

# **Singers for Fish**

## **Bibliography of Current Songs of Fishing Communities**

Mystic Seaport Sea Music Symposium, June 10, 1995

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### **State of the Groundfishery**

#### **Commercial Value**

The LTPY of all fishery resources fished by the United States is estimated at 9.5 million metric tons (t). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimates the limit of the world's annually sustainable yield of marine and freshwater fish at about 100 million t. Therefore, the long-term potential harvest from all fisheries involving the United States exceeds 9% of the total world potential.

#### **Recreational Value**

The total RAY is 6.6 million t. The U.S. RAY is estimated at 4.8 million t or about 64% of the prorated U.S. LTPY (Table 1), which is just under 5% of the world catch. In recent years, the United States has ranked sixth among major fishing nations, following China, the former Soviet Union, Japan, Peru, and Chile.

1990-92, the fisheries of the Northeast region (Appendix 5) contributed about 20% of the prorated U.S. revenue and 16% of the volume (i.e., U.S. RAY) of the Nation's commercial fisheries. Total 1992 landings of all species in the northeast were 769,667 t, with an estimated ex-vessel revenue of \$818 million. The mixed-species groundfish fishery is the most valuable fishery of the region (\$188 million), followed by American lobster (\$161 million) and Atlantic sea scallop (\$152 million). Recreational fisheries are extremely important to the region's economy. 19 million recreational marine fishing trips in 1992 produced landings of over 100 million fish.

#### **Issues in the Fishery**

- Management Concerns
- Bycatch and Multispecies Interactions
- Resource Allocation
- Jurisdiction and Transboundary Issues
- Habitat Concerns
- Underutilized Species
- Recovery of Protected Species
- Scientific Information and the Adequacy of Assessments.

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*"The offshore trawler captains do not think there is a problem except for the seals that eat the inshore cod; the inshore fishermen believe that offshore fishermen are the problem; the foreign experts say it is Canadian mismanagement; the provincial government blames the federal government; and an independent study suggests that a serious resource problem exists, one that stems partly from inaccurate Department of Fisheries and Oceans' estimates of the cod stocks for the past thirteen years; the scientists who made the estimates deny there is a resource problem; and a woman at the Petro-Canada station in Goobies believe it is God's will." (Don Gillmore, Equinox, July/August 1990)*

### **Recent Regulations**

Northern cod landings make up 3/4 of all fish landed in Newfoundland. 69% of Newfoundland fishermen and 70% of plant workers depend on northern cod for their livelihood, which is worth \$700 million to the province.

In 1991, 19,000 people earned a living directly from the fishery and a further 8 000 depended on the resource for a portion of their income. On Friday, 3 July 1991, those same people were told that they could no longer fish for northern cod. The industry had declined by 95% since 1990, and a complete two-year moratorium has since been extended into 1995. An assistance program, the Northern Cod Assistance and Recovery Program (NCARP) provides \$1.9 billion in aid over five years.

In the northeastern US, Amendment 5 to the FMP for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery will limit effort by commercial fishing on groundfish in New England and also prevent the issuance of new vessel permits in this overcapitalized fishery. Amendment 4 to the sea scallop FMP will control fishing effort by limiting the days at sea for each vessel and placing a moratorium on new entrants.

The FAO hosted a 10-day Technical Consultation on the drafting of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing, in Rome from 25 September to 5 October 1994. Delegates from over 60 countries attended.

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### Culture Won't Die: Themes in Fisheries Music

*"It is a horrifying thing to have our fishery labeled as a thing of the past. Without it a whole culture is dead. There are a lot of people who have always depended on the fishery...outsiders sit back and ask, "Can't they find something else to do?" or "Train them for other employment." In many cases this is not possible. We cannot all be businesspeople or shopkeepers. There are a good many people (in Labrador) between the ages of 35 and 65 who cannot even read. Making a living at fishing is all they know. Nobody can expect all of them to go back to school, get a college degree and prepare for other work that may not even exist. The young people today have a much better chance to further their education and to work outside the fishery and are constantly being encouraged to do so. But what about everyone else? How do people survive when their culture is being torn from them?" (Shirley Hopkins, Labrador)*

Compiled and edited from a collection of primarily Canadian and New England recordings and songbooks commercially released between 1985 and 1995. Music was collected in: St John's, NFLD; Corner Brook, NFLD; Rocky Harbour, NFLD; Goose Bay, LAB; Halifax, NS; Lunenburg, NS; Charlottetown, PEI; Summerside, PEI; St. John, NB; St. Stephen, NB; Bangor, ME; Portland, ME; Gloucester, MA; Cambridge and Boston, MA; Mystic, CT; Vancouver, BC; Victoria, BC; Anchorage, AK.

