

Interview with: John Jeffrey Good
Occupation: Fisherman
Port Community: Plymouth, Massachusetts
Interviewer: Samantha Sperry
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Oral Histories Project – NOAA Social Sciences
Logger/Transcriber: Samantha Sperry
INDEX (minutes: seconds)

[00:00]

SS: For the record, my name is Samantha Sperry It is February 16th, and we are on Jeff's boat, the *Alosa*, and to begin can you please start out by stating your name, residential address, homeport, vessel name, if you are in a sector or common pool, and how old you are?

JG: Alrighty, my name is John Jeffery Good, I live in Plymouth, Mass, 204 Black Cat Road, I am in a sector, I am an inactive sector guy, I'll explain that in a bit and I hated the sector so I got out so anyways that's my information, so what else did you ask me?

SS: How old you are?

JG: 54, I'll be 55 in a couple of months, double nickel, been at this action my whole god damn life, my whole life, since I was like 16 so I have been at it for what? 39 years, I have been at it 39 years.

SS: And, where are you from, how long have you been here, and can you just tell me a little bit about your family if you have kids?

JG: Sure, I was born in Wolfberry, Pennsylvania, my dad was in the Air Force. Then we moved to Otis when I was just a kid and my dad liked the waterfront area in Plymouth, so chose to come to Plymouth. And so, when me and my brother saw the waterfront that was the end of that. He wanted us to become accountants, and we saw the water and we said, "No, we are going fishing". So he was pissed about that, he didn't like that at all. Anyways, I got married when I was young, about 23 years old when I got married, no children, but now I am remarried and have a home here in Plymouth for 20 years or so, and still at the fishing with nobody to hand it down to fortunately.

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about your educational background?

JG: Yup, I went to college for, well I did high school, full college prep high school, and then I went to college for a year down at Roger Williams College right there in Rhode Island, for architecture. Didn't like that, not at all, so my brother had already been fishing for a bit, [and] then went to school for half a year or year, and I was already older than the kids that were in

there so that kept me out. Plus, I was making money, making money [compared] to not making it so I said, "I've got to go back." So I did.

SS: Can you tell me a little bit more about your family members' involvement in the fisheries like when you guys got involved, and what types of fishing you have done, and whether it be inshore or offshore and has this changed?

JG: Well, we have done everything, offshore, inshore, swordfishing. My brother started out, he's two or three years older than me, so he started it. He bought this boat when he was young, and then he went big and he bought a 90 footer. [He] did that for several years, made a lot of money doing that then he went to a 120 footer and then that was his demise. He found alcohol and got all banged up on booze. But anyways, we have done everything, offshore, inshore. I kept this [boat] throughout the whole thing, but we have done all types of fishing except for pots, because we hate lobstermen and people that fish with hooks. No lies, so I just stayed in the small boat bracket and Charlie went big, and I'm glad I didn't because I like the one man. I do this by myself. I like the one man deal, don't have to put up with any BS from deckhands because there was a lot of BS on big boats, you can imagine the drugs and the people that you have to hire.

[04:12]

SS: So you don't fish with a crew, but have you ever fished with crews?

JG: Yeah, the most you have on a boat like this is one other, but back when you could fish like we were able to, you had to have a person because the volume of fish you caught was a lot. Then, when the regulations started coming in like day fishing only here in state waters we couldn't change at night, hence the folksol change over. So, what's the sense in paying somebody when I can do it myself? If I can go out and catch 1,000 pounds a day myself and keep all the cake, I'd be foolish not to.

SS: So when you fished with crew where would you say most of them came from and would you say this has changed, competency wise?

JG: They were all Plymouthians, locals, what do you mean by competency wise?

SS: I have just heard from a couple other guys that it's just really hard to get a good crewmember.

JG: Absolutely positively. Years ago, it wasn't hard because people, well I don't really know what the answer to that would be. Actually, I had a friend, a woman working with me for 10 years - she was the best worker I have ever seen, and bar none she was awesome. She could lift anything, she could do anything. She was great, but yeah I think nowadays it would be hard and I couldn't hire a kid on here because I don't think kids are the same like they used to be. It may sound like a cliché but I see it around here, the workers aren't the same, especially knowing

that no one could compare to that woman; she could kick their ass. I'm telling you it was unbelievable, she kicked mine a couple of times.

SS: That's awesome.

JG: Yeah it was.

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about your neighborhood, would you describe it as a fishing community, and why did you choose to live there?

