How do you mean?

INT: In the bar when you got home, you know what I mean?

RES: Is there fishermen, I mean I know there is in Cape May and Newfoundland or wherever....

INT: Clubs?

RES: Yeah like a one bar that the fishermen all go to or...

INT: Well like in Montauk, there was a couple bars. They were fishing bars. Even here at Two Bells, you know, fishermen will be in there from time to time, for sure. But...

RES: What about politically?

INT: Politically, back then, not so much, no. I mean, we've really evolved in getting involved in the management process, and getting to know our politicians, and learning how to lobby them, and the whole gamut; you know what I mean?

RES: No []

INT: Well we use to go out and fish, and we had no idea. It was us against the government in the very beginning, and you heard...when I started there was no scallops, there was no meat count,

there was no regulations whatsoever – none. So I mean as regulations started, people hated it. It was regulation. We didn't, you know, we weren't smart enough to realize that we were cutting our nose off to spite our face.

RES: How do you mean?

INT: Well by just being cowboys, we're going to go out and kill everything, you know. I mean it was unregulated. It breeds a terrible thing, you know. I'm not going to go, but he's going, so I got to go. Or, you know, you couldn't get two fishermen to agree on anything as far as strategy, so it's been an evolution. We've learned a lot of stuff.

RES: Like for example?

INT: Well we've learned that, you know, we need regulations. We don't need to be overregulated. We need to be able to harvest stuff that's at sustainable levels, that's healthy, but, you know, things that need to be rebuilt need to be rebuilt. But we need to be part of the process of that management through the council process. And we are; there are not enough, but

RES: Not enough involved in the...

INT: Well fishermen aren't in meetings, the council meetings; no they're not as a whole. However, we do spend some money as fishermen having certain attorneys or whoever represent us. And, you know, it's the same with everything; there's a few key people who step up to the plate and really get involved. And they carry a lot of fishermen along with them.

RES: So why has there been that change that people have started to get more involved in...

INT: Well because it going to go; it was all going to disappear. I mean things have changed. We never had talk of habitat destruction, or environmental issues, all these different things, and I think fishermen got involved because they realized that you can't turn a blind eye to this. It's all going to disappear in front of our face; it's going to be get away.

RES: So you think it's the fishermen worrying about the resource rather than reacting to management or?

INT: I think it was the fishermen were worrying about different aspects of management including, you know, other user groups and trusts and, you know, people who were after us. You know what I mean? And some resource issues as well, I mean definitely.

RES: What so you mean by trusts?

INT: Well, I mean there was just some groups out there that are, you know, environmentally pretty geared up to eliminate commercial fishing. And we realized that we need to fight these people.

RES: What do you think about this whole horseshoe crab business that's going on?

INT: You know, I don't know a whole lot about it. I don't know a whole lot about it.

RES: Speaking of environmental groups.

INT: I know that they're on it, but they're everywhere you know what I mean? They want the ocean to be a fish bank; you know what I mean? It's an interesting thing with we've got a lot of people who've got to eat in the world too. I mean there's got to be a balance. I think that the...my philosophy on them is, they're absolutely on the right target, because probably in 55 to 85, a tremendous amount of gross overfishing all spawned by the government – capital construction funds and incentives to go catch underutilized species – blah, blah, blah.

RES: When you talk about the years 1965 to 85?

INT: Yeah, I think that was a big era of overfishing occurring and building up...

RES: Capacity.

INT: Absolutely. But a lot of that was provoked; you know what I mean? And then it was, you know, here do this, and now you're a bad guy because you did it. So...what were we talking about before that?

RES: Just asking about whether or not fishermen were organized politically, and how and why they did it.

INT: Well, we are definitely more organized right now. There's no question about it. The better a fishermen is doing, the better organized it is, because it's funded. The long-liners right now have been having a difficult time doing winter fishery [] is having a tough time. There's no money. Scallops have been pretty strong; it's been making money. The other fishery's a [] that represents us. And it's funded, but it's not funded like it should be, cause there's certain people that really pony up, and there's a lot of guys who ride the coattails.

RES: Well that's true in any kind of...

INT: We're more organized then we ever were. But in that time, in the 80's, nah; there was nothing.

RES: You mentioned at one point that there's a line between regulation, some of which you think is good, and overregulation. Where do you stand now – the scallop fishing on that spectrum?

INT: Well first of all, that's where I wanted to finish. I think the environmental groups had a great moment, and there was need to look at this and fix some stuff. But now, they're like a runaway freight train, and it's scare tactics, it's misinformation, it's now they just have a cause, and they need to generate their funded dollars. So without a crisis, how can I be an environmentalist; you know what I mean? I'd say I'm the environmentalist, and I'm the

conservationist. I mean, I'm living it; you know what I mean? I've cut my days from 300 to 100; I've been engaged in rebuilding a resource from nothing to historical levels, you know what I mean. I don't fish in that area that I use to because it's a habitat area. You know, you stand there and you point a finger, you know, so who's who? I mean they drove here on a paved road, you know what I mean, but they're environmentalists. So, that's my take on that.

RES: Are there aspects of the scallop fishery that are overregulated at this point in your estimation?

INT: I don't think really. I don't think, no, I don't think there's aspects that are overregulated. I actually think one aspect of the fishery needs to be addressed last year. It's not, you know, but...

RES: What's that?

INT: Bait, the general category – absolutely. But that's, you know, general category is...

RES: Essentially open access.

