

# Managing the Northern Shrimp Fishery

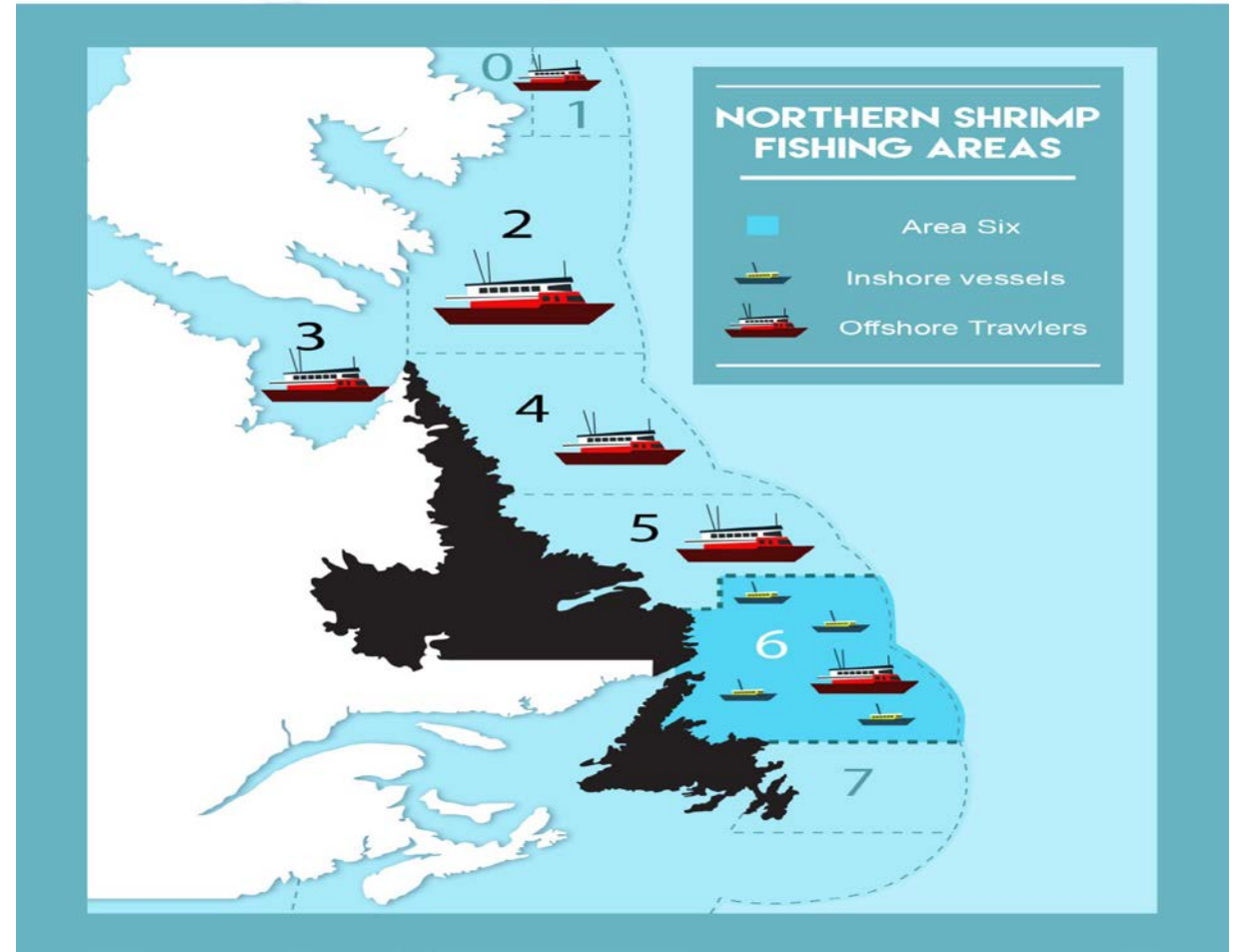
## The Reality and the Plan



**FFAW | UNIFOR**  
Fish, Food & Allied Workers

# The Reality of Geography

- The Inshore fishery is bound to SFA 6.
- The communities the inshore supports are anchored, immovable.
- The offshore fleet is mobile. It will adapt in constant search of profit.
- Capital is mobile, communities are not.