JG: It actually is a fishing community. I lived right down the road here so I was close to the dock. Then I moved about 10 years ago, and my neighbors are lobstermen. I had two neighbors that are lobstermen, and my other neighbor, he is a recreational guy, so Plymouth is based around the water, you know? Of course, it's not all working, but there are plenty of fishermen here.

SS: How would you say that fishing is viewed by the community?

JG: Favorably, I think so.

SS: Do you hang out with or socialize with other fishermen and their families and are they mostly groundfishermen or involved in a variety of fisheries?

JG: Yeah, they are all groundfishermen, there won't be any others especially the user group as I explained earlier. I lie a little bit though, I can be friends with the guys on the dock if they are lobstermen, but truly I hate what they do.

[06:52]

SS: Have you or your family changed long-term life plans over the past few years, and have these changes occurred because of the fishing industry?

JG: No. I don't think so, nope.

SS: In your opinion what were the best years for the fishing industry?

JG: I fished through the late 70's, which were great, the 80's were great. I think in the 90's when things started to fail, the regulations, I've got to admit the fishing crashed and the regulations got strict, then the regulations actually brought fish back. That would have been, that started in what I would say the early 90's.

SS: Do you think the industry has changed since sectors began?

JG: Absolutely, it's gone right down the toilet. Already is. You've probably talked to 3 or 4 of these other Plymouth guys, you see that it is ruining people left and right.

SS: Would you say that your quality of life is better or worse since sector management started?

JG: 10 million times worse.

SS: What kind of advice would you give somebody starting out today?

JG: Don't do it. Go to school and don't go to URI.

SS: Ouch!

JG: I only say that because of fishing, don't go to fisheries school, I'm only teasing.

SS: Do you fish on a day boat, or a trip boat?

JG: Now a day boat, single-handed, by myself. I keep all the money; it's the only way I can make it.

SS: But did you used to fish for multiple days?

JG: I have done it all.

SS: On this?

JG: Yeah, we used to call it a day night and a day. 2 days and a night with two guys, me and my brother would do that or me and that woman would, then the state said that no more fishing at night, you could only go a half hour before sun up and a half hour after sundown. That was your days you could be fishing in state waters, where most of my... probably 85 percent of my fishing on the *Alosa* would be in state waters fishing, or was.

Then once they instituted that law, "See you later deck hand", you know? So that ruined somebody else. She really loved fishing, which I know she did. She got kind of canned for basically those reasons where I couldn't keep her anymore, I couldn't do it, you know, because I used to be able to afford her insurance, I had health insurance for her, and then once all these regs came around I couldn't afford to pay her health insurance, and so forth. We talked about it and she said well, I'll just go do something else. Now she's a bartender and she hates it, hates it so it's pretty sad to think about.

[09:36]

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about your sector, how many members are in the sector, your position, how many boats?

JG: I am on the Board of Director's in Sector 10. I think it's like the second to the smallest sector and I think there are 16, 16 or 13 sectors. I'm not sure. It ranged from Scituate, Brant Rock, Plymouth, Sandwich and P-town and I don't really know how many members. I'm going to say around 30 boats, I think.

SS: How about the allocation, like the sector allocation and your allocation?

JG: My allocation was peanuts, and I hated the thought.... Here's where my story comes into play. I hated the thought of sectors. I hated the thought of allocation and when we all opened up our envelopes and saw our pittance, I had 30,600 pounds to catch annually, at two dollars a pound. It's not enough to even survive. So a guy here in Plymouth, and I'll go back to state waters. I fished state waters here for most of my life, you know 85%. So I knew that I wanted to fish state waters, I knew that I wanted to continue fishing, but I certainly didn't want to continue under the sector regime at all, I wanted out. From the VMS to the computer things, all the things that you have been hearing about, and all this crap we had to do.

So a guy here in Plymouth was working on his scallop boat here called the *Distant Cries*, Paul Pinto he was probably 56 or 57 years old, scalloping with his boat, and he and his son would go out - he has two sons, sometimes both sons would work, most of the time his stepson would work with him. He goes out fishing, scalloping and the rake got hung up on the side of his boat, and pulled a pulley out of the deck and hit him in the top of the head and blew his head, basically the top of his head off. He lived on the boat for about 45, maybe 35 to 45, minutes and died in front of his kid while fishing so it was unbelievable. So of course we helped the kids out [to] do whatever we can and then after the smoke cleared I said to the blood son, "Hey Chris, do you want to sell your dad's boat? I know you guys probably don't want to fish on it, your dad just died on it but I've really got to be honest with you, I want your state permit, that's what I'm after because that's what I want because I already have a boat." So the kids didn't even want to be on the boat, it was sinking at the dock and it was just horrible.