INT: No, it is open access, but a 400-pound a day rate. And that was a great thing. No one ever thought though, in 1994, that people would be doing it like they are. Well price and resource. And it's a shame that...you know but listen; I'm a limited access guy. That's what my friend called it, but I've lived through a lot of bad times. And we rebuilt this fishery, and now they see every Tom, Dick, and Harry who never were in the fishing business go buy a boat because they think it's a gold rush. It's a bad thing for the resource/habitat. It's going to be a bad thing for a lot of docks eventually, cause when the bubble pops, there's going to be a lot of guys that no other permits to do anything. And they're going to be tied up, and junked, and whatever, you know. So that's complicated and pretty controversial because we have a lot of day boats here...I think [] Use to do day boats.

RES: Yeah.

INT: 5 years ago there was none. Now there's over 30.

RES: In [] over 30 day boats?

INT: Over 30 day boats.

RES: How many like limited access guys would there be?

INT: 10. We have 10 full-time limited access boats.

RES: How big is the fleet overall here? The commercial?

INT: We have about 30 boats in our dock – probably a good 20 at the other dock.

Tape starts to get loud in the background

INT: 50 plus boats now – 50 plus.

RES: How does that compare to when you were starting out?

INT: Oh much more.

RES: Much more now?

INT: More. More because before you could have a boat and you could do this, you can then switch and do that when it got good, and go do that. Now you're one thing, so this boat might be a month boat, and then you might need another boat to go do this. So guys have multiple boats to do different things to keep a whole year round.

RES: That's what they're doing now?

INT: Even as the dock, we need to bring more...we only had a few boats here. We need to bring more boats here to sustain the dock because of... it couldn't be year round for anything anymore, you know what I mean. So we need more to fill in the gaps.

RES: So people now are now are actually purchasing more vessels?

INT: Well with the way regulations are at times, and you can't stack a permit, and you can't double things up yeah, you know, you do have more boats. But that doesn't necessarily go along with more fishing efforts.

RES: Cause there's the same guy that's tying it up...

INT: That's the way. I mean listen, if I own two limited access scallop permits right now, as far as effort's concerned, I can fish about 110 days on each. That's 220 days for the two boats. Well the [] with the XXXX being one boat, and one permit, I fish 300 days. The catch rates higher, cause we're catching so much more per day, but the effort is... You asked me about other regulations?

RES: Yeah.

INT: I don't think there's any...I don't know about over regulations. I think there's convoluted regulations. I think it's very complicated.

RES: like for example?

INT: Any FMP that's [] The government has to be so careful...

INT starts to talk to people in the background again

INT: I don't know about overregulation, but I mean it's a very complicated process – very complicated, very time consuming, not as effective as it needs to be for specific...they something's happening here wup close it open it...it's, you know, too much red tape and too much we've got to cover our ass, you know. So the government is so diligent to cover their ass so they're not back in court sued by Oceania or [] Foundation, or fishermen, or whoever. The process becomes too complicated.

RES: Too complicated for what? To be effective or for people to deal with, or how do you mean...

INT: To be time line efficient...

RES: You spend more time shuffling papers than you want to?

INT: Oh absolutely. I mean, look at some of these fisheries management plans. I mean the scallop working documents are probably this thick. It's bizarre, you know, so it gets very complicated. Sometimes I don't think it needs to be that complicated. Listen, I support regulations. I think most fishermen do. I think any fishermen who has a [] if there's not regulations, we don't have a job. But we can't be overregulated to the point of we're out of business. We can have plans in place to rebuild fisheries to a sustainable level; we also need to be able to sustain the fishermen while that's occurring. So, I mean, if you have a law that says we have to rebuild this thing in three years. Well what's the difference if you rebuild it in 6, but you [] fishermen's families alive while you do it. You know what I mean?

RES: I do.

INT: So some of that flexibility, I mean, we can look at. And with the reauthorization of Magnusson [] hopefully he gets some of that language in there. You know what I mean?

RES: Yeah. You mentioned before, there's about 50 or so boats in town?

INT: Yes.

RES: Does that include the 30-day guys?

INT: Yeah. Some of those day guys never []. So they have a permit for month fishing, so they'll do a little bit of each. Some of those day guys I said []. I'll do better day fishing than I would month fishing. They're not even using their month fishing. Then there's a whole other sector who don't have any permits other than day fishing, which to me is bizarre. You know what I mean. And they're the same guys that when regulations come in, they're going to cry putting []. Hey listen, it's 2000 and you jumped into an open access fishery []. So some of that's just bullshit, you know what I mean. So, you know, that's how it works. Now we owe them a little, you know.

RES: But there's 50 or so boats that are just working down here. How many fishermen and fishing families would you say that is?

INT: There's a lot. I would say in this town here, there's over 200 guys that work here - 200. I mean if you look at scallopers alone, 10 full-time boats, there's you figure 70 guys just on full-time scallopers. So in town, there's well over, I would say, 250 people employed on boats.

RES: Does that include everybody? I mean long liners, gill netters, and all those guys too, or are you just talking about scallopers?

INT: No, I would think all together, you know. In town, you know, 250-300 people employed on vessels. (He asks a guy in the background how many he thinks are employed on vessels – the guy says 350-400). He says there's 350-400; I say there's 250-300. You can tell [].

RES: Yeah well we get different... a ballpark...

INT: But yeah, and families on top of that.

RES: Right. How does that compare to when you started?

INT: Much more.

RES: There's more now?

INT: In this area yeah.

RES: And what explains that? I mean that's not a trend in some other communities, that they've been going down in terms of the # of fishermen. Why is it going up in Barnegat?

INT: In Barnegat, why is it going up? I think it's falling in other places, but we've been in a location that's supported it.

RES: What do you mean?

INT: Well the location that we're proximity to go day fishing – scallop. Month fishery started here – has a lot to do with it. Definitely more here now, but there could be there's less other places. There is definitely [].