Six themes emerged from the collection of 150 songs:

**Fisherman's Alphabet:** Songs of daily life and tradition in the inshore fishery

**Boats & Gear:** Celebrating the tools of the trade

**All the Fish In the Sea:** Songs of fishes, seabirds, marine creatures and their habitats

**Dockside:** The fish industry from packing plant to table

**Rod and Reel:** Songs of sports anglers and their freshwater catch

**Bound Away:** Leaving home, finding other work and the politics of that struggle

**Hard Times and Heaven:** Work, rest and dreams of this life and the next

**Sea People:** Drawing a sense of identity and community from the bond between people and place



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n = 155

## Fisherman's Alphabet (n=29)

Songs of daily life and tradition in the inshore

**Banks of Newfoundland** trad.

printed in Songs of Newfoundland

**Bold Fisherman, the** trad.

printed in Digital Tradition

**Candlelight Fisherman** trad.

printed in Digital Tradition

**Cape Cod Girls** trad

recorded on CROSSCURRENTS ¥ Lynn Noel

**Clamdigger** Frank Gosbee

recorded on CastleBay ¥ Down to the Shore (Outer Green Records 1991)

**Dance Thy Daddy** trad.

printed in collected from Jean Redpath, 1986

**Den Norske Fisker** trad.

recorded on Songs of Norway

**Father Fished** trad.

**Feller From Fortune** trad.

recorded on Song of Our Land and Our Sea (No Date)

**Fisher Lass** trad.

recorded on field recording, Bracknell Festival, BERKS, 1984

**Fisherman's Alphabet** Chris Cobb

printed in Songs of Newfoundland

**Fisherman's Boy** Len Crewe

recorded on The Dorymen ¥ Tiny Red Light (Heritage Music, 1988)

**Fisherman's Favorite** BWOF

**Fisherman's Life** Julia Lane

recorded on CastleBay ¥ Down to the Shore (Outer Green Records 1991)

**Fisherman's Song** Irish Descendants

recorded on The Irish Descendants ¥ Look to the Sea (Duckworth Distribution, 1993)

**Fisherman's Token** Buddy MacDonald

**Fisherman's Wife** Ewan MacColl

printed in collected from Ewan MacColl, Madison, WI, 1986

**Fishwidow's Song** Julia Lane

recorded on CastleBay ¥ Down to the Shore (Outer Green Records 1991)

**Great Big Sea** trad.

recorded on Song of Our Land and Our Sea (No Date)

**Greenland Whale Fishery** trad.

printed in Oxford Book of Sea Songs

**I see the Bay that Builds the Boat** trad.

recorded on Newfoundlanders Sing songs of their homeland (RCA Victor 1966)

**Jack Was Every Inch a Sailor** trad.

recorded on Newfoundlanders Sing songs of their homeland (RCA Victor 1966)

**Shoals of Herring** Ewan MacColl

recorded on Ewan MacColl ¥ Freeborn Man

**Smokeroom on the Kyle** Ted Russell

recorded on Tales from Pigeon Inlet Vol. 1 (Pigeon Inlet Productions, 1950s)

**Sonny's Dream** anon.

recorded on Singers for Fisherman ¥ Favourite Newfoundland Music (Newfoundland Souvenir Records, none)

**Squid-Jiggin' Ground** Otto Kelland

recorded on Lynn Noel ¥ Crosscurrents

**Stealin' the Holes** Ted Russell

recorded on Tales from Pigeon Inlet Vol. 1 (Pigeon Inlet Productions, 1950s)

