

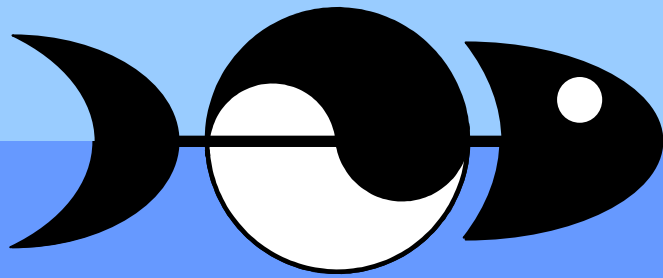
Regionalisation of the
Common Fisheries Policy?
Perspectives, options and
challenges: voices of
stakeholders and others



Making the European Fisheries Ecosystem Plan Operational



September 9, 2010
NWWRAC Executive Committee, Madrid



MEFEPO

RAC SURVEY

About **MEFEPO**

To support the transition towards an ecosystem approach to the management of European marine fisheries by developing operational strategies for the implementation of an ecosystem approach in three regions (NS, NWW, SWW), and identify how the overarching institutional framework needs to be modified to support these strategies.

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Ten partners from eight European countries

Coordinator: University of Liverpool

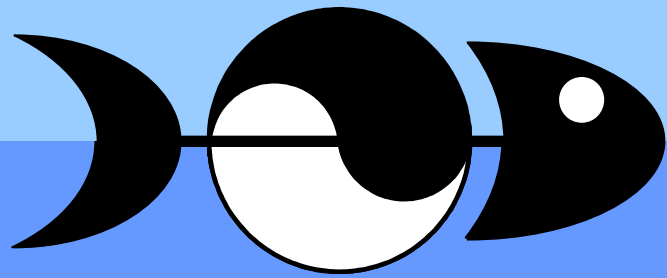
Duration: September 2008 → August 2011

More: www.liv.ac.uk/marinebiology/mefepo.html



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The work behind this presentation has been financially supported by the Commission of the European Communities. It does not necessarily reflect its views and in no way anticipates the Commission's future policy.

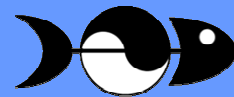


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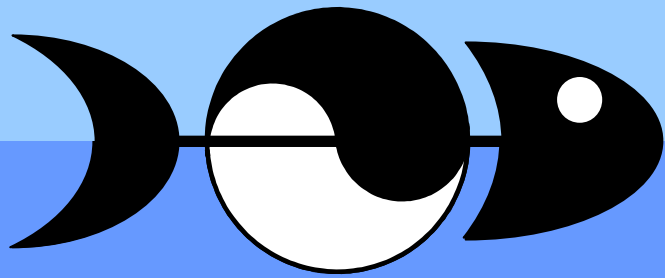
Objectives of Presentation

1) Present results of the MEFEPO WP4 survey of RAC participants with emphasis on the North Western Waters RAC



2) Gain feedback and comments on the findings to better develop conclusions based on survey and other sources





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RAC SURVEY

‘Consultation’ Methods

→ Observations

4 RAC meetings and 4 conferences with regionalisation on the agenda

→ Key-informant interviews

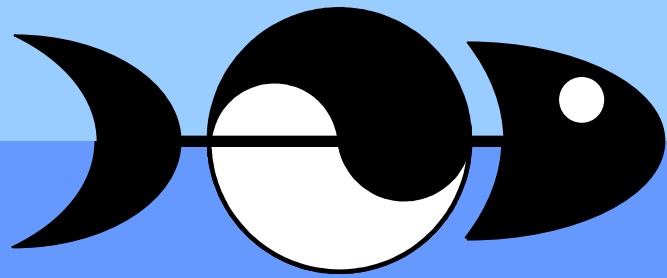
20 interviews: 2 researchers, 5 managers, 3 policy-makers, 10 stakeholders (8 of which were from the fishing industry)

→ Study of Documents

Relevant documents on CFP reform, incl. selected position papers submitted in connection with the consultation on the 2009 Green Paper

→ Survey

138 respondents (42%) from a population of 329 participants in selected RAC meetings held in 2009 (Pelagic, North Sea, NWW, SWW)

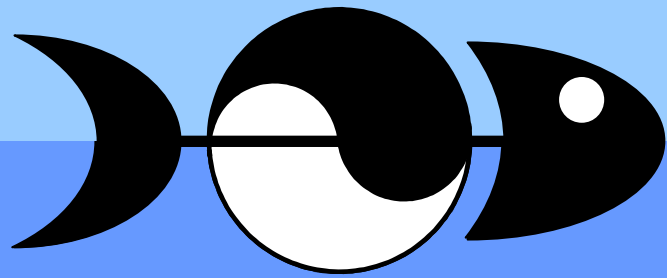


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RAC SURVEY

Survey

- **Purpose:** To supplement the key informant interviews and position papers overview with wider insight into the opinions of stakeholders on the topic of regionalisation and the RACs' present capacities
- **Population:** Participants at 2009 RAC meetings (Executive Committee, General Assembly, Working Groups) for North Sea, NWW, Pelagic, SWW
- **Contact Methods:** A web-based questionnaire and paper mailed to those not responded to web survey