RES: So when you started [] the boats were crewing with 12 when you were in the scallop []?

INT: Well you know []. I mean, we only had one full-time scalloper in []. Now we have 10. Now that, you know, there was growth [] between 1980 or 19, you know, 75 and 19 []. We'd even had some more come after that, but they were already permitted up []. So it wasn't like new effort, it was just the relocated effort, you know, as a whole []. You know people [] I don't know. It's like anything. I mean there's more people out that live on the island – way more than did 25 years ago. It was a ghost town.

RES: Is that affecting the fishery?

INT: No

RES: No [] people saying we don't want the dock, or we don't want the...

INT: It's really not affected the fishery. I mean most people got here because they liked the dock, and they liked with the down, you know, the complexity of the town.

RES: Yeah, that's done a little bit in Cape Cod, and sometimes they have some problems up there with, you know, people like the fishing aspect but so long as it's not noisy and loud and people at 4 in the morning firing up their day....

INT: Well it's interesting that people move to a town because of the...and they get there and they tell you how to []...

RES: and they bitch and moan because there's, you know, equipment out...

INT: Exactly, but like then they're going to tell you what to do; well you came here because you liked what we were doing, and now you live here and you're going to tell us how to do it.

RES: I'm sympathetic to that. That's...

INT: Yeah, you'll see that down in town hall. You know, the real estate's are really screwing up around here too, because as far as the families that are concerned, that work here, I would say 95% of the fishing people don't live on LBI. They can't afford it.

RES: Too much money to buy a house?

INT: Oh my god. Our school systems on the island hardly have any kids....

Someone comes in the background saying I don't mean to interrupt and tape stops at 200

INT: So I mean it's so expensive to live here, you can't raise a family, so our school system is like...my kids in [] got 16 kids in the 5th grade.

RES: And on the main land?

INT: They got 375 kids or 400 or whatever, you know, so...

RES: Total different order of magnitude?

INT: Oh, no doubt. It just changed, because you have wealthy people owning basically summer homes here. And even those summer homes, which usually they were rental homes, so all summer was very busy here changing over on Saturdays. Now you have weekend business, so it's a little slower like during the week, even in the summertime, because they're all home working, and they'll be down Friday afternoon. It's changed. Ok, where were we at.

RES: Well go on to # 4. Just your history, you told me a little bit about that already. I mean, you know, I used all different questions, or different orders, but ...Back when you started what other opportunities [] in Barnegat like?

INT: Well as far as fishing goes?

RES: Fishing or non-fishing. Both.

INT: You know there wasn't a lot of opportunities in Barnegat. You could go tile fishing; that was a big fishery down here. It has since moved to Montauk, and now there's fisheries management that kind of got some of our guys out of it. Our guy's moved into sword fishing. There was a, you know, big long line fishery for sword and tuna here.

RES: There was?

INT: Yeah, well around the 80's early 90's. Regulation, to some degree, just the threat of regulation, market changes, you know, with Japan. We were sending a lot of fish there. And then that kind of didn't work out as well anymore with the dollar and the yen, and they have their own fish after a while. We had to kind of develop a domestic market, and the resource itself. It just wasn't economical; they weren't making as much money, you know what I mean. Other things came along they could do better at.

RES: And how much of that would you say is due to regulation. I mean it would seem...regulation's really a cost to business in a way right.

INT: It's difficult, cause regulation, politics, user groups, it's all intertwined, you know. Let me tell you, a sword and a tuna are caught with a hook; a scallop's not. So we've got some...we don't have a recreational sector coming out of this; they do with a lot of money. You know what I mean. They got deep pockets. And believe me, they're powerful. They don't want any long liners, so that threat after a while's got guys running to the bench right there.

RES: So there use to be a long liner fleet here though that's now gone?

INT: Well, we still have some, but not like it was. I mean, we use to have, you know, 20 boats [] long lining.

RES: And what about gill netting?

INT: We still have quite a few gill-netters. We have, you know, guys monking, and weak fishing, blue fishing. Some of those very gill-netters also are doing some day boat scalloping sometimes. So, you did have opportunity here back then, you know, tile fishing, gill netting. I mean there's always been opportunity for someone who wanted to work, and it still is.

RES: Ok, but it's mostly become scalloping now can you mention?

INT: Well, scalloping's the mainstay, but I mean there's gill netters and long liners here as well.

RES: What are long liners at? Where are there main fisheries?

INT: Scalloping's lopsided man right now.

RES: What do you mean lopsided?

INT: Well, there's a lot of efforts in scalloping. A lot of guys have done it, and there's a long line that are coming and doing it right now. We just switched this boat over, this big steel boat, from long lining to day boat scalloping. Two years after a control date, two years after the date when knowing something's going to happen here big time. So maybe they think hey, if I can get 6 months then I'm better off than I was long lining. You know everything's a cycle, so, I think, so you know. The problem is, we've got a lot of guys just jumping on the bandwagon.

RES: What was the seasonal round like at that time when you started? Like starting in January, what would you be doing? Describe how a year would go for you.

INT: If I could, I'd probably fish all year round.

RES: January to December?

INT: Yeah, you know, shorter trips.

RES: What was a trip like []

INT: Quicker turn arounds.

RES: How many days were...

INT: I think we were three days, three fishing days.

RES: Where are your fishing grounds?

INT: I was fishing out of Montauk at that time. I wasn't fishing out of Barnegat [] for those couple few years.

RES: Ok, so in other words...

INT: We would fish up on beaches, but these guys fished out of here on that same fishery.

RES: When did you start in Barnegat?

INT: well I started here, moved up there, and moved back here.

RES: Ok. Why'd you do that?