**Tiny Red Light** The Dorymen

recorded on Tiny Red Light (Heritage Music, 1988)

**We Are Three Jolly Fishermen** trad.

recorded on field recording, Ian Robb & David Parry, Madison Festival, 1986

## Boats & Gear (n=15)

Celebrating the tools of the trade

**Bluenose** Stan Rogers

recorded on Stan Rogers ¥ Home in Halifax (Fogarty's Cove & Cole Harbour Music, 1982)

**Boatie Row, the** trad.

printed in collected from Jean Redpath, 1986

**Boatman, the (Fear A Bhata)**

trad.

printed in Digital Tradition





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**Downeaster Alexa** Billy Joel  
recorded on Billy Joel ¥Downeaster Alexa

**Lukey's Boat** trad.  
recorded on Jim Payne ¥State of the Nation (SingSong, 1992)

**Mingulay Boat Song** trad.  
recorded on Jim Payne ¥State of the Nation (SingSong, 1992)

**Net Hauling Song** trad.  
printed in Digital Tradition

**Petit Voilier, Le** trad.  
printed in collected from Louise Labarre, Quebec, 1989

**Petty Harbour Bait Skiff, the** trad.  
recorded on Newfoundlanders Sing songs of their homeland (RCA Victor 1966)

**Rubber Boot Song, the** anon.  
printed in collected from George Case, Norris Point, Newfoundland, 1986

**Selling the Isabel** Larry Kaplan

**The Mary Ellen Carter** Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers ¥Home in Halifax (Fogarty's Cove & Cole Harbour Music, 1982)

**The Nancy** Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers ¥From Fresh Water (Cole Harbour Music Ltd., 1984)

**This Boat and Me** Beverley MacGillivray  
printed in Song for the Mira

**Weel May the Keel Row** trad.  
printed in collected from Jean Redpath, Madison, Wisconsin, 1986

**Great Lakes Whale Fisheries** Tom and Chris Kastle  
recorded on Privateer ¥Helm's Alee!

**Green Turtle, the (Tears in Her Eyes)** Dale & Linda Crider  
recorded on Dale & Linda Crider ¥Watersong

**Herring, the** Ernest Barter  
recorded on Song of Our Land and Our Sea (No Date)

**Jump, Salmon, Jump** Sarah Pirtle  
recorded on Sarah Pirtle ¥Two Hands Hold the Earth

**Killing of the Bawks** Otto Kelland  
recorded on Lynn Noel ¥Crosscurrents (1986)

**Last Leviathan, the** Andy Barnes  
recorded on Archie Fisher & Garnet Rogers ¥Off the Map (Snow Goose Songs/Valerie Enterprises, 1986)

**Sea Griever** Felicia Lamport  
printed in Digital Tradition

**Song for the Sea Shepherd** Jim Payne  
recorded on Jim Payne ¥For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

**Song of the Sockeye** Dean Stephens  
recorded on learned from the singing of Cindy Kallett, Mystic Seaport, 1994

**Virgin Sturgeon** anon.  
printed in Digital Tradition

**Yea Ho, Little Fish** trad.  
printed in Digital Tradition

**You Can't Eat the Oysters** Pete Seeger  
recorded on Clearwater

## All the Fish In the Sea (n=15)

Songs of fishes, seabirds, marine creatures

**Creatures At Home In the Sea** Eric West  
recorded on Heather & Eric ¥Creatures At Home In the Sea (Vinland Music, 1992)

**Down By the Bay** Raffi  
recorded on Raffi ¥Evergreen, Everblue

**Fishes Lamentation, the** trad.  
recorded on field recording, Ian Robb and David Parry, Madison Folk Festival, 1986

## Dockside (n=11)

The fish industry from packing plant to table

**Good Fish Chowder** from Joe Hickerson  
printed in Digital Tradition

**Herrin' and Potatoes** trad.  
printed in Cape Breton Songbook

**Herring Shed, the (story)** Jay O'Callahan  
recorded on Jay O'Callahan ¥The Herring Shed

**Herring Song, the** trad.  
recorded on Song of Our Land and Our Sea (No Date)





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**Lock-Keeper Stan Rogers**  
recorded on Stan Rogers¥From Fresh Water (Cole Harbour Music Ltd., 1984)

