



MONTEREY BAY FISHERIES TRUST (MBFT): 2018 LEASE POLICY

The Trust will offer prioritized leasing of West Coast groundfish trawl quota pounds and permits to fishermen in the following order:

1. Local fishermen¹ who land MBFT quota pounds in Monterey Bay ports (Monterey, Moss Landing, Santa Cruz).
2. Groundfish Collective and/or partner community quota fund fishermen who land MBFT quota pounds in Monterey Bay ports.
3. Any fisherman who lands MBFT quota pounds in Monterey Bay ports.
4. Local fishermen who land MBFT quota pounds in any California port.
5. Groundfish Collective and/or partner community quota fund fishermen who land MBFT quota pounds in any California port.
6. Open market.

The Trust also considers the following:

1. The fisherman's history in the West Coast groundfish trawl fishery.
2. The diversity of groundfish species landed/leased by the lessee.
3. The fisherman's involvement with any of the following activities:
 - Proven gear innovations and/or selective lower impact gear to reduce bycatch, habitat impacts, and post-release mortality of non-target species and protected species
 - Overfished species (OFS) bycatch risk reduction through membership in the California Groundfish Collective or similar collective agreement designed to reduce OFS interactions, rebuild OFS stocks and protect sensitive habitat that has been identified by fishermen and scientists
 - Use of electronic reporting technology such as eCatch to record the catch and spatial components of fishing activity, resulting in improved data on stocks
 - Fishing methods that target abundant, underutilized stocks and avoid reliance on, and possible depletion of, single species
 - Participation in research aimed at improving the environmental and economic performance of the fishery
 - New entrants to help ensure future fishery access for the Monterey Bay community
 - Other projects that support the goals of the Trust, as determined by the Board

The Trust aims to support local fishermen by offering below market lease rates. The degree of discount offered depends on: (1) the financial viability of the Trust in a given year; (2) the degree to which a lessee meets the Trust's criteria, as described in the annual lease policy.

¹ "Local fishermen" are defined as fishermen who have paid property tax on their vessel in Santa Cruz County or Monterey County in the preceding year.