And at the time, sectors had just come into play, and I went out twice under the sector bologna doing the 'call in' and the 'call out' and all of the different stuff and I said, "Frigg this, I can't do it. I can't do that." So the boys finally decided to let me buy that permit and boat, [and] that took about 6 months to get all of the permitting correct. So then I bought the boat, hauled it out, crushed it up and put it in dumpsters and got rid of it so that the kids didn't have to see it, and I put the state permit on here. With the state permit, it allowed me to fish state waters only but I had to take my federal permit, my sector permit, and put it on another boat, and with the way the laws are I was able to put it on a skiff. I live on a pond here in Plymouth and I have a little skiff, this is the craziest thing I have ever heard. You can take a federal permit you can stick it on an aluminum piece of shit little boat that you and I wouldn't even want, it leaks, it's a piece of crap.

And it took me, oh I don't know, say three weeks to convince the state that to have a state permit, groundfish permit, you cannot have any federal permits attached to this boat, the *Alosa*. So I put it in cyberspace. I should have said this first; I put the permit in cyberspace so to

speak. It's called 'confirmation of permit history' which put my sector permit in the internet world, say out in space, and when I went to go get mine off the state permit they said, "No you can't have that" and that's when I went to the skiff. I had to get the green police to check my skiff, give me the registration and all of that. But in any case, my federal permit is on that skiff, covered with leaves; its got moss and crap in it in my yard, and I hold 39,600 pounds on that skiff permit which I lease that weight to Jimmy Keding and Steve Welsh who own the *Mystic*.

So my bonus lies where I am able to have my federal permit with my measly 39,600 pounds and let them lease it at an annual rate say like 80 cents to a dollar a pound. Then I can go back to where my life was fun fishing, back to the way I liked it in state waters without the VMS, without the computer, the weight, I forget the name of that thing, the horrific computer thing that the sectors made you get on the computer, and back to the way I was maybe 20 years ago although I do have weight allocations per state. That's fine, I don't have a problem with that [and], it's great for conservation and I can make a dollar with that. I can actually go on vacation at the end of the year instead of starting.

So in essence, that's what happened to me, but I had to get that advantage. You can't get that groundfish endorsement from the state at all, they [are] done passing them out, so I actually had to wait for someone to die to get a hold of that permit so that I could be in the world that I want to be in. Everybody that's here, all of these small boats, some of them didn't see it coming. And I think I saw it coming. At least I made the right... in my world. These guys... "Well how come you want that state permit? What are you doing, you want to be restricted to state law?" I said, "Yeah, I want that state permit and I'm getting it." I paid double what it was worth to get it and these guys are like, "You're crazy" and now they are not saying I'm crazy.

[15:50]

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about your involvement in the sector, like when, how and why did you join, and was the process pretty easy or was it difficult?

JG: I had to join because I had a federal permit, so anybody that had a federal permit really had to join. There was no other way unless you went to the common pool, which is stupid. Unless you didn't have any weight, but I had the 39,000, which is unbelievably, more than a lot of these other guys have. But in any case, all of that transpired, as my story goes, that when this fellow died and I wanted that permit, fortunately I was able to get out of the sector actively within 6 months of the sector beginning. I'm psyched about that; I hate the sectors. Sectors I think are terrible, putting down businesses so.

SS: Can you describe what your typical day looks like, when do you start and end and how your day functions in relation to your involvement in the sector or how it functioned before sectors?

JG: I think now my story is going to be different than anybody that's in the sector, because now my life is evolved, revolved around the state permit so I don't fish sectors any longer. I am an inactive member only because I have that permit on that skiff, that muddy shitty skiff in my

yard. And me personally, as a Boarder of Director [member], I'm not really sure why I'm in that position because I'm not that up on it, I don't have to be brushed up on all of the regs anymore because I don't apply there anymore. I'm not working under federal requirements, so, that's kind of my story, so anything to do with sectors for me businesswise is really non-existent.

SS: So when you were working with the sector, did they assist you with anything or provide you with insurance, support groups, representation anything like that?