**Molly Malone trad.**  
printed in Irish Woman s Songbook

**No Hot Honeys** Alaska Hit Singles  
recorded on Alaska Hit Singles  
(John Ingalls, 1984)

**Song of the Fishgutters trad.**  
recorded on Stravaig¥Movin On (Greentrax Recordings, 1994)

**The Fisherman s in Town** Alaska Hit Singles  
recorded on Alaska Hit Singles  
(John Ingalls, 1984)

**Twelve Weeks of Working** Stephen Sharrett  
printed in Prince Edward Island Music Series

**You Ain't a Nova Scotian trad.**  
printed in Digital Tradition

## Rod and Reel (n=12)

Songs of sports anglers and their freshwater

**Big Bass Blues** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Derby Day** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Dube s Camp** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Exploding Bass** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Fiahin Gods** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Fish Talk** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Fisherman, the** Douglas Wood  
recorded on Earthsongs  
printed in Earthsong

**Fishin On My Mind** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Honor Thy Fly** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Lamprey Love** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

**Ol' Cane** Bud Davidge  
recorded on Simani¥Bud & Sim  
(Simani, 1986)

**Walleye Alley** Brown Trout and the Lunkers  
recorded on Untangled ¥ Brown Trout and the Lunkers

## Bound Away (n=22)

Leaving home, finding other work and the

**Bound to Alberta** Rise and Follies of CBI  
recorded on The Rise and Follies of Cape Breton  
Island¥1785-1985 (1985)

**Cruising with the Pride** Lynn Noel  
recorded on field recording, Mystic Seaport, 1994

**Flatfish and the Connor** Jim Payne  
recorded on Jim Payne¥For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

**Free in the Harbour** Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers ¥ Songs from Fogarty s Cove

**Government Game** Pat Byrne  
recorded on Pat & Joe Byrne with Baxter  
Wareham¥Towards the Sunset (Pigeon Inlet Productions,

**Harbour is Empty, the** Harry Martin  
recorded on Harry Martin (Clode Sound Productions/Quay,  
No Date)

**Heidi Marie** Rick Spencer  
recorded on Rick Spencer & Susan Jerome¥The Lighthouse  
Keeper s Daughter (Night Heron Music, 1992)

**Hibernia Waltz** Bud Davidge  
recorded on Simani¥Saltwater Cowboys (Simani, 1981)

**I ve Got a Job** Rise and Follies of CBI  
recorded on The Rise and Follies of Cape Breton  
Island¥1785-1985 (1985)

**Idiot, the** Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers¥Northwest Passage  
Alaska s Greatest Hits





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## Lantern Burn Rita & Mary Rankin

recorded on Rita & Mary Rankin/Lantern Burn (CBC Maritimes, 1991?)

## Man with Blue Dolphin Stan Rogers

recorded on Stan Rogers/From Fresh Water (Cole Harbour Music Ltd., 1984)

## Men of Worth Mary Black

Anthem

recorded on Mary Black / Anthem

## Offshore Oil Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

## Owed to Newfoundland Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/State of the Nation (SingSong, 1992)

## Rigworker s Alphabet Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

## State of the Nation Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/State of the Nation (SingSong, 1992)

## Strike A Match to Offshore Oil Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

## The Great Multi-National Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

## Toronto or Bust Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/State of the Nation (SingSong, 1992)

## Western Highway Rita & Mary Rankin

recorded on Rita & Mary Rankin/Lantern Burn (CBC Maritimes, 1991?)