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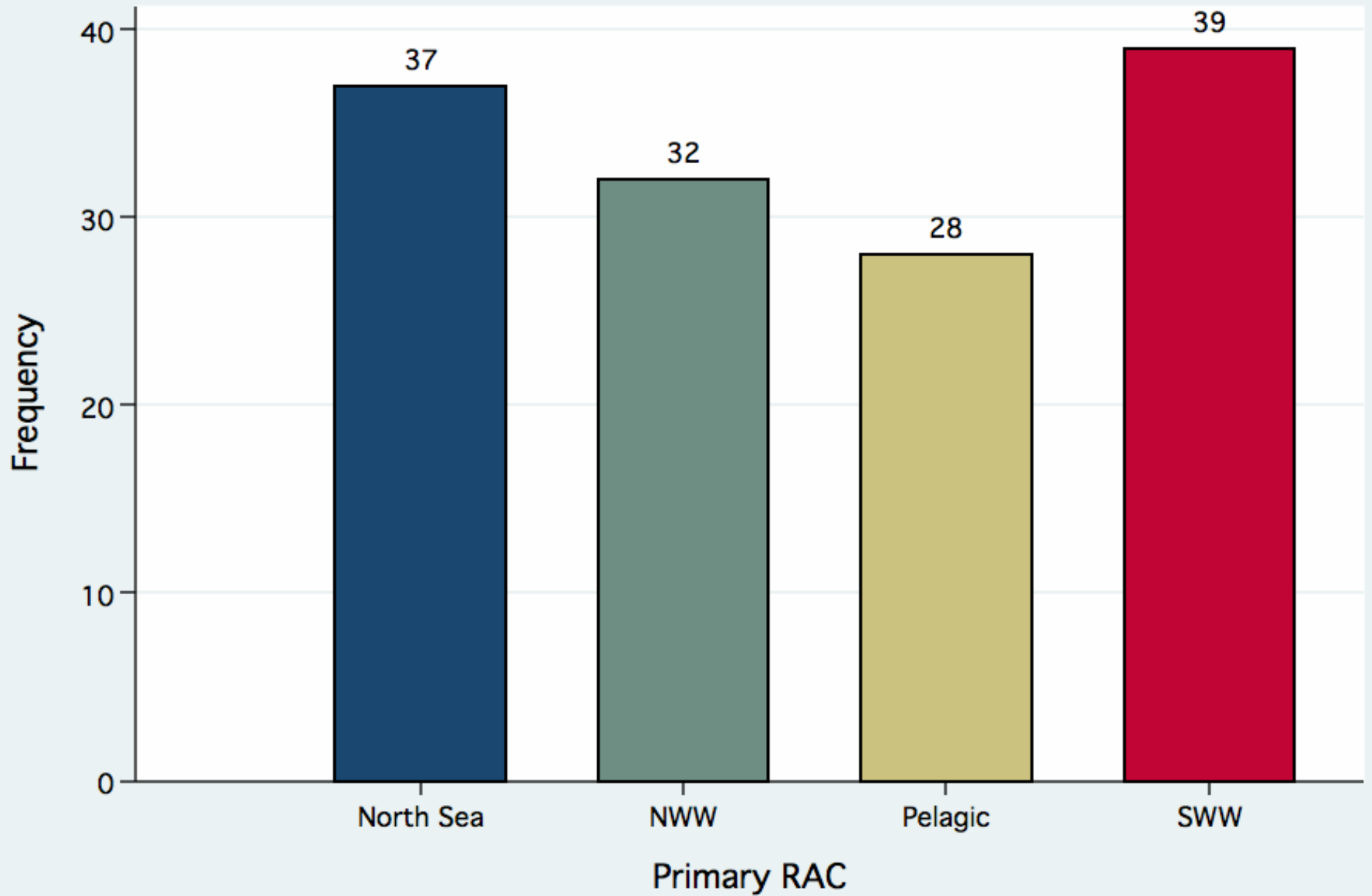
RAC SURVEY

Survey Outline

- **Section I: Background**
- **Section II: Current RAC Functioning and Capacity**
 - Information and expertise available
 - Trust and understanding
 - Feeling of Impact
- **Section III: Reform of the CFP and Regionalization**
 - “Regionalisation should...”*
 - Outcomes
 - Models



Distribution of Primary RAC



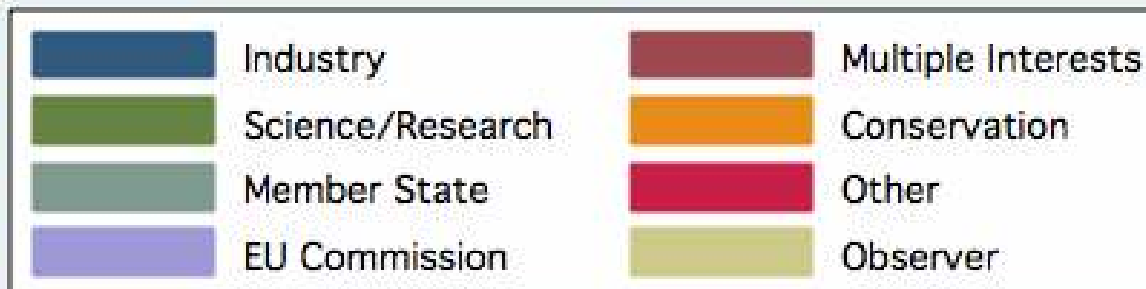
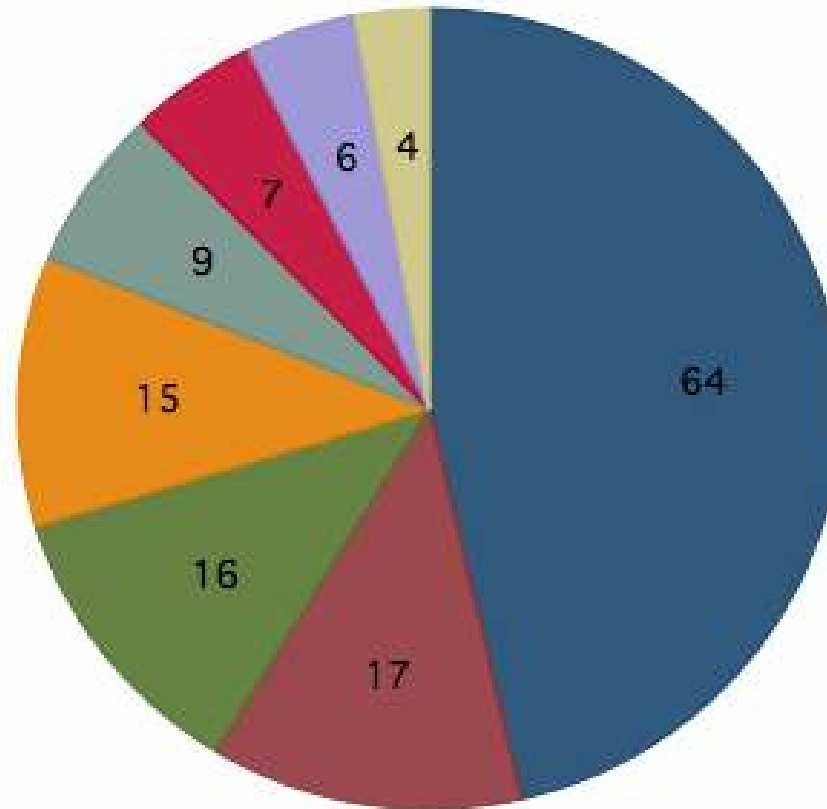
RESPONDENTS