INT: I got a job with a guy who owned a boat.

RES: What kind of gear was on that boat- Tilefish when you started out?

INT: What kind of gear was on tile boats?

RES: Yeah.

INT: Baited [] gear.

RES: Ok. And what sort of vessel was it?

INT: Steel.

RES: Steel. How long?

INT: Steel [] 65-footer.

RES: Who did you work with?

INT: I worked with XXXX.

RES: How were those boats crewed?

INT: 3 guys.

RES: Total? With the captain?

INT: Yeah. Sometimes 4.

RES: How did they work it – the share system at that point?

INT: Basically the same way. Long liner would go expenses off the top 50/50.

RES: What do you mean 50/50? 50 for the crew; 50 for the captain?

INT: 50 for the crew, 50 for the boat. That's the way it is; that's pretty much has been a long-liner right on through. And scalloping has pretty much been 60/40.

RES: 60 for the boat?

INT: 60 for the crew, 40 for the boat, the crew pays all expenses – consumables – see where the long liner could take off the top. There's some minor changes. Some guys are going 42/58.

RES: SO it's generally, for a crew member [] How much are we at then...

INT: The share percentages stayed the same.

RES: Yeah, so they're...the ability to make a living as a crew member is more or less the same as it was back then or?

INT: Per, yeah, per share that you catch, but in some of the fisheries, what your getting's way up. [] stock is way up.

RES: Like scallops?

INT: When I was on deck in 1980, I think I made 20,000\$ bucks per year. Now a guy's on deck are making...scallopers are making 80.

RES: Of course that...it could change in inflation too, but not that much.

INT: Absolutely. It's definitely gone [].

RES: What about long liner and gill-netters? Do they do as well, or is that just the scallop fishers?

INT: Long liners can. I mean the scallop fishery does good, but certain tilefish boats are doing well. Guys in gill nets do very well. I mean a lot...it's just not a no brainer too; you know what I mean? It all depends on who it is, you know.

RES: What do you mean?

INT: I mean I sure there's doctors out there that don't make a lot of money, and there's doctors that make a gob of money. There's stock brokers that going to go broke, and there's stock brokers that are filthy rich. And a lot of it has to do with whose organization [].

RES: Who's running the boat, who's running the...

INT: Right who's running the company, who's running the boat, who's on the crew.

RES: And have your scallop grounds changed over time?

INT: Not really, but a little bit maybe. Some of it, some of the day fish area, scallops live where they maybe didn't live when I started.

RES: How []?

INT: I don't know. Why?

RES: [] I mean are they [] or inshore?

INT: Some places, yeah.

RES: Where did you use to look for them?

INT: We looked for them everywhere, but I mean the abundance in places where it was streaky has changed. So where I use to look for a needle in a haystack, now you're catching gobs of scallops anywhere you go in that area – at times. I mean ask me again in a few years, and I'll probably...

RES: Well, like you say, I think there's ups and downs.

INT: No doubt.

RES: How did you like scalloping vs. the scallop fishing?

INT: I liked scallop right off the bat.

RES: You did? What did you like about them?

INT: Yeah. I liked the gear, I liked the hours, I'd also become the [] pretty quick – the mate on the boat, the big in charge, so I liked that.

RES: SO your responsibility came?

INT: Definitely.

RES: We already talked about this, but the regulations at the beginning of the fishery and whether or not you were organized, and...

INT: What page are you on?

RES: This one here.

INT: Oh I see, we already passed the crew []?

RES: Yeah.

INT: Ok. And where are we at?

RES: Ah well kind of we've, you know, because the way the interviews go, we jump around in questions. And you started talking about how profitable it was and how you liked the work and we already talked about regulations on the fishery at the time and how they affected your work and you mentioned that there weren't that many.

INT: In the beginning there weren't any.

RES: Can you give me kind of a time, like a thumbnail sketch of the timeline, what started...

INT: Well in the early 80's, very early 80's, there was no regulation.

RES: I mean nothing? You just needed to register your vessel and...

INT: You needed to have a documented vessel and you could apply to the government for a federal scallop permit, and you could get it, and you could go scallop fishing. You could catch whatever the hell you wanted to catch wherever you wanted to catch it.

RES: No size limits, no nothing.

INT: No nothing. No crew limits, no size limits, no boat limits, no dredge limits, no gear limits, no anything. And then we came in to work on a meat count system where it was 40 meats per pound, so the scallops had to be larger than 40 meats per pound to be legal, and that was supposed to keep you off of juvenile scallops.

RES: And when did that happen? Do you remember around?

INT: I think the early eighties.

RES: SO more or less when you began?

INT: Pretty much. I think that just was coming in when I began. Then over the years, over the next 10 years, the meat count dropped to 30 meats per pound.

RES: and how did people feel about that? Were they pissed about that at the time?

INT: Oh sure, we were pissed about it, we...it didn't save an animal. All's we did was figure out how to circumnavigate that. So we'd go catch some big ones, and we'd mix them with the little ones, and they'd count out. And you were...we learned how to soak them in water to make them grow, you know, we, you know, so it never saved an animal. It was a ten year part of a regulation that didn't work whatsoever.

RES: Right, so then they changed it?

INT: In '93 we changed it, and we went to limited access.

RES: Now when you say we, do you mean fishermen were interested in doing that or using the industry or...

INT: Government did it -council process with NMFS, you know, changed their whole regime, and we went to a limited access fishery with gear restrictions, met crew restrictions...

RES: Is that the first FMP they came out at that time?

INT: That was the first limited access FMP. There were FMP's for meat counts, but not for limited access.

RES: and that was in 93...

INT: So some guys got booted out of the fishery too. Some guys were holding scallop permits that didn't meet criteria anymore.