# The Reality of the Current Federal Government

The Liberal Party of Canada delivered the following response to the FFAW-Unifor's federal election questionnaire on September 19, 2015:

“We are committed to reviewing the last in, first out (LIFO) policy for northern shrimp. We believe difficult allocation decisions must be made with broad discussion and consultation with the industry in order to ensure the best possible decisions are reached ***for the future of the resource, and the maximum benefit for the people and coastal communities who rely on the resource.***”



# The Reality of the Current Federal Government

P-01

## ADJACENCY PRINCIPLE

🗳️ PASSED

**Moved by** Liberal Party of Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador)

🚩 Priority Resolution

WHEREAS coastal communities in Canadian provinces and territories have an intrinsic social and economic link to adjacent resources;

WHEREAS historic attachment and dependence on resources in Canadian coastal communities have welded a cultural mosaic into the fabric of the people who live there;

WHEREAS options required for economic survival and sustainability of coast communities in Canada are primarily limited to adjacent resources;

WHEREAS fish management policies of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have ignored the traditional principle of adjacency and have created a disproportion allocation of fishery resources in adjacent coastal areas to non-residents, large offshore fishing fleets and foreign interests;

WHEREAS the absence of application of the adjacency principle in the allocation of resources have created far-reaching social economic consequence in rural coastal communities;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Liberal government of Canada establish a “Declaration of Adjacency”, which shall be defined as the fundamental right of those living in Canada to have the first right of benefit from those resources that are in adjacent proximity to their communities and regions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the “Declaration of Adjacency” shall be the defining principle that forms the basis of managing the allocation of resources in the coastal areas and regions of Canadian provinces and territories; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, current allocations and practices are reviewed against the “Declaration of Adjacency” and appropriate adjustments made in instances where there is an absence of an application of the adjacency principle.

## The Reality of Investment

- Hundreds of millions of dollars in invested by harvesters.
- Hundreds of millions of dollars invested by processors.
- Tens of millions invested by local governments.
- All tied to the fate of continued inshore access to SFA 6.
- No offshore investment is tied exclusively to SFA 6.