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Participant Type

Raw frequency for each stakeholder category

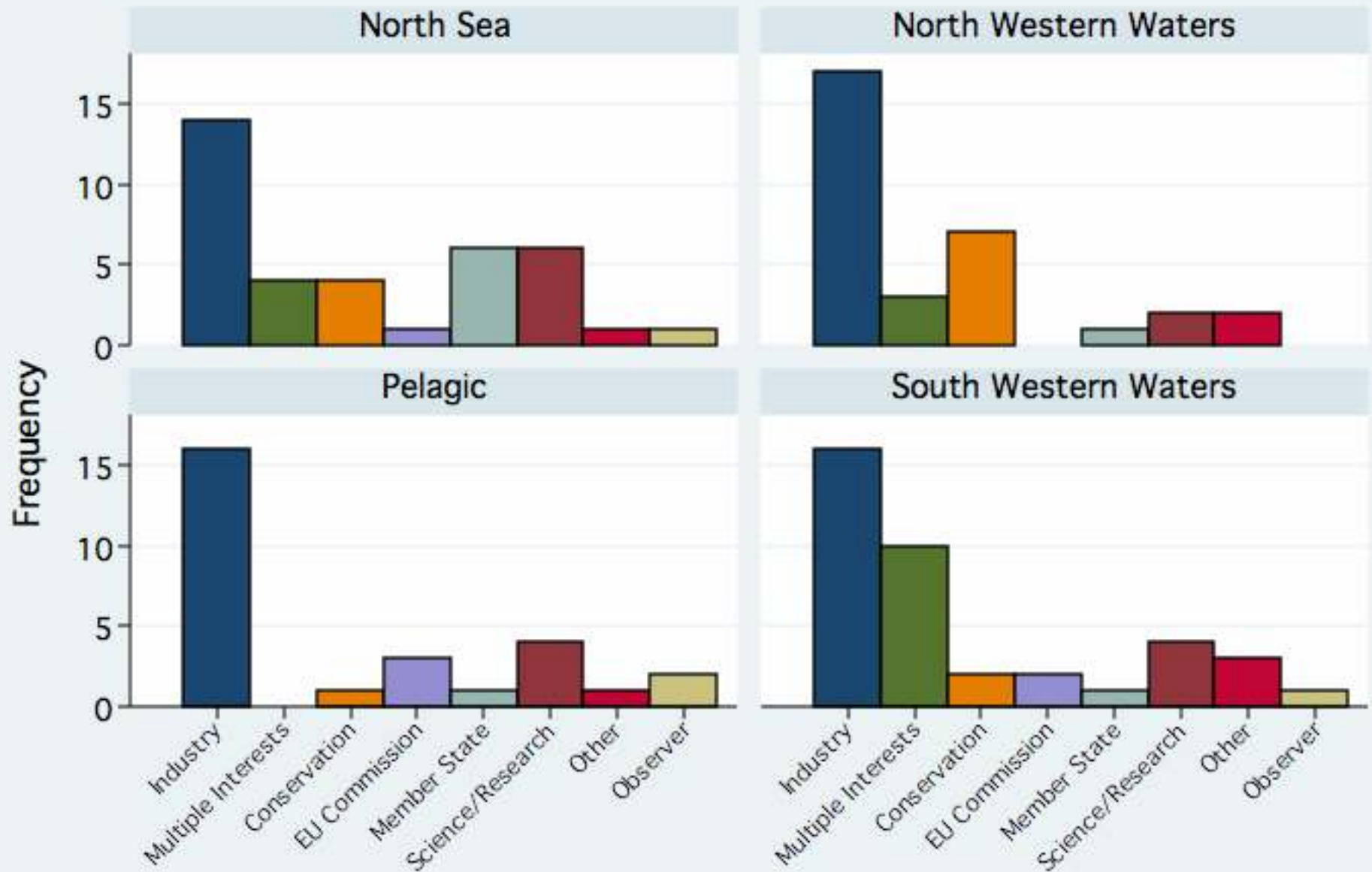


RESPONDENTS

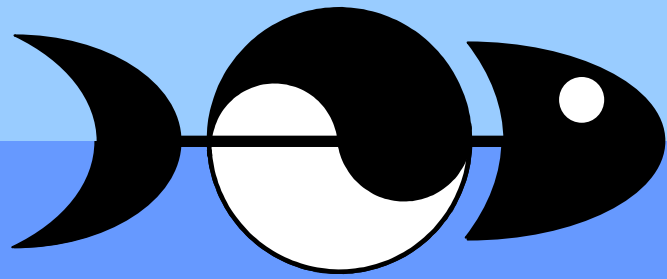


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Participant Type by RAC



RESPONDENTS



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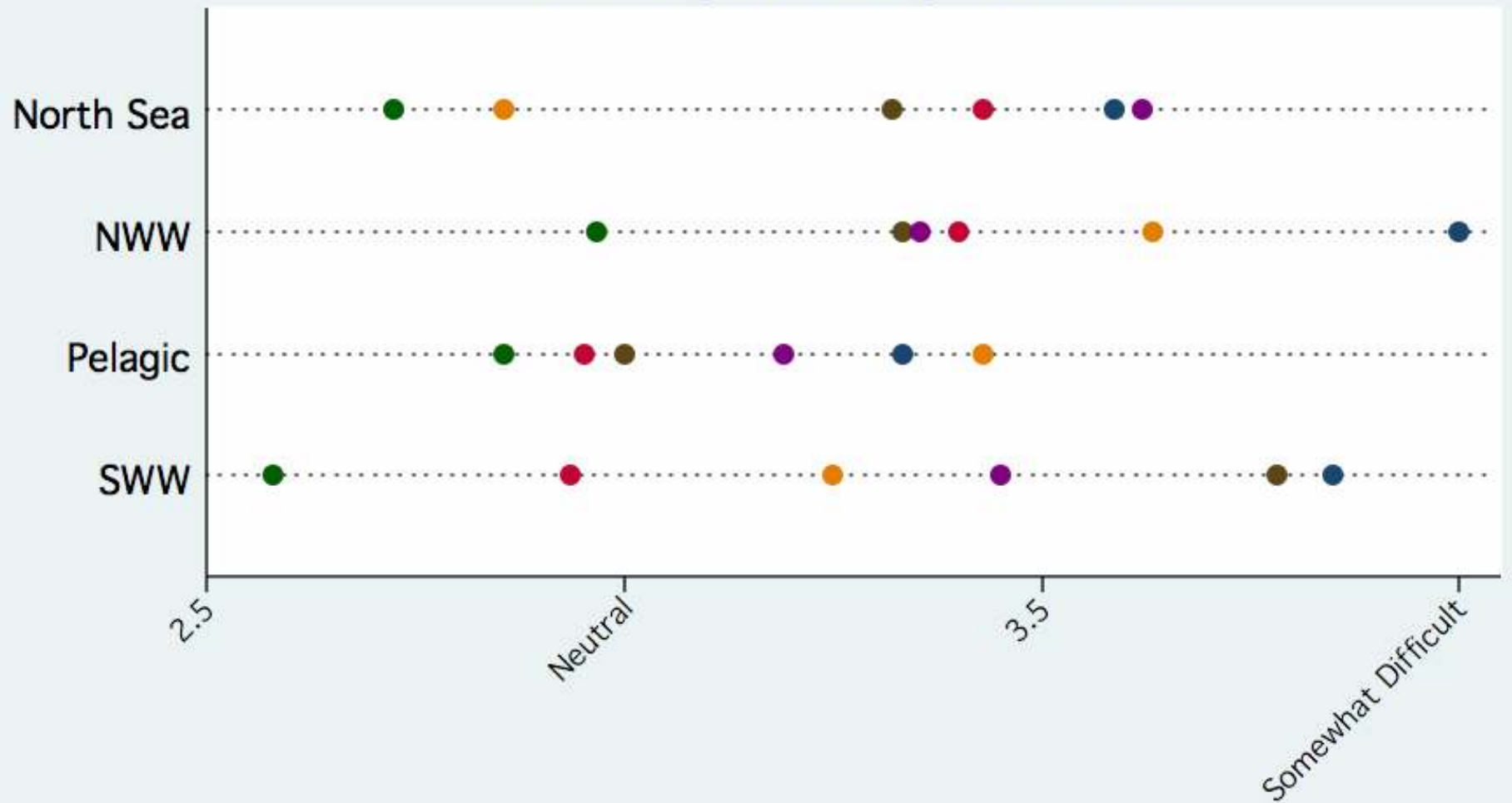
RAC SURVEY