RES: So 93 was a big year for change?

INT: Huge. We all hated it. I'll give you an example: We built the Kathy and the 90's, and I said when they gave their little spiel of, you know, we started at 200; I forget. I think we started at like 218 days. It weaned down to, by 2000 or 1999 or whatever it was, to 120 days. And I said at 120 days, just take the boat; you know what I mean? I was use to fishing 300 days. So we were all against it.

RES: I'm sorry; the days at sea did not come in the '93?

INT: It did.

RES: It did.

INT: It started at like 200, and then we weaned our way down to 100 almost.

RES: And that became uneconomical at the abundance and price at that time.

INT: No, we perceived it to be completely uneconomical, because the resource was pretty beaten down. Now through the middle to, you know, 94,95,96,97 until the fishery resource caught up to the management, it was a struggle just to survive. But as the resource bounded and catch rates per day escalated, we were doing well at low levels of effort.

RES: By when would you say you started doing well?

INT: We started doing well, you know better, by 1999, 2000, 2001, 2, 3, 4, 5 – excellent. Excellent gross stock fish, because catch rates have been high per day. [] already limited amount of days.

RES: You're still down around 110 you said?

INT: Last year we were about 100. This year we're going to be projected to be about 110.

RES: aNd during all of this, what were other guys doing that weren't scalloping? Like in the 90...

INT: Long lining was pretty good. Gill netting...

RES: Long lining for what?

INT: Well they were also people were dog fishing, you know. People were dog fishing in gill nets and long line out of here, and that's where a lot of boats came from, you know what I mean. Look, in the late 80's early 90's we had gill netters that fished for blue fish, weak fish, shad, and then in the winter it pretty much shut down. Well then they figured out how to catch monkfish with gill nets. They started monk fishing. They also, at the same time, figured out how to catch dogfish. And the government really provoked them to go learn how to catch these dogfish, because they were underutilized. Well then they did, and they caught the piss out of dogfish, so this guy got a dogfish boat. It was open access, so was monk fishing. It was all open access, so here's where a lot of these boats have, you know, displaced crew too.

RES: Right that's what I'm trying to get a handle on is...

INT: Definitely, I mean a lot of these smaller boats that are now day scalloping were bought for dog fishing and monk fishing.

RES: Back in the...

INT: Back in the 90's. And then, you know, in their infinite wisdom what they did with the dog fishing, you know what I mean. They put their FMP, and they closed the fishery. I mean what rocket scientist figured that one out? It's crazy. So go, here guys, here's an underutilized fishery; go figure out how to do this. Meanwhile, lets not regulate it at all. Just a while, and when we're going to regulate it, we're going to close it down. Well there's a...what are you kidding me?

RES: So a lot of people got screwed by that I guess.

INT: Well, it's bizarre. There's enough dogfish out there you could walk on them. It's crazy; you can't even get your gear down to get the tilefish because there's so many dogfish. They're hanging on every hook like grapes – two fish on one hook. They still aren't going to let you dogfish. So what are we going to do save all the dogfish so they could eat all the codfish eggs, and then we're going to wonder where all the codfish are? I mean...

RES: They need to stop micromanage...

INT: When you start micromanaging stuff – you've got predator/prey stuff going on out there. All this stuff isn't about fishing effort, you know.

RES: What do you think about this ecosystem management [] they're starting to []

INT: What do you mean like as a whole?

RES: I mean do you think it's a good idea? Do you think it's possible?

INT: I don't think that all can live in the ocean at sustainable historical levels. []. If it did, well I mean, it's just a big [] as everything since the beginning of time. How long we've been scalloping? 100 years?

RES: Probably, commercially anyway yeah.

INT: Since the beginning of time, you think the scallops just splurged and flowed without natural die offs – [] tide just wiping them almost out without even fishing efforts. Wouldn't you probably be able to walk 100 miles out on top of the scallop fish there'd be so many? That's not how it works. So how the hell can you do...how can you manage a whole ...how about human beings? I mean, you know, when there's too many, we have die offs. We've got the, you know, the bird flu coming. I mean things just happen, so they want to have everything at just optimum yield, but I don't think you can. There's not enough food; there's predator prey. Hey all of a sudden this could grow so much; now where there use to be yellow tail flounders, little skate everywhere this week. And flounder can't go and live there anymore. Where are they going to go? So...

RES: So you think it's ...

INT: I think it's ridiculous. I think it's absolutely ridiculous.

RES: I think they got their work cut out for them. That's for sure.

INT: I think the more they try to micromanage stuff, the more they're going to screw things up.

RES: Back when you started scalloping, that's a little bit of moving on through the ending – this page here – just a little bit about markets. How was it marketed and distributed back then?

INT: You know, years ago it was pretty basic. It was pack your fish, send it to NY, and hope for the best.

RES: But how did that happen?

INT: That's because of our ignorance.

RES: No, but I mean you brought it in, and...

INT: [] You brought your product into the dock, you packed your product out, and you basically...this is how we did it.

RES: But ...

INT: No I mean fish. I mean gill net fish, long line fish, just even in the very beginning scallop fish – scallop fishing. You brought your product in, you packed it almost yourself...

RES: Put it in boxes with...

INT: The docks with very little crew on the dock...

RES: Was it frozen?

INT: No, it was all fresh, and then you shipped it to NY and Philadelphia, and you took whatever you got as a return. Most things weren't in the open. Over the years...

RES: I'm sorry; what do you mean by that.

INT: Open – you send your fish in, they sell it, they give you a return on how they deal with the product.

RES: You don't know...they don't give you a price when you give them your product?

