

# PDT Development of FW26 Measures to date

**Deirdre Boelke, NEFMC Staff,  
Scallop PDT Chair**

**Scallop AP and Committee  
September 23/24, 2014**



**New England  
Fishery Management Council**

# Outline of Presentation

- Summarize need for FW26
- Summarize PDT work to date on FW26 measures
  1. Measures related to specifications (Morning agenda)
  2. Other Measures (Afternoon agenda)

# Framework 26 - Purpose and Need

- The purpose of this action is to prevent overfishing and improve yield-per-recruit from the fishery.
- The primary need for this action is to set specifications to adjust the day-at-sea (DAS) allocations, general category fishery allocations and area rotation schedule for 2015 and 2016 (default)
- In addition, the Council added four other issues to be addressed
  1. Allow fishing in state waters after NGOM hard-TAC is reached
  2. Make turtle regulations consistent
  3. New AMs for northern WP and modify AMs for GB and SNE/MA YT
  4. Allow a limited access vessel to declare out of fishery on return to port

# Framework 26 – Potential Additions

- The Scallop PDT met on August 6 and August 26/27 to begin development of FW26 alternatives.
- Several recommendations for AP and Committee to consider:

## *Related to fishery specifications*

1. Modify scallop access areas on Georges Bank to include areas with high recruitment south of CA2 south and east of NL
2. Prohibit access in portions of Mid-Atlantic scallop access areas to reduce incidental mortality of small scallops and increase long term yield from areas.

## *Other Issues*

3. Increased observer compensation for LAGC IFQ trips that are more than 24 hours
4. Modify regulation related to flaring bar provision for turtle deflector dredge

# Section 2.0 – Management Alternatives

**2.1.1 OFL and ABC** – PDT recommended, and SSC approved the same control rules developed in A15 and used for FW21-25, with updated survey and fishery data

Note that reference points have updated based on recent stock assessment, but principles for setting relevant F targets remain the same

- OFL - equivalent to the catch associated with  $F_{msy}$  – previously estimated at  $F=0.38$ , updated to  $F=0.48$
- ABC control rule – catch set at 25% probability of exceeding OFL. Risk is evaluated in terms the probability of overfishing compared to the fraction loss of yield. ABC previously set at 0.32, and now 0.38

**OFL = F of 0.48 = 39,127mt**

**ABC**  
**(F of 0.38 = 32,119 mt)**  
(ABC = F with 25% chance of exceeding OFL including discards)

Estimate of **discards**  
(6,240 mt)