JG: I think I [would] like our sector, if I was still in it. I like all of the guys that are in it. Our sector manager [is] an ace, he is great. He is very helpful. He's like, "This is all new to everyone." And me, that wasn't really brushed up on a lot of things, he could sit you down and teach you in a minute what you needed to know. That was great, but like I say, I only spoke with him, I only had 3 trips, 3 day trips in the sector, so I only had that many reports to make and I only had to pay minimal amount of money in the sector, I think its 4 cents a pound so my interaction as a sector member was super duper small, 3 days worth or something.

SS: Do you think that other fishermen feel the same way that you do about sectors?

JG: Absolutely, yeah. I think that anybody in our Sector 10 [that] says that they like it is lying. I know they are because they are crazy, because really, there may be one or two people in the sector that like it and its only because they have a lot of allocation and the only way you can like a sector is if you have got 100- or 150,000 pounds and I think that there might be one or two of those guys but you never see them at meetings or hearings or anything like that because... I guess I'll take back my answer there might be maybe 2 that might be happy with it.

SS: What do you think the pros and cons are of sectors?

JG: I think if you had a lot of weight, it's good. I would hate to know how I would act if I had 150,000 pounds. Maybe I would have stayed but I would have felt greedy because other guys only have 15-, 17-, 20,000 pounds but it goes by your history so it's tough to say. If I had 200,000 pounds, I might not even go fishing. I would just lease it and do, I don't know, what I would do? Good question.

SS: What do you think about other sectors? Do you think that they are successful, operating better or worse than your sector?

[20:14]

JG: I think so, I think there is - I don't know the name or number of the sectors - but you've got the big boats that have the allocation; it's all about allocation. So if there is a sector out there that has big boats then they have got 2- or 3- or 400,000 pounds then I'm sure they are loving it. I'm sure their sector is alive with money too because it goes by the pound, the more allocation the more you have to pay, I think its 4 cents a pound or something. So if these guys have 400,000 pounds times 4 cents, what's that? 16 grand goes right to the sector?

SS: What do you think motivates people to stay in the sector?

JG: You have to. I think you have to. Again, I'm not brushed up on it all the way. I couldn't wait to get out, like I said, it took a death to get out.

SS: Have you changed how you fish since joining sectors?

JG: Yeah, through the state, the state thing I'm explaining. If I was still in it I would be really pissed, really angry, probably a lot more gray hair than I have. I would be bullshit.

SS: Do you have health insurance, boat insurance? And has this changed for you since sectors began?

JG: I have health insurance. The only reason I have health insurance is because my wife is a nurse, and I get her health insurance. I used to have Fisherman's Partnership Health Insurance and that was like 5- or 600 bucks a month for a single guy and then I got on Joanne's insurance, which was huge. My boat's too old to have insurance; my boats 73 years old, people laugh at me when I try to get it [insured].

SS: Really?

JB: Oh yeah, your boat is what? [It is a] 73-year-old fiberglass over wood [boat]. They say, "Yeah that's no good either." So I have an uninsured boat so I gamble every day, but that's my choice and I'm okay with that.

SS: Do you think that being in a sector has influenced your friendships or interactions with other fishermen?

JG: No, I don't think so. I think if anything it has an effect on our friendship but if anything it's made some people really unhappy so you are dealing with friends, with people that aren't as happy as they were, like Jimmy. He would run around here happy as a clam singing and jumping around and now his heads down. He sold his boat, but they are still my friends; they're not happy friends anymore.

SS: How often do you interact with other sector members?

JG: I don't really, well I do, I don't even know. I don't interact with them because they are in a sector or not. I interact with them because I did in the past.

SS: So would you say it's more of a friendship thing rather than working together in the sector?

JG: Yeah, sectors haven't affected me in anyway like that, anyway, shape or form.

SS: So would you consider other sector members as friends?

JG: Sure, yeah.

[23:19]

SS: Have sectors changed the dynamics in your port?

JG: Yeah, absolutely. The common pool has ruined two boats, yeah it's ruined them, and it's ruined the Plymouth port.

SS: Are there common pool members still around?

JG: Yeah, Tim Barrett, he's common pool but he wants to join the sector but he's only got like 7,000 pounds of fish or something, it's stupid. The common pool is worse than entering your 7,000 pounds in the sector, if you can believe that.

SS: Has shore-side infrastructure changed in the last two years?

JG: Absolutely, it's gone, yeah it's gone. Plymouth only has 2 active boats [down] from 30.

SS: Do you think that that is a result of sectors?

JG: Absolutely, yeah.

SS: Based on your experience in sectors would you recommend other fishermen to join?

JG: No. Absolutely not.

SS: Are you involved in the fishing community at all?

JG: As a fisherman, yeah. I am the fisherman, I am the fishing community; there's only two or three of us.