## Winnebago Dream Lynn Noel

recorded on Lynn Noel / Crosscurrents (1986)

## Cold Cold Hearted Sea Juanita Hackett

recorded on Juanita Hackett/Special Breed of Man (SWC Productions)

## Empty Nets Jim Payne

recorded on Jim Payne/For and Against (Vikki Beat, 1982-3)

## Farmers and Fishermen Rick Spencer

recorded on Rick Spencer & Susan Jerome/The Lighthouse Keeper s Daughter (Night Heron Music, 1992)

## Fiddler s Green trad.

recorded on Lynn Noel / Crosscurrents

## Final Trawl, the Archie Fisher

recorded on Archie Fisher & Garnet Rogers/Off the Map (Snow Goose Songs/Valerie Enterprises, 1986)

## Fisher Who Died in His Bed trad.

recorded on Lynn Noel / Crosscurrents

## Fisherman s Lament Great Big Sea

(NRA Productions Ltd., 1993)  
recorded on Great Big Sea

## Fisherman's Wharf Stan Rogers

recorded on Stan Rogers / Songs from Fogarty s Cove

## Fisherman s Widow The Irish

Descendants

recorded on Irish Descendants/Look to the Sea(Duckworth)

## Frankie on the Sheepscot Gordon Bok

printed inTime and the Flying Snow

## Gales of the North Atlantic Destiny

recorded on Destiny/Gales of the North Atlantic (Rainbow Recordings, No Date )

## Ghostly Fishermen, the trad.

printed inOxford Book of Sea Songs

## Hard, Hard Times trad.

recorded on Magpie/Working My Life Away

## Isle of May Dave Goulder?

recorded on Magpie / Living Planet

## Isle of Newfoundland trad.

recorded on Singers for Fisherman/Favourite Newfoundland Music (Newfoundland Souvenir Records, none)

## Land of LightTannahill Weavers

recorded on Tannahill Weavers / Land of Light

## Hard Times & Heaven (n=34)

Work, rest and dreams of this life and the next

## A Heart Cry from the West anon.

recorded on Newfoundlanders Sing songs of their homeland (RCA Victor 1966)

## Celtic Mass for the Sea Marquis Classics

recorded on Celtic Mass for the Sea (Marquis Classics, 1994)





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**Let Me Fish Off Cape St Mary's** Otto Kelland  
recorded on All the Best Folk Music of St. John s,  
Newfoundland (Pigeon Inlet Productions, 1988)

**Make & Break Harbour** Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers¥Fogarty s Cove  
(Barn Swallow Records, 1976)

**Makin' for the Harbour** Baxter Wareham  
recorded on Towards the Sunset

**Mrs. MacDonald s Lament**Gordon Bok  
recorded on Magpie¥Working My Life Away  
printed inTime and the Flying Snow

**Old Hayes** David Maloney  
recorded on Towards the Sunset

**One More Horizon** David HB Drake  
recorded on David HB Drake ¥ One More Horizon

**Sailor s Rest**Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers¥Home in Halifax  
(Fogarty s Cove & Cole Harbour Music, 1982)

**Singing for Fisherman** Singers for Fishermen  
recorded on Singers for Fisherman¥Favourite Newfoundland  
Music (Newfoundland Souvenir Records, none)

**Song of the Wheelhouse Door** trad.  
recorded on Songs & Dances of New Brunswick  
Stringband, National Melodies

**Take Me Away to the Island** Eric West  
printed incollected from Eric West, St. John s,  
Newfoundland, 1995

**The Land God Gave to Cain** Pat Byrne  
recorded on Lynn Noel ¥ Crosscurrents

**Tiny Fish For Japan**Stan Rogers  
recorded on Stan Rogers¥From Fresh Water (Cole Harbour  
Music Ltd., 1984)

**Towards the Sunset** Pat Byrne  
recorded on Pat & Joe Byrne with Baxter  
Wareham¥Towards the Sunset (Pigeon Inlet Productions,

**Ways of Man, the** Gordon Bok  
recorded on Gordon Bok ¥ A Time for November

**Woman of the Sea Man** Pat Byrne  
recorded on Pat & Joe Byrne with Baxter  
Wareham¥Towards the Sunset (Pigeon Inlet Productions,