RESULTS

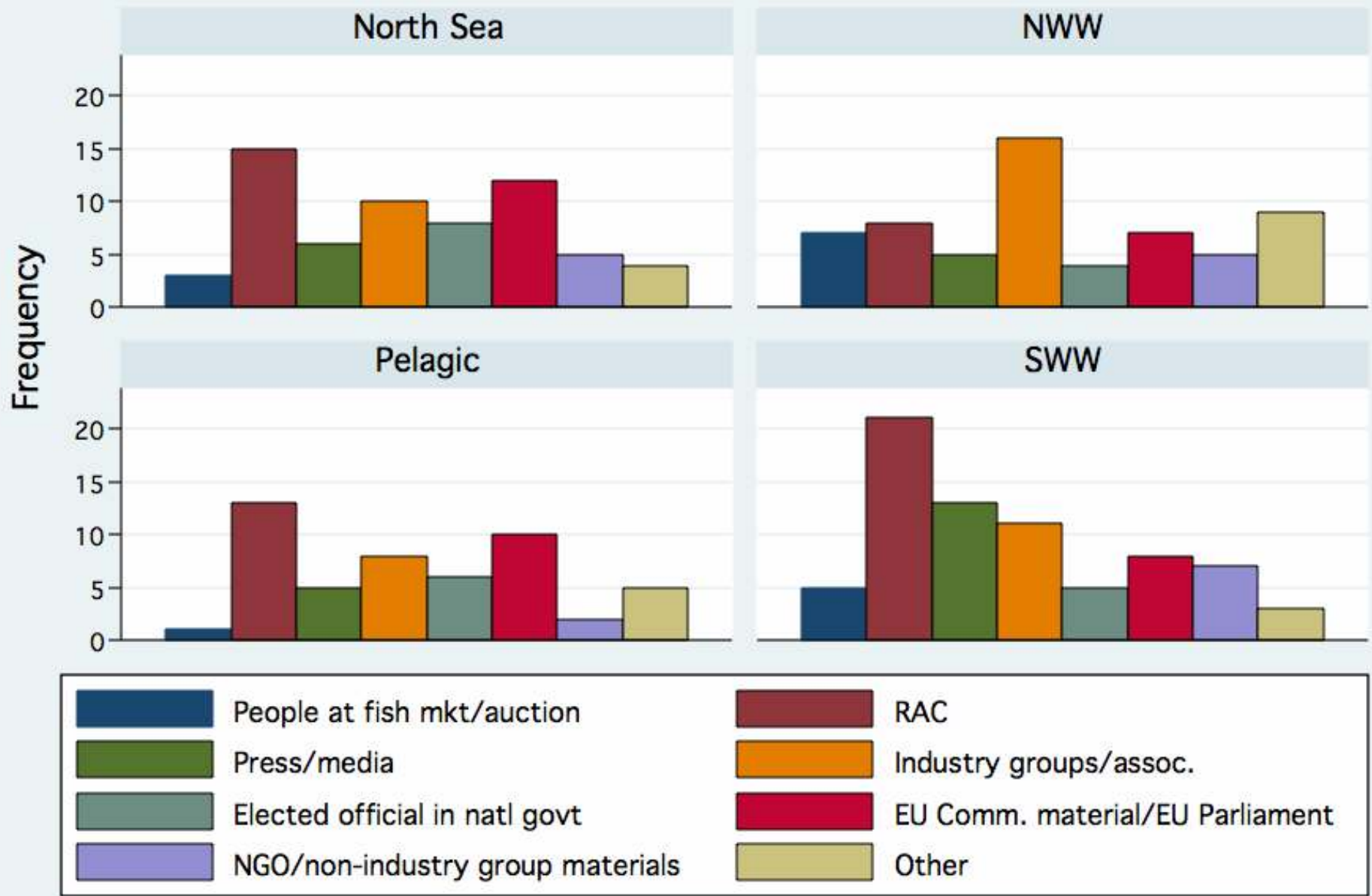


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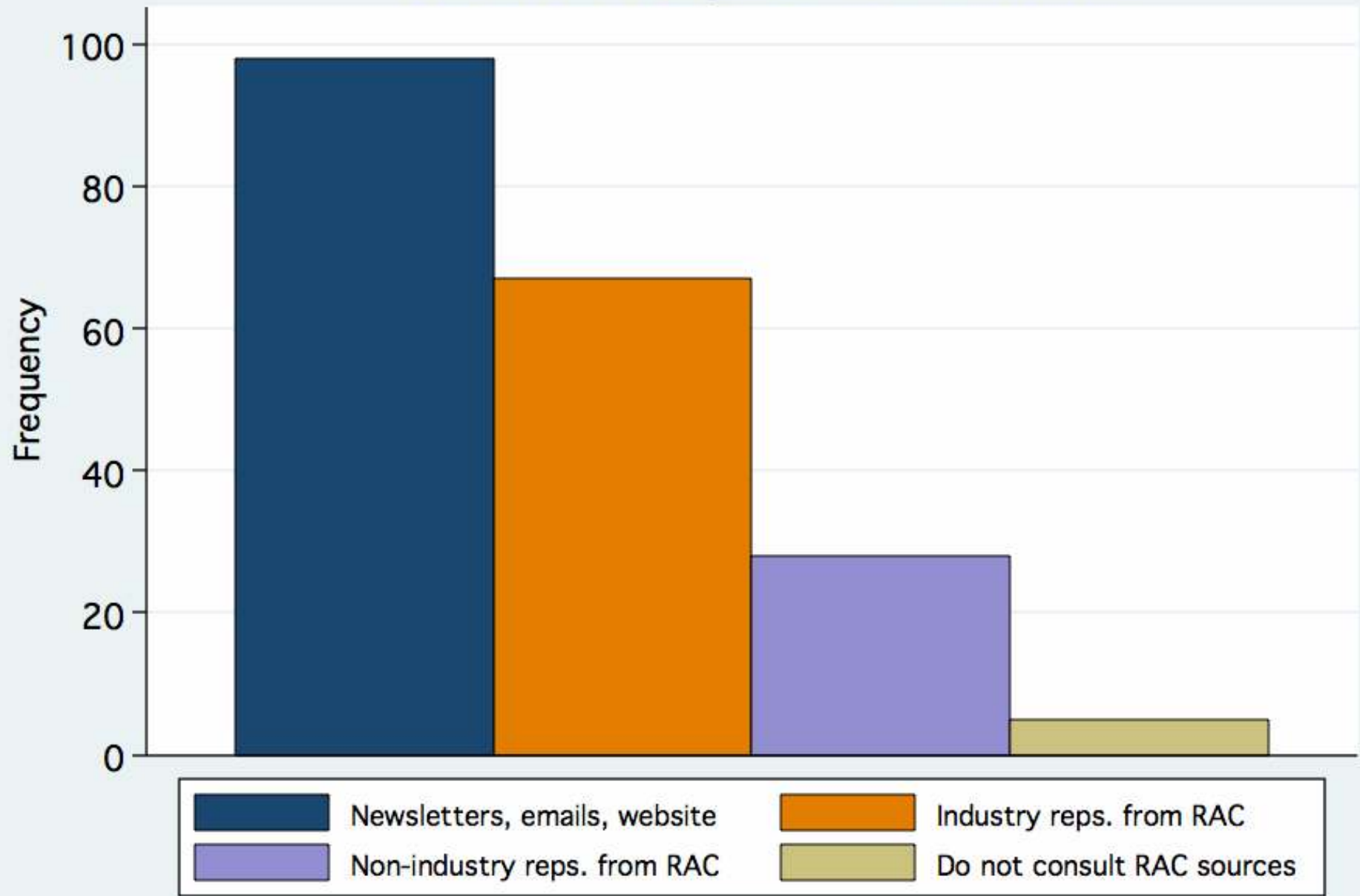
Challenges facing the RACs



Top Information Sources by RAC

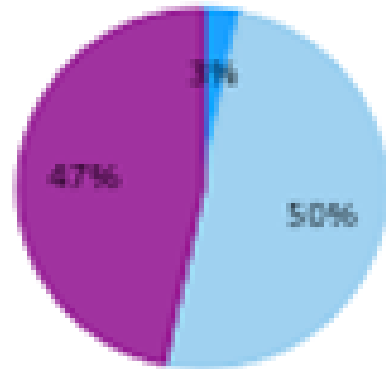


Most Often Sought RAC Information

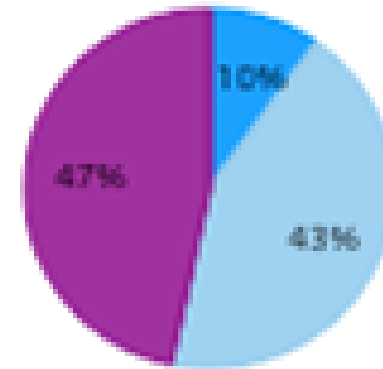