**ABC after discards removed (ACL)**  
**(25,879 mt)**

**LAGC Incidental**  
(23 mt)

**ACL after set-asides removed**  
**25,030 mt**

**Set-asides**  
(1% of ACL for  
observer and 567 mt  
for research)

**LA sub-ACL (94.5%)**  
(23,653 mt)

**LAGC IFQ sub-ACL (5.5%)**  
(1,377 mt)

LA sub-ACT - overall limit of F= 0.34

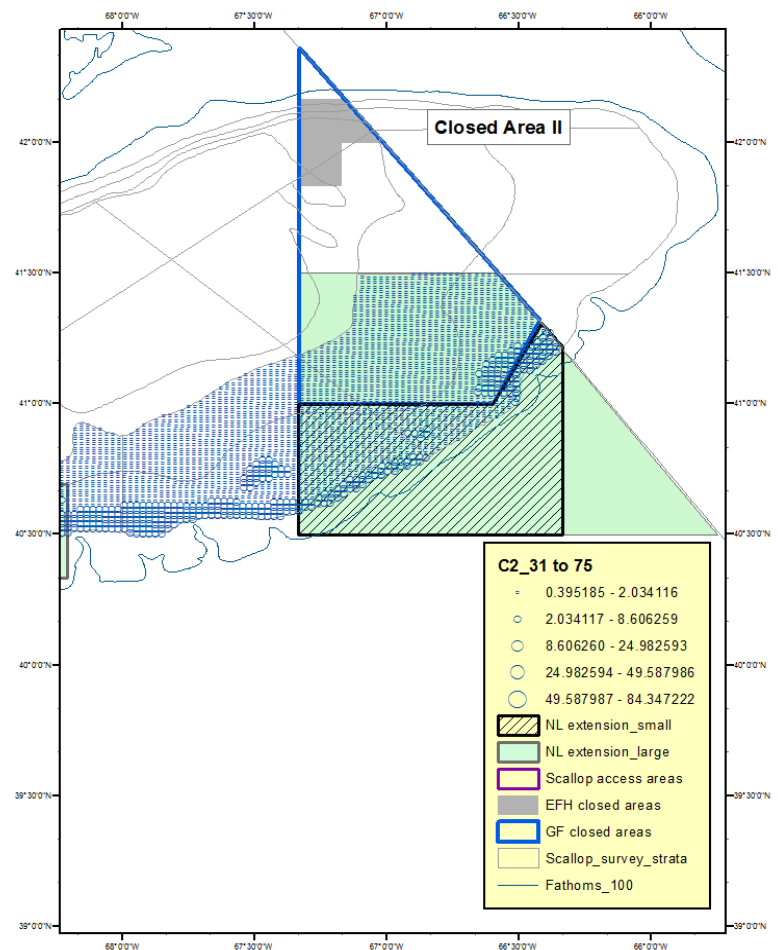
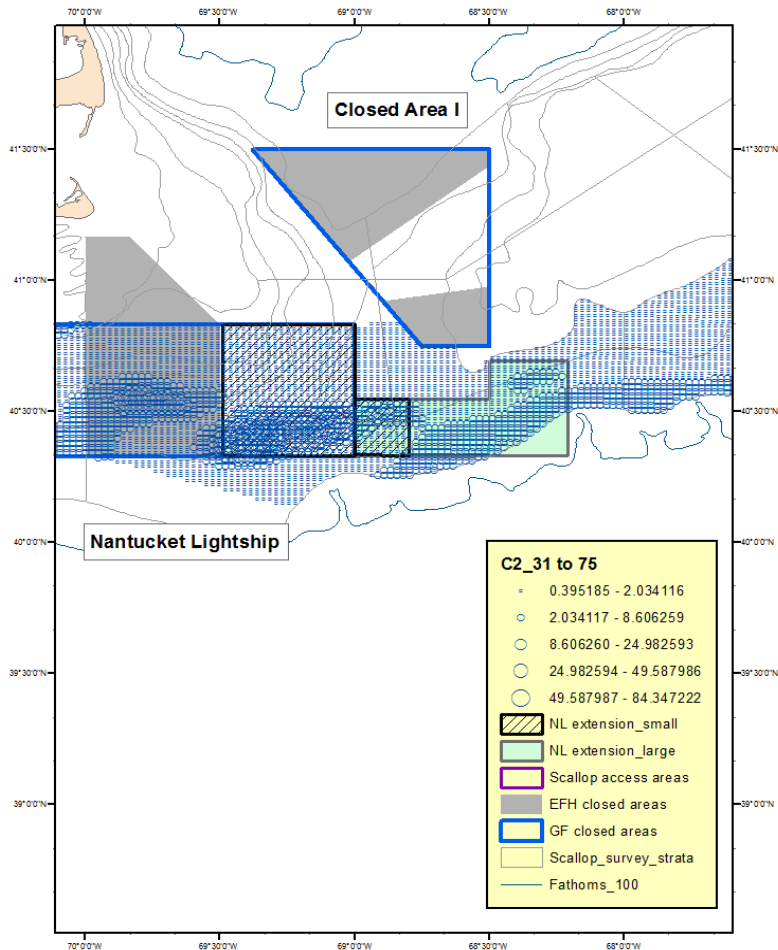
# Potential Fishery Specifications