INT: You have an idea, but there's nothing etched in stone. You're not saying it's 3\$ a pound and you get 3\$ a pound.

RES: Did guys get screwed a lot on that?

INT: Oh sure. They had some guys in NY making some money, and guys were making money here too. They were catching some fish...

RES: probably an honest guy.

INT: It's an evolution; you don't know, you know. You're a fisherman, you're not a marketer, you're not a seafood market, you know. So over the years at Viking village...actually the big change came here when Ernie came and took over. And he took over right around when we built the XXXX, so he probably took over around in the 85/86. Hey XXXX (he's asking someone in the background) when did the [] take over the dock? You know – 85, 86, 87? Yeah probably 85. So when Ernie took over, he wanted to start to handle the process self-forward, to control what went where, to keep markets in NY and Philly up. So we just bid...hey prices are down or up to day cause it's up in the air, fishermen come in, they pile it in there, and it goes to the floor. So then Viking Village started to buy the product from the boat, and then we moved it around. So that's where we are now where we have a bigger dock crew, and more sales, and more receivables, because everything is following through this door where we're selling everything and shipping it out.

RES: How's it going out? Is it all going out fresh now, or how is it going out?

INT: We send out everything fresh. We freeze very little bit of products. You've got some frozen product but very little bit.

RES: But where does it go? Still the same places or...

INT: It still goes to NY; it still goes to Philly. Something spilled [] much, you know, not much.

RES: You guys have more control over it now?

INT: Totally. I mean we're selling to little guys, we're selling to the mid-west, we're selling to Maryland, we're selling to New Bedford, we're selling stuff to the west coast, we've got stuff going to Japan, Korea, so we see that there's a lot of product being moved around there to try to optimize dollars. And it's working. I mean we do pretty well.

RES: How's the relationship overall now between the dock and the fleet?

INT: Pretty good. The unfortunate part is \$ wise, at our dock, we can't pay you same day. We can't pay you in 3 days. We've got to wait till all the information's in, so we got to sell it all, its all got to wash and get out here the variances, price it, get the ticket in the system, look at the averages, and pay the boat. So we really don't pay for 2 weeks. And I'm sure most of the fishermen would like not to see that, but, you know, you could do that. You could go get paid the same day in New Bedford – probably the same day in Cape May, probably a little less. But you know I live in [] island, you know what I mean. I don't live in New Bedford. There's no place like home, so...

RES: What do you mean?

INT: Well there's a trade off to me as an owner. I live down the street, so I could walk to my house right now. If I left now, I'd be at my house in less than a minute. My boat's right here, so I mean there's something to be said about having my boat in New Bedford. []

RES: And that's the price you pay in having to wait two weeks...

INT: So be it. Build it into your system; you know what I mean.

RES: [] paid every two weeks.

INT: So that's [] You're luck if you get your []. But the relationship between the dock and the boats, most of the time it's good because, I think, are cognizant that this facility isn't here to rip them off and steal all their money, because the owners of this facility, they're here because they're into it. I mean the owners are in there middle 70's. And they've just spent all this money rebuilding a dock. You know, these owners could have said see you don't want to be you guys, get the hell out of here, it's sold, stuck 10 million bucks in their pocket or whatever the real estate value, and their off set. But they didn't, because they're into this whole...

RES: []

INT: Definitely. Community, up and coming jobs, fishermen, employing all of these people, so I think most of the fishermen are cognizant of that. Although times, you know, when things aren't going good, you want to bitch and moan and, you know, ah you fucked me on the price, you know. So you hear some of that, but I think everybody is pretty much...

RES: On the whole...

INT: When to have a place to tie up, don't think that that's not a huge factor as a commercial fleet. Hey what happens right now if they do say, hey this place is sold? New owners come in and say listen, we're building condos and Ferris wheels or whatever – everybody out. Where are these 30 boats going to go? Where? It's scary; you know what I mean. And there's less and less firms for commercial facilities. So I think they're aware of that and kind of happy to be able to have, you know, a nice sheltered harbor. We're not in the middle of Point Pleasant inlet with [] coming in so...

RES: Speaking of, sorry, infrastructure and services of how those have changed over the years that you've been involved?

INT: Available infrastructure and services?

RES: Yeah.

INT: What infrastructure?

RES: Docks, have those changed? The amount of places selling ice or selling, you know, services, or welders or shit like that. I mean just the whole background that supports the fishery.

INT: Yeah, we're kind of unique. We're not like the Cape May or New Bedford where it's big business, you know. We do a lot of our own work; our guys do a lot of their own work. Our dock has been rebuilt, so that's a good thing. I mean it was falling apart. It wasn't built for the steel boats; it was built for tiny little skips, you know, a hundred years ago, so that helps. Our docking facility has grown, and it's better than it ever was. It's to accommodate all these new boats.

Tape cuts for a second

INT: Most all boats leave here and get hauled out at other places. This town can't haul harvest of any of these boats. Some small gill-netters are hauling here.

RES: So for anything major, they...

INT: The bigger boats, the bigger boats. Bigger boat's haul outs are all done out of town. Most of the smaller boats, the fiberglass boats, they can do it in town. I'm talking, you know, 50-footers and less – fireboats – they can haul out in town. Other than [] of that, we have diesel companies. It stays the same, I mean the availability is there, you know what I mean, to get work done on your boat.

RES: Ok, so it really hasn't gone down or up?

INT: I don't think so. I don't think so.

RES: I'd like you to get back to your work pretty soon, but just moving on to this last page there. The question was, we kind of talked about this a little earlier, are there any fisheries that regulations or any other factors have caused you to stop participating? I mean you mentioned that other people had gotten out of there...