Impact of RAC Participation

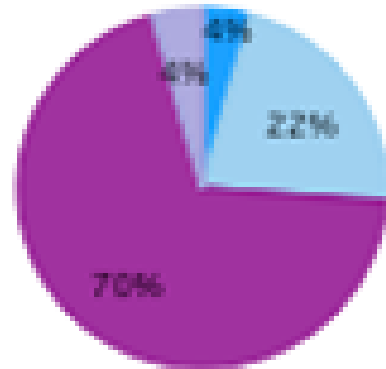
North Sea



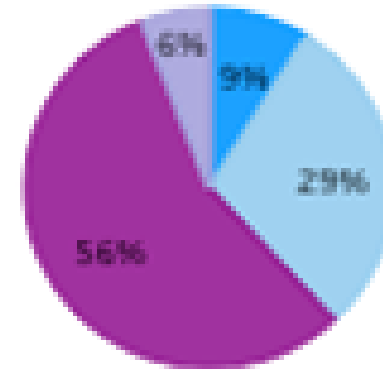
NWW

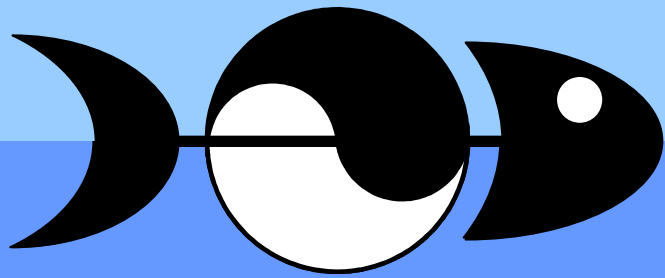


Pelagic



SWW





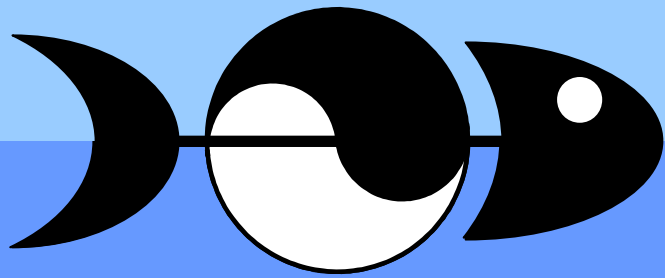
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RAC SURVEY