- PDT met on Aug 26/27 to review 2014 survey results
- PDT conference call on September 10 and 18
- Fishery projections have NOT be completed – PDT meeting Oct 15
- Very preliminary – Overall 2015 ACL higher than 2014, target catches may be higher as well, but not by how much yet
  - No access areas on GB, high levels of recruitment
  - LA fishery – 2-3 access area trips in MA areas and DAS are likely to be similar to 2014 or a bit higher
  - LAGC – higher overall IFQ because ACL higher
  - NGOM – similar to 2014
  - Incidental catch – 23 mt lb target TAC (should maybe be higher)
  - Research set-aside – same 567 mt, set allocation
  - Observer set-aside – 1% of total ACL, set allocation (higher ACL)
  - Assumption for state water catch – has been 73 mt (should maybe be higher)

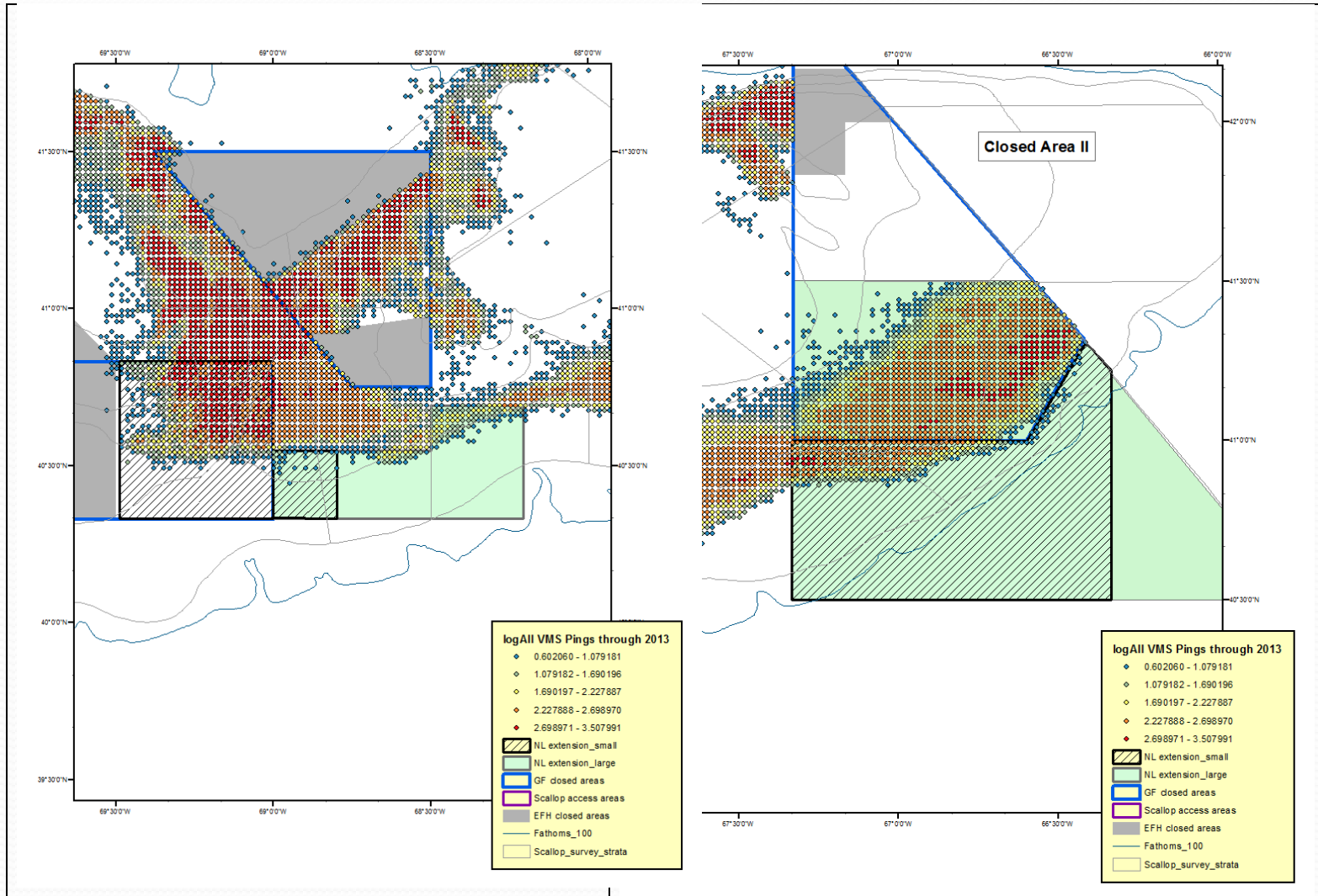
- PDT has several recommendations related to specifications
  1. Modify scallop access areas on Georges Bank to include areas with high recruitment south of CA2 south and east of NL
  2. Prohibit access in portions of Mid-Atlantic scallop access areas to reduce incidental mortality of small scallops and increase long term yield from areas.
  