INT: Personally no. Personally no, cause I've been in the scallop business for 20 years. Actually, yeah, the scallop business for a time. I, in the mid 90's in 94, 95, and 96, I was doing some research work with companies like a company who would win a bid to core sample for the Corps of engineers. I bid my boat out to that company, and captained it to go down and do 2 weeks of core sampling at X amount of \$ a day.

RES: Does that pay more than the scalloping?

INT: I was hoping it would. The scallop, we were in tough shape if you wanted to make a living scallop fishing. It was tough.

RES: Was that regulations or was that just cause the scallops were so shitty.

INT: Now resource was so shitty - so shitty. And they were just so shitty and there was limited days on top of that. In those days, with my boat, with a 1000hp, 2 15-foot dredges, I couldn't go catch 400-pounds of scallops bait fishing in 36 hours dock to dock. Now you've got a 35-foot boat with a little tiny 8-foot dredge, and he goes out and catches 400-pounds in 12 hours tops. You know what I mean. And we also, for six months, I didn't scallop, and we were hired by the NTSB to recover TWA flight 800. That helped catapult that company through a bad time. We got some money, and then we got catapulted when fishing got better. So that kind of was a...

RES: Bridge for you yeah?

INT: There's no question about it.

RES: And you've got two...what category scallop permits are they?

INT: Full-time.

RES: Full-time, both of them?

INT: Both.

RES: Ok, I thought on separate vessels...

INT: Yeah.

RES: Ok. So you had two vessels at that time that were...

INT: No, no, no just one - the XXXX

RES: Ok, how did you get the second one?

INT: We bought the permit. We bought the permit, and then we bought a boat to match the permit.

RES: And when you say we, you mean your company?

INT: One boat I have 3 partners, and the other boat I have 3 partners. One partner is the same. He's a guy who owns the []. So we bought that right before they went crazy, you know. We probably bought a permit for \$70,000.

RES: What would you say it is now ballpark?

INT: \$700,000 in 5 years. And that's all due to the fishery. The fishery [] the price of that permit.

RES: Is that with the vessel?

INT: No.

RES: That's just permit?

INT: Right. Now in 1988, that permit was free.

RES: That's amazing.

INT: Now what did that do to the fishery? I mean that prevents entry to...

INT: Absolutely. Well it's limited access. There's a moratorium; there's no new entry.

RES: So it's a limited economic aspect too. I mean not everybody has \$700,000.

INT: Absolutely; no question about it. Big nuts can get into it; you're right. And that prevents a young... maybe that prevents some young guys, some young good guys, who are saying let me get... I'm going to get in there, I'm going to save my money, I'm going to learn how to do this, I'm going to get my own boat. Maybe those smart guys who did that 20 years ago now say, I'm going to go back to school because where am I going to get a 1.5 million to do this; you know what I mean? So maybe that prevents talent, is my point, from being around.

RES: Yeah, well I would imagine that that would dissuade a lot of people. \

INT: Especially the people with the, you know, the drive to want to really move through this rather than just the guys who buy a pair of boots and get a paycheck and see if they'll...you know what I mean. And that might not be a good thing.

RES: How do you mean, because they're weeding off the top of the...

INT: Yeah, you're not getting the good clientele on these boats. You are for \$ wise, but not for the future of the fishery. So what happens when all of the captains now leave when they're old? Where is the new crop of skippers (382)(?) coming from in this rack, you know. Who has best interest? So there's some...some of my philosophy is hey, you've got a good guy, you have to cut him in and give a piece of the pie to keep him here – to keep him interested, you know.

RES: For the future.

INT: Definitely.

RES: You mentioned a couple of fisheries that don't, that no longer, exist because of regulations. I mean not that they...

INT: Shads

RES: Shads>

(?)(phone rings)(385)

INT: They call it an intercept fishery, so [] our guys intercept these fish when they're on the way out of the river through the ocean and then back to another river to spawn or whatever. I mean intercept fishery, doesn't that sound bad? You know what I mean? Doesn't that sound like you're doing something wrong?

RES: Intercept...

INT: What fishermen is not going to intercept a fish. This is bullshit; you know what I mean. So now you can catch it down in the river here or wherever, but you can't...our guys caught a handful. There was a three week a year fishery, absolutely no basis to shut that fishery down, but you know ASMFC I think that did that. I mean we've got a wide [] too. Even with the weak fish, they don't see the whole new crop of weak fish coming up, they don't know who's eating the weakfish, you know. It isn't right...

RES: What is it like sharing off the shad or the...

INT: Yeah, I mean I've seen fisheries that are closed, you know, most all of them are restricted by time, by opening and closures, by size, so to some degree, you know, completely shut down? Yeah dogfish was shut down. Now they're giving you some bycatch. Who's going to go catch 300 pounds of dogfish at 20 cents a pound, you know, who's going to do that? You can't, so it's basically closed. Shads closed. And a lot of these other fisheries are intermittently closed. Look at monk fish, you know, it's always limited to the point...hey listen, monk fishing 8 years ago, 5 years ago, I was day scalloping man. I wasn't []. That was a gold rush. Shit, now they're regulating that to where, you know what, some guys still make a decent living monk fishing on their days at sea with their limits. []. I can get a 1000\$ a day scalloping. I can go every frigging day. Ok. And we've got to get away from losing our train of thought, because it's...I mean

that's my point where I say we need more regulation or at least [sound] regulation. This day scallop fishery [].

RES: So what would make a fundamentally sound regulation? I mean what do you exchange other than the general category...

INT: You know, you got user groups on councils that have best []. Then you've got a council process where people sitting up as council are lobbying for their own position – for their own peoples' position.

RES: And that's bad?