Characteristics of the Models

→ Nationalisation

- * No regional politico-administrative structures needed
- * Loss of ability to coordinate and micro-manage from the EU level
- * **Member states in the driver's seat**
- * RACs obsolete or complete rethinking of role
- * Drastic change from current system



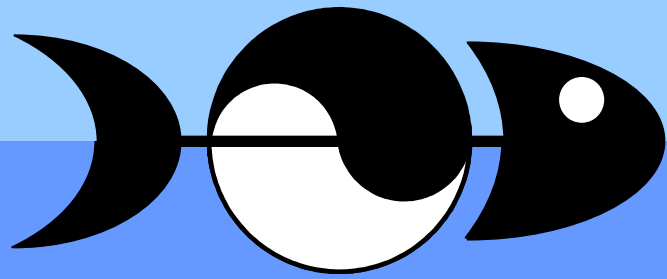
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RAC SURVEY

Characteristics of the Models

→ Cooperative Member State Councils

- * Only simple, regional politico-administrative structures needed
- * Empowerment of stakeholders not an explicit aim
- * RACs to advise regional councils as well as Commission
- * Micro-management may continue, but perhaps more efficient
- * Modest change from the current system



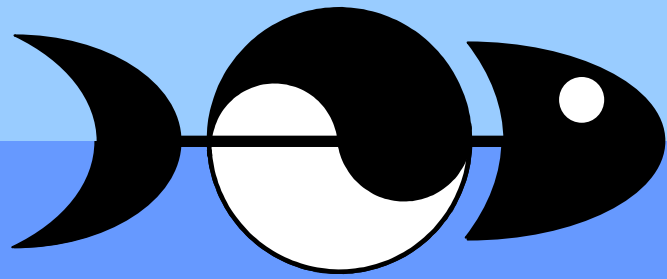
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RAC SURVEY

Characteristics of the Models

→ Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

- * Necessitates formal regional organisations
- * Potential empowerment of regional stakeholders
- * RACs direct advice to regional organisations rather than to EU level
- * **Reduced micro-management**, but EU level maintains coordinating role
- * Significant change from current system



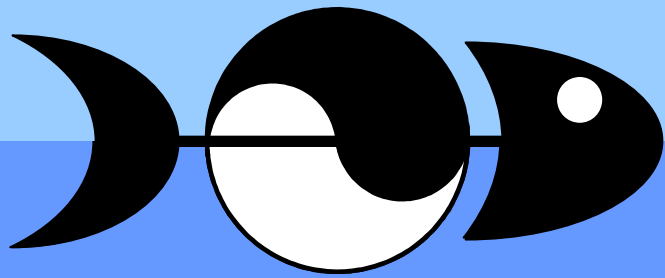
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RAC SURVEY

Characteristics of the Models

→ Regional Fisheries Co-Management Organisations

- * Necessitates formal regional organisations
- * **High likelihood for significant empowerment of stakeholders**
- * RACs cease to exist, stakeholders participate in the regional org.
- * Reduces micro-management, but EU level maintains coordinating role
- * Drastic change from current system



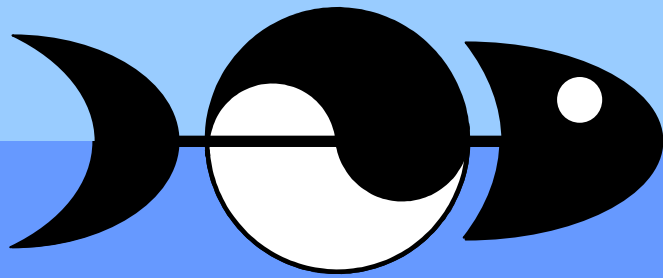
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Characteristics of the Models