- Document #3a – Six Options Developed
  - Option 1, 2 and 3 are extensions of current access areas to include concentrations of small scallops that are near existing boundaries of current access areas
  - Options 4, 5 and 6 are within existing access areas
  - Option 5 has 2 purposes (protect small scallops and to increase potential future recruitment)



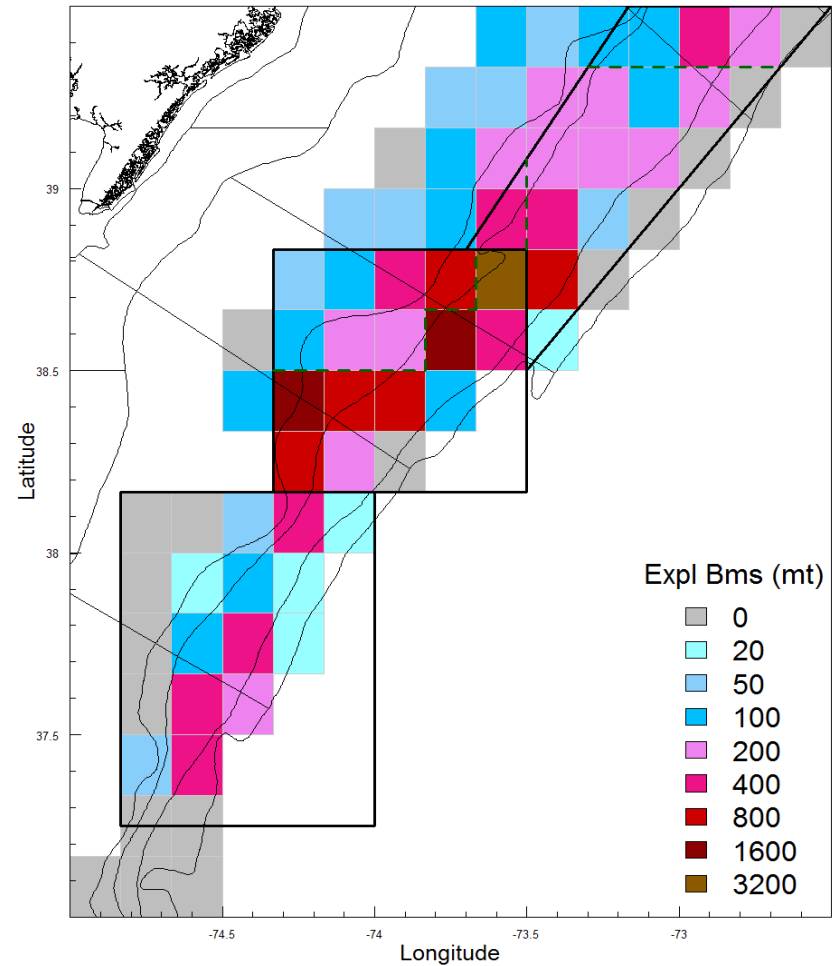
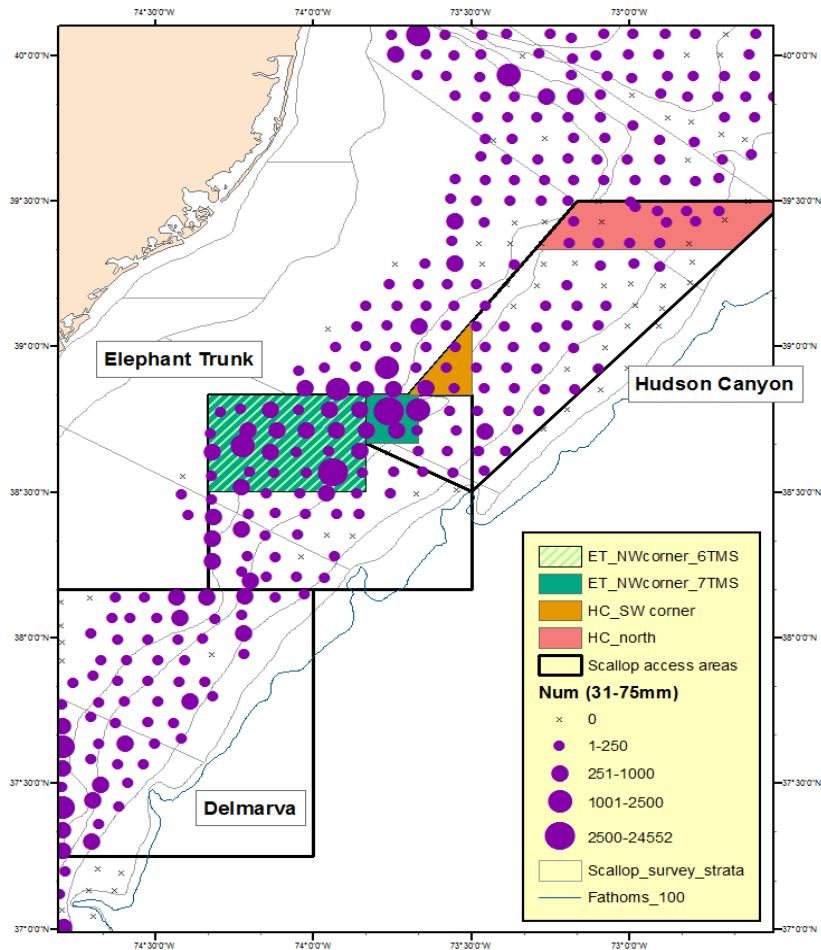
# Potential modifications to GB AAs (1,2,3)