INT: I would think so. You know what I mean. I don't think that council process, myself, I think it's []. I think it's bullshit – both of them. I mean you've got a council in New England running scallop that most of that fishing now is occurring mid-Atlantic, and not one scallop guy is on that council – not one guy! Not one guy.

RES: So what does that do? Does that cause problems for you?

INT: I think it makes for a pretty biased council myself.

RES: I mean do you find that their regulations are anti-scallops, or how do you mean that that's...

INT: Well for me as a scalloper, I think that the councils mindset is screw you guys. You've been kicking ass for six years; you've got enough - let them share it with the other guys.

RES: That's why...

INT: We're bad guys, because we have too much. No one remembers 88-9....you know what I mean.

RES: And you see that though in the general category...

INT: I see that bias for that general category, because I think that that's a [] for ground fishermen. You know, don't...hey we've taken so much of the ground fish; we don't want to take this away too, so now they're doing 400-pounds a day. I mean there's lots of different things. I think that fisheries management is definitely not []. It's come a long way, but we've [] make it work.

RES: That sounds like a good note to...

INT: I mean, you know, we have intervened, and it continues to lobby to higher levels of the council process to get things squared []. I mean we've went as far as, through amendment 10, they were...this is real good. They...limited access boats...

RES: This is amendment 10 to the...

INT: Scallopers. Limited access boats, historically since 1994 when limited access occurred, they said ok you have this general category that you can catch 400-pounds. Now they did that for the boats in Maine for some boats that didn't meet the requirements of getting a limited access permit. Scalloping wasn't very good, so nobody was going to go general category other than maybe some limited access boats who are now on days at sea that were trying to hedge their year. So we did.

RES: Can you explain that a little bit more?

INT: Limited access boats with a fulltime permit had 200 days, that were use to fishing 300, fished their 200, and now went out general category fishing.

RES: SO you can get an additional general category on top of your limited...

INT: They're like one in the same. If you did have a limited access permit, you had to get a general category. If you had a limited access permit, you had both.

RES: You had both, ok.

INT: And that still is like that.

RES: Ok, so you actually get another 400-pounds on top of whatever you're allowed for your ...

INT: If you had the gumption to go do it, but keep in mind, 400-pounds for a 100-foot boat, it's not, at 5 dollars a pound, you're keeping your crew alive. You're not making any money. But we thought we'd keep our crew around instead of closing down. We don't have unemployment, so we'll keep our crew – we'll keep everything rolling; you know what I mean. So some activity on limited access boats doing gen cat. And that was probably the only gen cat fishing occurring between 94 and 2000. And it was very limited. Well once fishing got good in ways, little guys started doing that. You know, we were continuing to do it, but we almost, even though it was good, we weren't even doing it as much because we were doing so good limited access fishing. We didn't have to go; we were just really filling some times – days, Christmas, go do seven and give the crew a paycheck for Christmas. When Am. 10 came in, the language was to take all of us out. No more limited access gen cat. No more boats holding a limited access permit could gen cat fish.

RES: So what year did that happen?

INT: When did amendment 10 go through? Last year? Two years ago? So we fought that tooth and nail at the council, at the council process, at the council level; they didn't even want to hear us – nothing. I mean just sit down. They were driving that through because we were getting our hands slapped. We had enough; how dare you. I'm not thinking about now; I'm thinking about in 10 years when all of the gen cat boats are gone because the resource is down, and it's knocked down to 80 days, and there's just allotment for gen cat – no one's doing it – I'm going to be out

of it. And I don't want to be out of it. I want to be able to go do that so I can still survive. I'm thinking about then, so we fought the...and we went head of NMFS, and we went to the Secretary in Commerce, and that provision was fixed on the Amendment – one of the only two. So we beat the council on that, and they're not happy about that.

RES: So you still have that capacity to do that?

INT: Yep, which I think is important not for today, I mean listen most limited access guys aren't going out and pounding away on gen cat. We're doing a little tiny bit at of, you know, we're doing 30 days a year, whatever. And basically, I think it's something for me in my pocket for the future when this bubble pops, because years ago....

RES: [] You'll keep your presence there, you'll have it in the future?

INT: Absolutely, when I really need it, when the limited access goes down to 60 days and they're catching probably anything at then, and I'll be able to go pop a couple of gen cat's out and pay the crew to keep them enticed to still stay around. So I think that's important. And management needs to start to look at things like that.

RES: What do you mean? Things like what?

INT: Well I mean, I did it historically. I mean listen, there's gen cat's...for ten years, historically, I'm the guy who did it, and now you're throwing me out. When have you ever based a management plan on something like that? Usually you reward the guy with history, you know. So we'll see. In 20 years, hopefully I won't have to worry about it – my kid will.

RES: One of the questions we ask is what do you see in 20-years?

INT: Probably a very limited business of feast or famine. Look at it right now around here; there's something going on. A little bit of day scalloping []. If it wasn't for that, we would have []. Everything's geared up so it's 100% and then nothing – derby fisheries. I don't know where it's going to be in twenty years. I mean let me tell you though, 10 years ago, I didn't think it would be any good now, and I've never made any more money in my life. If I had to predict, fishing []. There's a lot...I think we need to also wake the country up to this environmental pressure. It's just not business not involved, it's a lot of businesses are...hey look, we've got to...

RES: You mean misplaced environmental pressure?

INT: We've got to be stewards of our ocean and our land and our thing, but we got more people on this planet than we've ever had, and everyone's got to live, so you've got to be realistic. There's not a whole lot of environmentalists out there that are broke, you know what I mean. They're all very wealthy people. So do as I say not as I did, you know what I mean. And we've got to be careful....so you set?

RES: I'm good man.