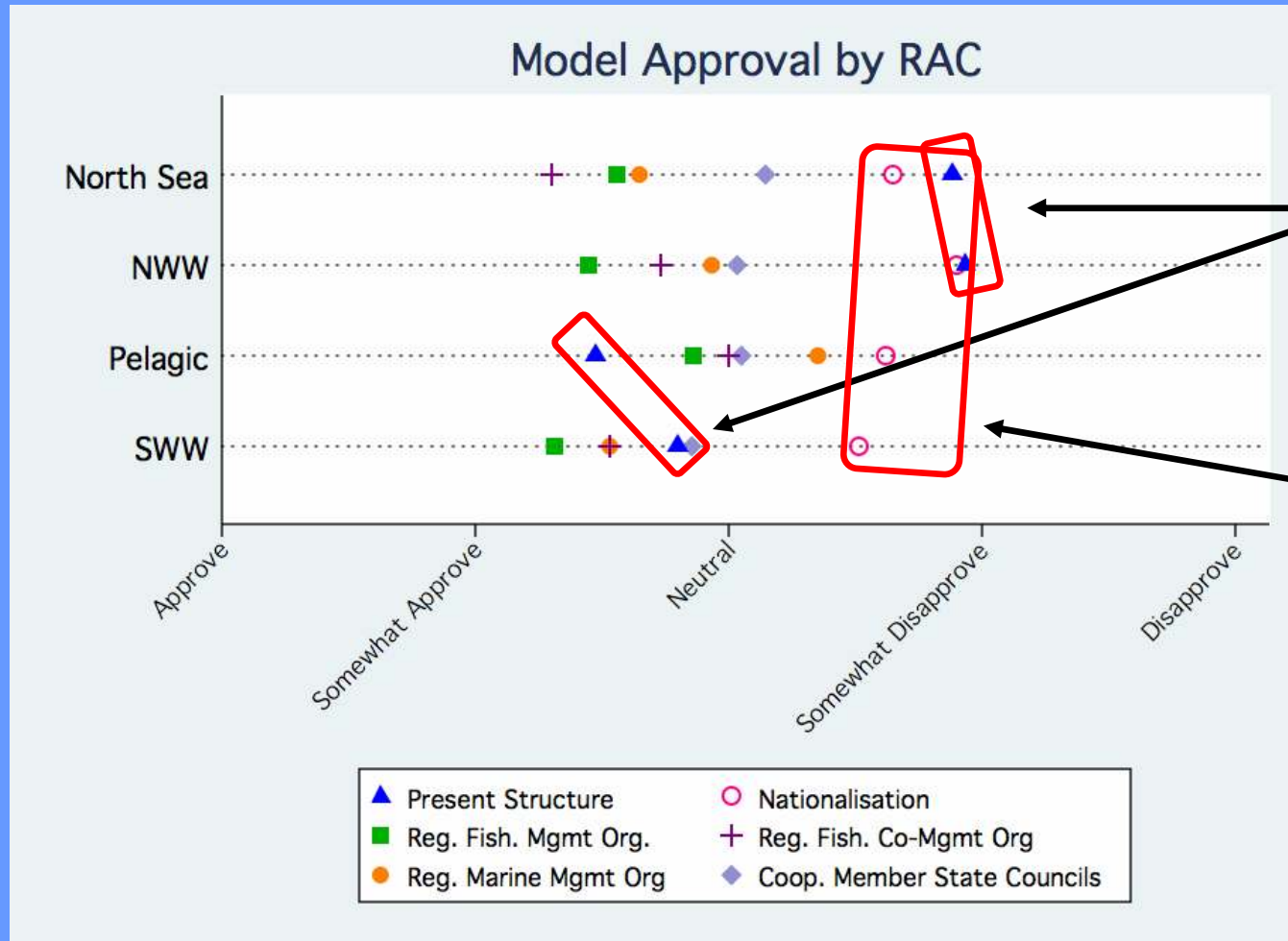
→ Regional Marine Management Organisations

- * Necessitates formal regional organisation and re-orientation of RACs
- * Potential empowerment of regional stakeholders
- * Reduces micro-management, but EU level maintains coordinating role
- * **Holistic, integrated approach to fisheries and marine management**
- * Drastic change from current system



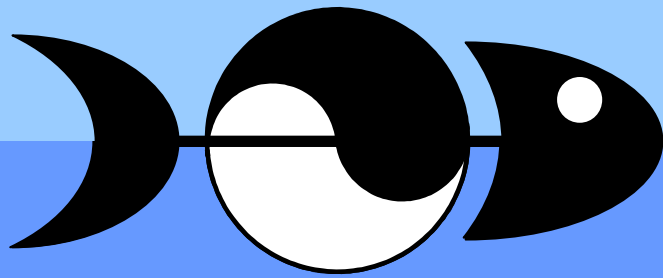
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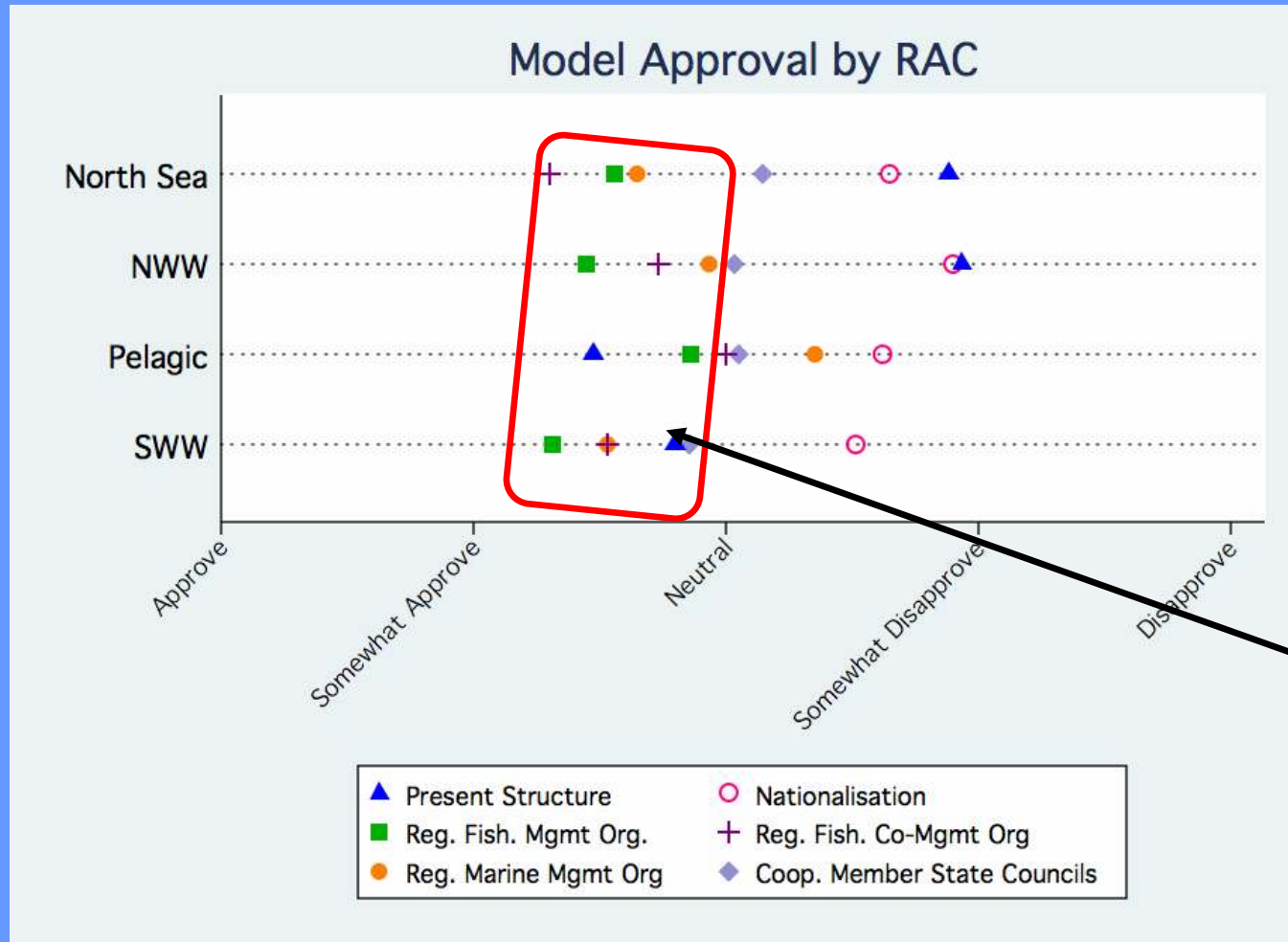
Respondents from the NWW and the North Sea RAC disapprove of the current system to the greatest degree