# Reality of Investment



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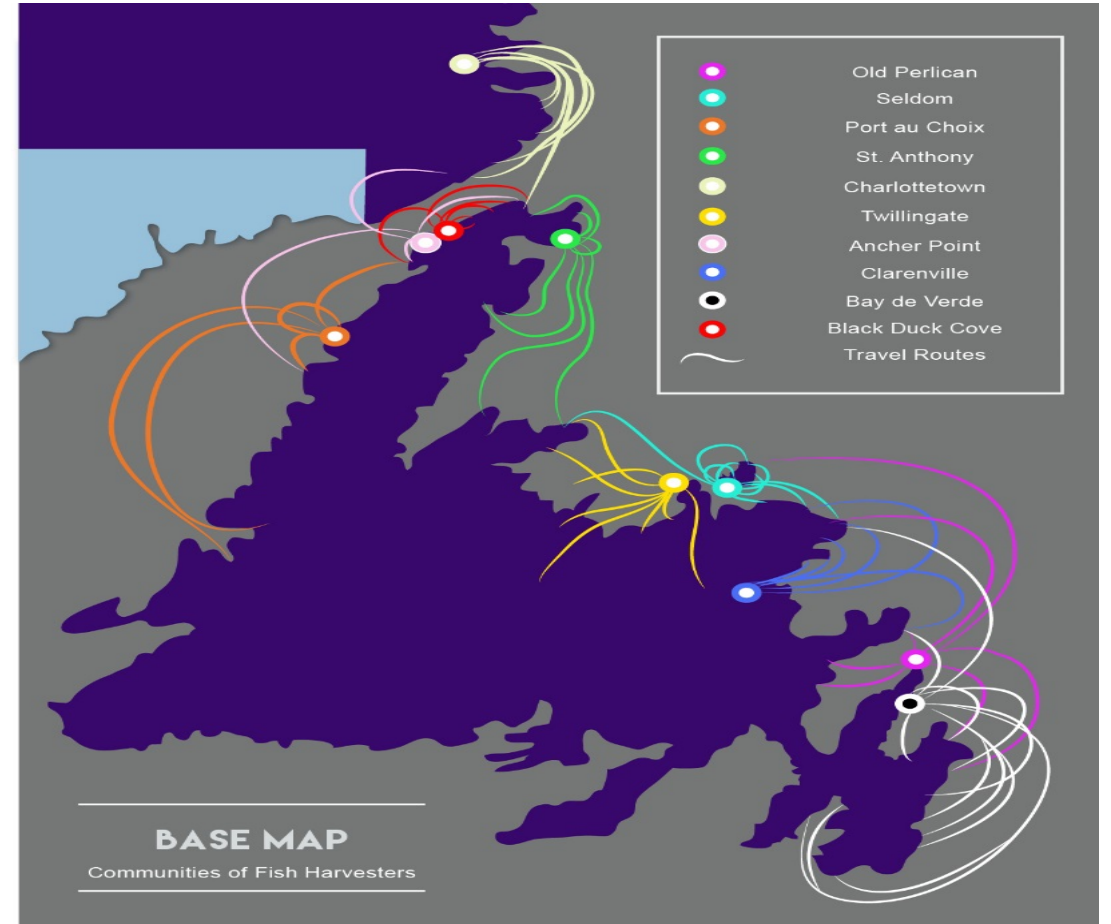
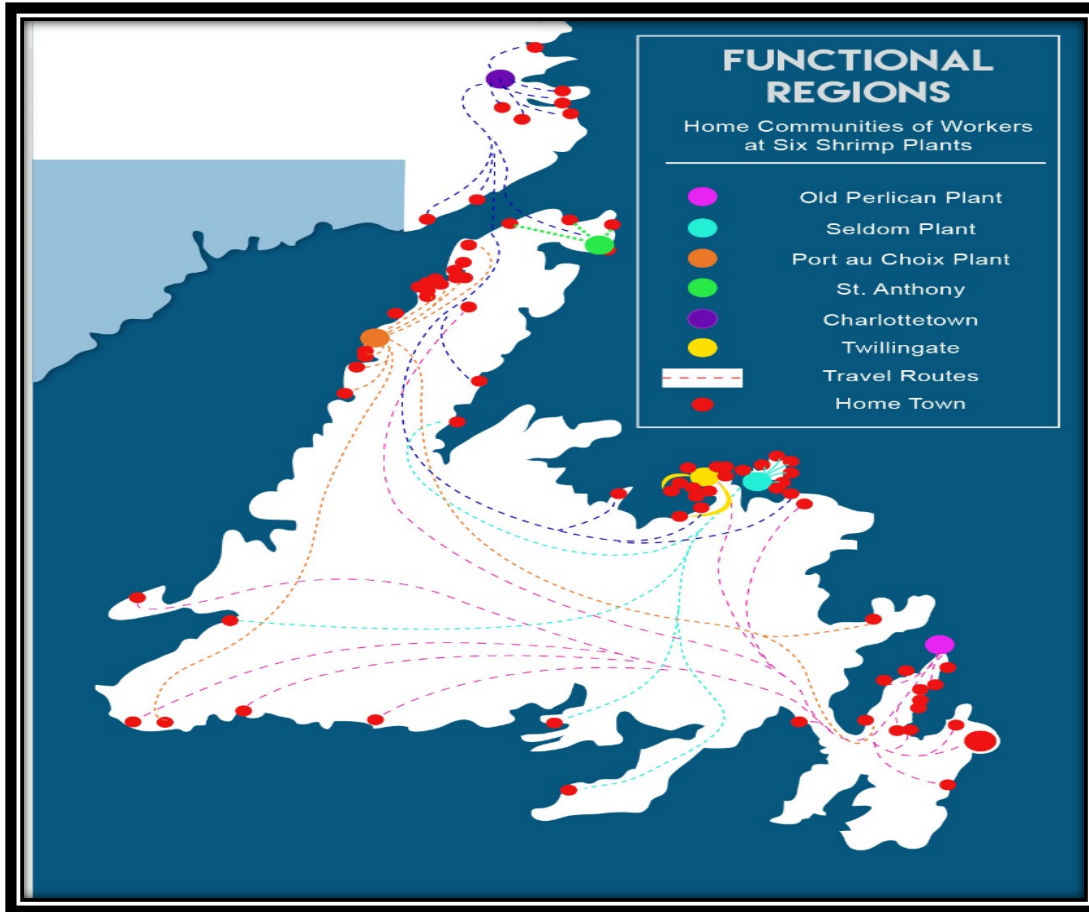