SS: I mean as in fundraisers and meetings?

JG: Yeah, I would say, it's not like we have a structured program on any of these things but whenever there's an event. Like Ron got hurt two years ago, you know we helped with that. All of the fishermen banded together and had fundraisers for him

SS: Yeah, that's crazy he told me about that.

JG: That was wicked. He's my sisters guy, you know, he lives with my sister so yeah as a fishing community we stick together, and help each other but we don't really have events per say.

SS: How about in the wider community, town council or anything like that?

JG: No, no. I attend meetings and so forth with the town, like we are fighting for a new dock, stuff like that.

SS: How do you get paid?

JG: From the fish buyer?

SS: In general, how do you make your money?

JG: Selling the catch, on a daily basis, I have to take the catch out every day. I'm allowed 250 pounds of blackback flounders, 250 pounds of yellowtail flounders, up to 800 pounds of cod and up to 2,000 pounds of grey sole and that has to be off the boat every day. So my point is, Jimmy Keding's truck comes at the end of the day, takes off my average 8- or 900 pounds a day, gets shipped to Boston, and I deal with one buyer, or I have been and every day, or every day that I do fish, it's weighed and it's auction priced and I get a check everyday for that. I get a check every day that I fish, so if it's in the summer time I'll get 4 or 5 checks a week for the days that I worked.

SS: Has your income increased or decreased since sectors?

JG: I'm not in the sectors anymore. I'm sure it would have decreased dramatically because the expenses that the sector incurs, the 4 cents a pound you have to pay for the manager, I know it would have decreased. I think going to the state fishery that I did was probably the best move that I had to make.

SS: How are earnings distributed in your family? Like what percentage do you contribute, what percentage does your spouse contribute and have sectors changed this?

JG: I don't know. I mean, I have done better this past year; I have done better with the state thing. Joanne and I, we split the bills as best we can, with 50/50 I suppose you can say. This is the first year of me having money in say 5 years. I really didn't have any money. I basically worked day by day and at that point we were 50/50.

[27:42]

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about leasing; I know you said that you lease your permit?

JG: My annual allocation, that's my bonus. That's my bonus of getting out of the sector and putting my federal permit on that little shitty pond skiff. I am still able to get, that's my 39,600 pounds until the rest, until the government takes it away probably. So my bonus is I can lease that out so what we do is I lease it to my friend here in Plymouth to keep my weight here in

sector 10. I could lease it for more money if I put it out to all of the sectors and get a bid per say and get a dollar ten a dollar twenty per pound, maybe, but I prefer to keep my friends in my sector hopefully alive by leasing it to them at a lesser rate.

SS: Has your general outlook on life and wellbeing changed for the better or worse since sectors began?

JG: Way worse, way worse.

SS: Can you tell me a little bit about how your life has changed as a result of that?

JG: Well, it changed for me because I had to get out. My answers are all going to be about getting out of the sector just for a better way of life, just for a better, having a better perspective on fishing, get away from the crap, the regs.

SS: So since you have gotten out of sectors would you say that you are a little bit happier now?

JG: Absolutely, a million times happier.

SS: With sectors in place do you think the future of fisheries is brighter or less bright?

JG: Dim, as dim as you can get. Desperately dim.

SS: Has there been a concentration of quota ownership by state, region, or community members?

JG: In certain sectors absolutely, big boat sectors I believe are going to, are obviously going to win because the smaller boats are going to sell out, and the persons that are going to be able to buy them are the guys that have the money and that sector will grow.

SS: Who is included or excluded under sectors, certain communities or geographic regions, different size vessels?

JG: I don't know exactly. I think it more turned out to be regional, you know its geographical, you know if you wanted to be in the sector then that was your alternative to being in or out and you could join sectors in other geographical regions but I think it stayed geographical.

SS: What happens to the people that leave the fishery?

[30:36]

JG: I don't know, they get jobs, bang nails is that what you mean? Get other jobs? Desperately reaching for work, truck driving, banging nails something less than what they want to do for sure.

SS: Do you think that sectors have influenced safety at sea; people take more risks or less risks?

JG: Definitely more risk, and less safety. This guy in front of us, Tim, he says that with sectors he doesn't even have enough money to maintain his boat, doesn't even have enough money to get his lifeboat inspected, doesn't have enough money to do this, doesn't have enough money to do that, doesn't even have enough money to paint it and haul it. He made a valid point at a meeting recently that he is on the verge of going under financially and what kind of problems he is going to have with an un-maintained boat, un-maintained safety equipment. He's a perfect example.