Disregarding the present system for the NWW RAC and the North Sea RAC, nationalisation is on average the least approved option for all respondents



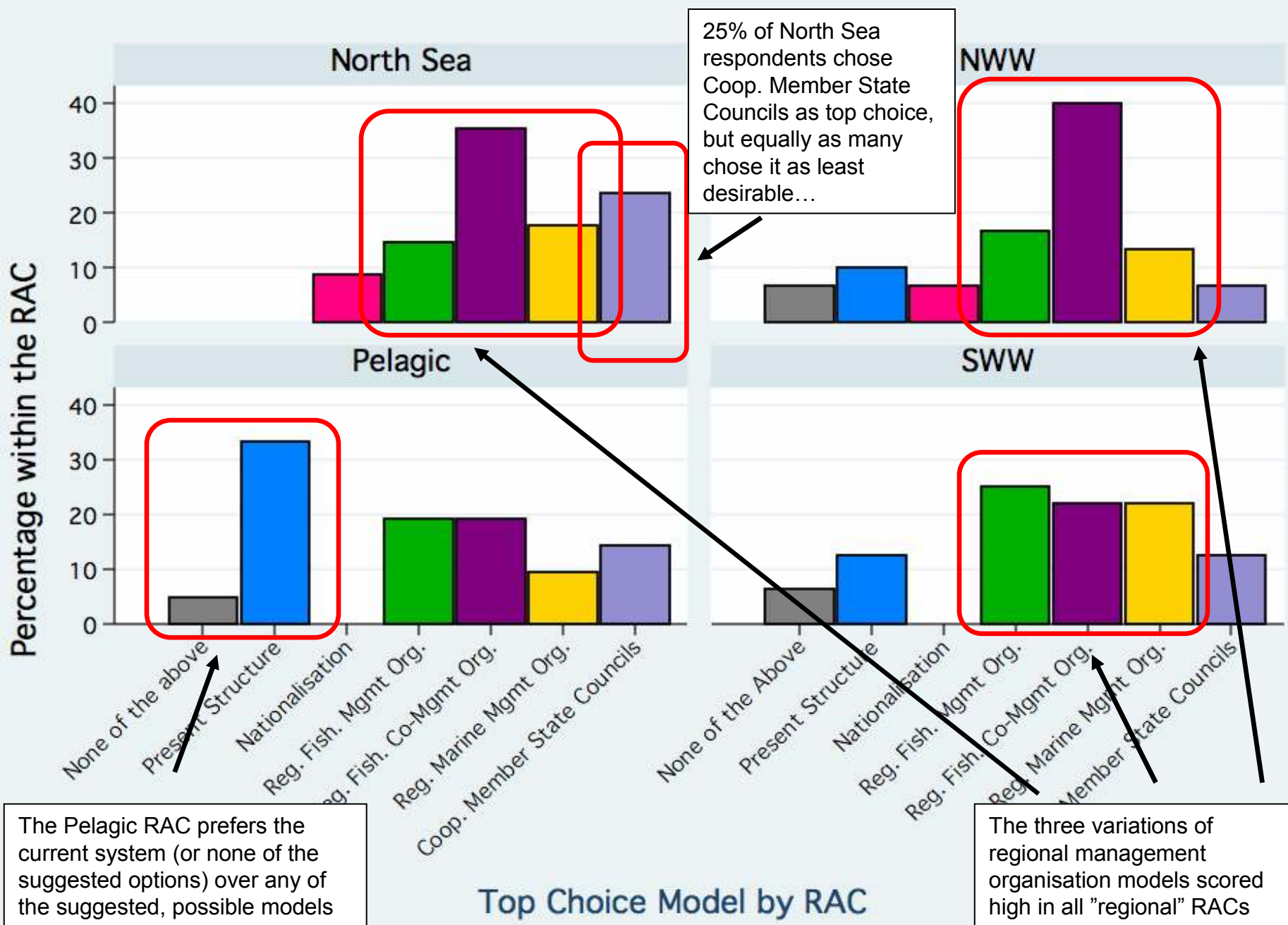
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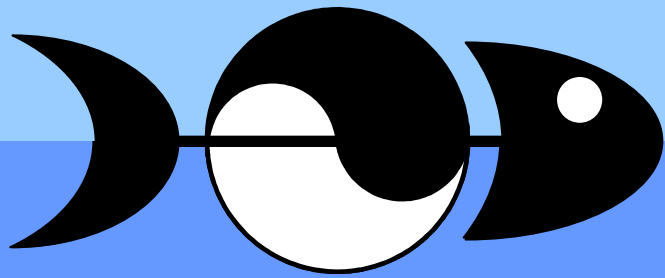


Looking at the different regional management organisation models alone, on average these are better liked than the other models

This is more pronounced when considering only the 3 “regional” RACs



PERCEPTIONS OF MODELS

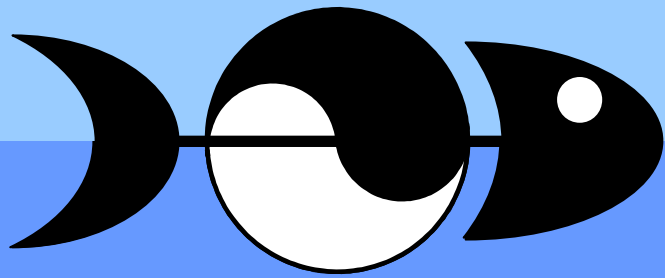


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RAC SURVEY

Overall Findings

- RACs improve knowledge sharing and other benefits in addition to their advice mandate
- Stakeholders perceive regionalisation as a way to incorporate local knowledge and increase compliance through greater stakeholder involvement
- The “regional” models presented gain the greatest approval on multiple dimensions



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RAC SURVEY

For More Information

Written reports of the survey will be distributed to participants in October. If you would like to receive a copy (available only in English), please contact me (Kristen Ounanian) with your name and preferred email address. Thank you for your attention!

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