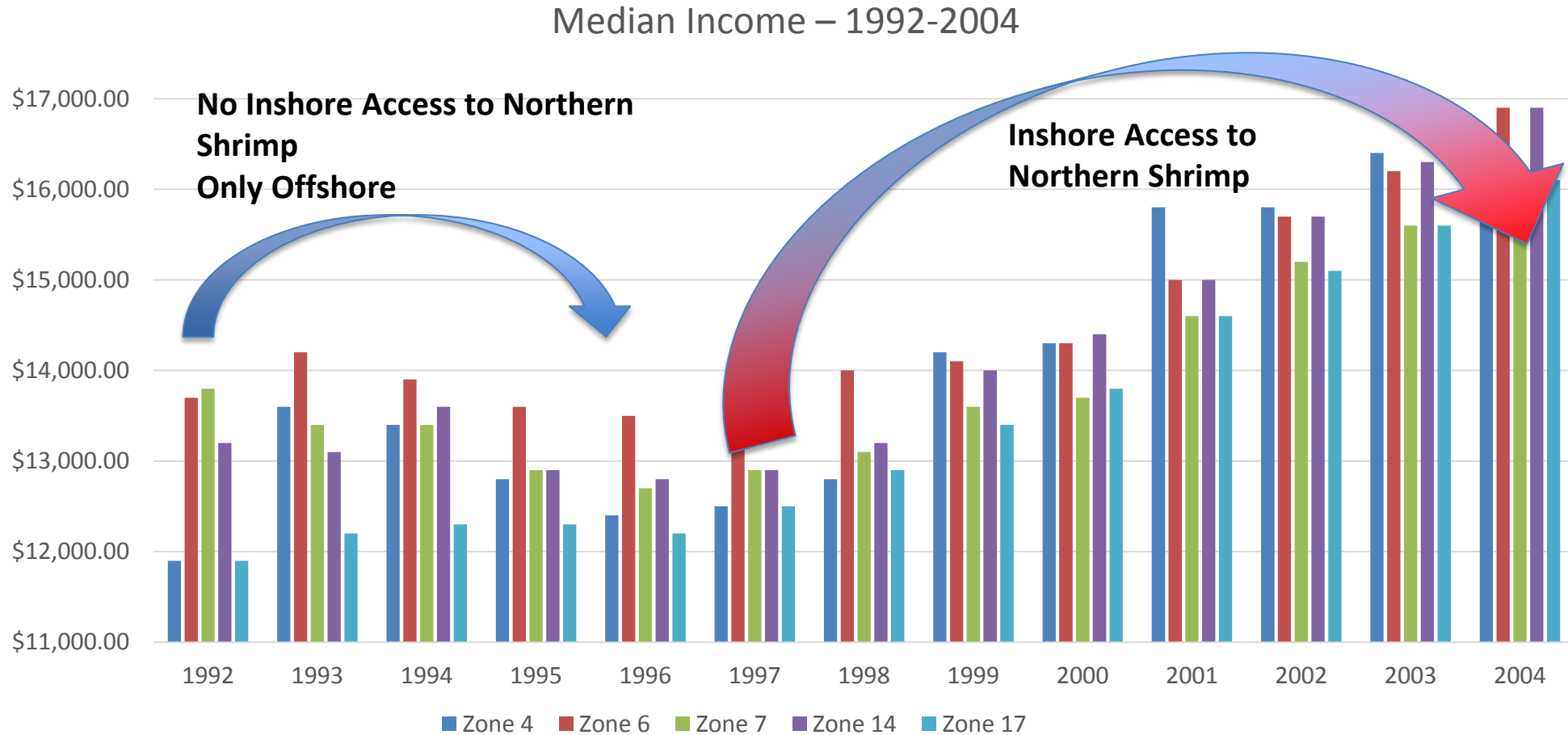
# The Reality of Inshore Shrimp Sector Incomes

- 75% of shrimp harvesters (crew and enterprise owners) earn more than \$40,000 per year from the shrimp fishery.
- There are more than 1500 shrimp plant workers, 75% of which are women, earning between \$16 and \$20 per hour. Pre-LIFO cuts, most worked between 25 and 30 weeks a year (the same number of weeks worked by an offshore worker).
- Almost all of this income is tied to inshore access to SFA 6.
- No offshore worker has his/her income tied exclusively to SFA 6.