SS: Can you [tell] us a little bit about how sectors may have influenced how you view your relationship to the resource?

JG: Yeah, the sectors have wiped out Stellwagen Bank. Boats from other communities who weren't, when we had a weight limit of 800 pounds a day for codfish, Stellwagen Bank was rebuilding cod and all of the other flatfish as well. And once these sectors came into play and these big boats had big allocations, they would come into Stellwagen and they cleaned it up, it's mopped up so yeah, it's humongous-ly affected.

SS: Is participation in decision-making or management changed in your community? Do you think people are more or less involved in meetings and the Council and things that relate to the fishery?

JG: I think people are bummed out, yeah, I think there is a lot less. People have been so mortified, so inundated with meetings. There are meetings and meetings; everyone is just sick of them, we aren't getting anywhere. Me included, I am not a meeting guy, I hate them.

SS: Do you think that these things that you have done have made a difference, do you think that they have heard you?

JG: Absolutely not, absolutely not.

SS: Are these regulations becoming easier to understand or harder?

JG: Much harder, much harder. You need a secretary, you do, I do. I mean I consider myself a bright guy, but I want to be bright about the things that are going to improve my life not the things that are going to give it to me in the backside. So I am very negative about all of it and I don't even really want to learn it, and now I don't have to because I got out.

SS: So what do you think the future holds for fishing in your community?

JG: Dim, it doesn't hold anything. They are dropping like flies. I think that I am going to be the last mobile gear guy. I think in 5 years, if I can still do this, I'll be the last guy, there will be one standing.

[33:30]

SS: Have you or anyone you know experienced any health issues like anxiety, worry stress, relationship problems, substance abuse, etc. that can be attributed to sector management?

JG: Yeah, absolutely. I know two guys I can think of right now, one of them drinks more than he should, we all used to, we all drink, but I think he has probably tripled on that and then another guy takes pills, anxiety pills. Absolutely.

SS: Have you experienced any major life changes that you can attribute in whole or in part to sectors or the general downturn in the economy or a combination of these?

JG: I was daydreaming again, I was thinking about those poor bastards. Can you say that again?

SS: Have you experienced any life changes because of sectors or the general downturn in the economy?

JG: Again, I had to change my fishery. I had to go to that state permit. Huge step. I had to get out of my federal [permit], to be where I want to be and hopefully the state will continue to allow me to do what I do.

SS: If you could go back in time and remove sector management as a tool would you do it and what would you replace it with?

JG: I would just shit-can the sectors and I would just go back to Days at Sea. If I had my way, I would go back to a program that worked and was working and that the fish were re-building. And when we were in Days at Sea, we all thought that this was a horrific thing it was like the last nail in the coffin but little did we know that there was still plenty of nail holes left to still be hammered in. I would definitely go back to Days at Sea with a daily limit [on] catches.

SS: Have you considered returning to the common pool?

JG: Negative, no.

SS: Is there something else about sectors that I have not asked you that you would like to add to the record?

JG: I think it's pretty clear; I think the sectors are junk. A lot of people say that. It's meant [to], it's designed to fail and it absolutely has. It's failing and it will fail; there will be a conglomerate

of companies left that will own all of the permits. In 10 years or more around, big companies will own small permits, they will sell them out, and that's a shame. The small guy will be gone.

SS: Do you think it is becoming more corporate?

JG: Absolutely, it's going to be... there is one guy in New Bedford that has most of the permits. Who knows, if he doesn't die because he smokes cigarettes like a bastard. If he dies, someone is going to inherit all of those permits and if they are savvy, they'll buy the rest of them up.

SS: To conclude, is there something that you would like people to know about your career in fisheries, your views or even a story to share for those in future generations who might read this?

JG: Well, the story is hell, leave it alone. I'm glad conservation came in the 80's because fishing was in dire straits; fishing did get wiped out pretty much. I am glad the government stepped in and started going with mesh size, get the fish back a little bit, the regs were important. Fisheries management has just gone overboard; it's just out of control. Now, instead of saving the fishermen and the fish, they are trying to save the fish and the fishermen are going downhill. So I guess what I would like to say is, it's a shame that they have gone so far and they are so adamant about being so strict and they are even watching these guys go down the tubes and they are still continue to stress more stringent regulations and it's a shame. Basically that's it.

SS: Anything else you would like to say?

JB: Not really, not on tape.

[37:30]

END INTERVIEW