**Yesterday's Fisherman** BWOFF

## **Sea People (n=17)**

Drawing a sense of identity from a sense of

**Cape Breton Dream** Allister MacGillivray  
recorded on The Men of the Deeps III  
(Waterloo Music Company Ltd., 1983)

**Cape Breton Silver** Men of the Deeps  
recorded on The Men of the Deeps III  
(Waterloo Music Company Ltd., 1983)

**Lighthouse Keeper s Dream** Scott Parsons  
recorded on Scott Parsons¥Jupiter Wise  
(Jupiter Wise, 1993)

**Long for the Sea** Rita & Mary Rankin  
recorded on Rita & Mary Rankin¥Lantern Burn  
(CBC Maritimes, 1991?)

**On the Bay** Mark McNeil  
recorded on CastleBay ¥ Down to the Shore (Outer Green  
Records 1991)

**Outport People** Bud Davidge  
recorded on Simani¥Bud & Sim (Simani, 1986)

**Partons, la mer est belle** trad.  
recorded on field recording, Kouchibouguac National Park,  
1987

**Rocks of Merasheen, the** Pat & Joe Byrne with  
Baxter Wareham  
recorded on Pat & Joe Byrne with Baxter

**Saltwater Cowboys** Bud Davidge  
recorded on Simani¥Saltwater Cowboys  
(Simani, 1981)

**Sea People** Allister MacGillivray  
recorded on The Men of the Deeps III  
(Waterloo Music Company Ltd., 1983)

**Seafarin Men** David HB Drake  
recorded on David HB Drake ¥ One More Horizon

**Shorelines** David HB Drake  
recorded on David HB Drake¥One More Horizon

**Song for the Mira** Allister MacGillivray  
recorded on Lynn Noel: Crosscurrents

**Song of the Irish Moss** Stompin Tom  
Connors  
recorded on Jar O Comfort¥Surrounded by Water



(1988)



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### **The Islander Bruce Moss**

recorded on Bruce Moss The Islander (Clode Sound Productions Ltd, 1982)

### **The Ryans and the Pittmans trad.**

recorded on Song of Our Land and Our Sea  
(No Date)

### **Up and Down the Island Rise and Follies of**

CBI

recorded on The Rise and Follies of Cape Breton



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### **Conclusions**

#### **Songwriters as Creators of Community**

Today's sea music is being written less by working fishermen than by community musicians and educators. Much of the most powerful and polished music, in fact, is written not by the practitioners but by songwriters who reflect their words in song. Many of these songwriters themselves live in larger cities and may have little connection to the working fishery, but they respond to social, community and increasingly environmental issues.

#### **Public Awareness**

Many of the songs are adopted in local communities and receive radio airplay, creating a powerful sense of public awareness about the crisis in the local community and in its resource base and increasing the awareness of the larger regional and global community.

#### **Nostalgia and Hope**

Recent music of the fishery parallels similar declines in resource-based industries and their accompanying social change. Lumbering, mining and farming songs toward the "end" of their eras all have similar themes of pride, nostalgia, intergenerational skills transfer, and anxiety about the future.

#### **Values**

The songs are powerful carriers of local culture and community values: pride in hard work, courage in the face of danger, endurance through turmoil and difficulty, continuance of tradition across generations, collective action and co-operation.

#### **Dealing with Negatives**

It is striking how few negative songs there are in comparison to other communications -- media, government and other public information -- about the fishery. Even songs addressing negative feelings do so either with humor, as satire (Jim Payne), or by telling a story that allows the protagonist to come to terms with the experience (Heidi Marie, My Down-easter Alexa). Only overtly activist songs point a finger, and even those refrain from blaming a single force, reflecting the growing consensus that only collective

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action will solve a collective problem. Singing the songs becomes a demonstration of the collective action needed to make change happen.

#### **Coping Devices**

Songs and stories of the fishery blend the best of the past with hope for the future in powerful coping devices for allowing communities to process rapid change, grieve for the loss of a way of life, explore often frightening alternatives, and envision a positive collective future. They open the remote and closed communities of the fishing outports to the broader community of the North Atlantic region, creating common ground to understand and cope with change.

*"There has to be a balance between humans and nature for everything and everyone to coexist, but there is not enough emphasis on saving our culture. Fishing is our culture and without it we are in terrible shape. What is to become of our people? We must work together to reach balanced agreements and find solutions to conserve our natural resources. It is very sad to think that in modernizing our society we have destroyed more than we could ever hope to replace, but maybe by working together to save our fishery, there could be a brighter future for everyone and everything." (Shirley Hopkins, Labrador)*