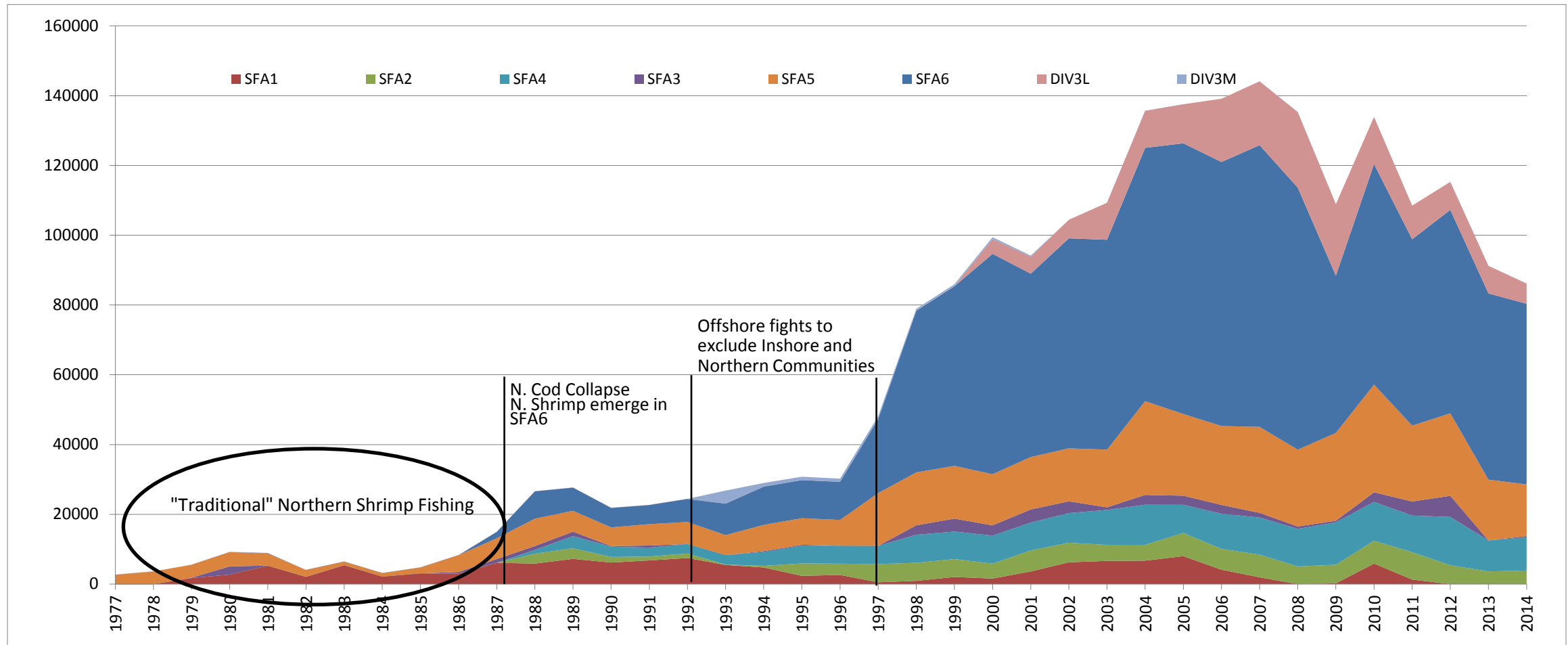
# The Reality of Communities and Regions



# The Reality of Community and Regions



# The Reality of the Marine Environment





# The Reality of the Marine Environment

- The current environmental shift in SFA 6 will force the offshore out in 3 to 5 years by rendering the shrimp fishery in the area uneconomical.
- This already happened in SFA 7. Starting in 2012, shrimp in the area was uneconomical to catch. Over several year, the offshore left thousands of tons in the water.
- The offshore is fighting for an ideal version of SFA 6, which does not exist in reality.
- The inshore acknowledges the changes in SFA 6, and is incorporating those changes into a plan for the inshore fishery and coastal communities.

# The Reality of LIFO

- The reality of LIFO is that it ignores:
  - The reality of the marine environment
  - The reality of any investment outside of the offshore
  - The reality of any shrimp harvesting incomes outside of the offshore
  - The reality of coastal communities adjacent to the shrimp resource
  - The reality of changing federal government policies.
- LIFO exists solely to protect the business plan of the offshore. To achieve such a limited goal, LIFO needs to be divorced from reality.

## The Plan – All shrimp harvesting in SFA 6 to be conducted by the Inshore fleet and landed for onshore processing

- Reflects the new priorities of the federal government to protect middle class jobs and support adjacent coastal communities.
- Provides the fairest outcome: the inshore can continue to harvest the declining resource while the offshore can continue to operate in other fishing areas.
- Reflects the reality of the economics of the marine environment shift. The shrimp fishery can maintain employment and income in coastal communities until groundfish fisheries are re-established. This was an opportunity denied to inshore harvesters when cod declined.
  - Coastal communities cannot shut down in 2016 and restart in 2019.
  - There will be no federal program to ease the pain if an orderly transition is denied to us.

Vibrant communities need a  
strong inshore shrimp fishery.



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