# VMS Effort on GB – all years through 2013



# Potential modifications to MA AAs (4,5,6)



- If subareas are closed in FW26 within MA AAs
  - How should F be set in remaining portion of AA?
  - Should vessels be able to decide which AA to fish in?
- PDT developed several potential alternatives for allocating MA AA trips and setting target F rates per area.
- See Section 3.0 of Document #3
  - 3.1 – No Action – Lottery
  - 3.2 Flexible Allocation of MA trips (some or maximum flexibility)

***If flexibility is desired should any monitoring requirements change?***

# AP/Cmte Input on AA modifications in FW26

- Should any of the AA modifications be developed further?
- If the PDT is not able to complete analyses of these alternatives plus the other issues already included, which should take precedence?

*PDT Input – If it becomes necessary to prioritize items, the PDT is more supportive of developing modifications to AA in this action since there are long term benefits to the fishery.*

## Part 2 – Other Measures

- Summary of measures developed to date
- Status of PDT analyses

## Section 2.3 - Allow fishing in state waters after NGOM hard-TAC is reached

- 2.3.1 – No Action

Once the NGOM hard TAC is reached all vessels with federal scallop permit prohibited from fishing for scallops in NGOM

- 2.3.2 – All vessels with both a state scallop permit and federal NGOM permit allowed to fish in state waters after federal NGOM TAC reached

- 2.3.3 – Revise state water exemption program provisions to allow a state to request a specific exemption related to fishing in state waters after the NGOM TAC is reached

## Section 2.3 - Allow fishing in state waters after NGOM hard-TAC is reached

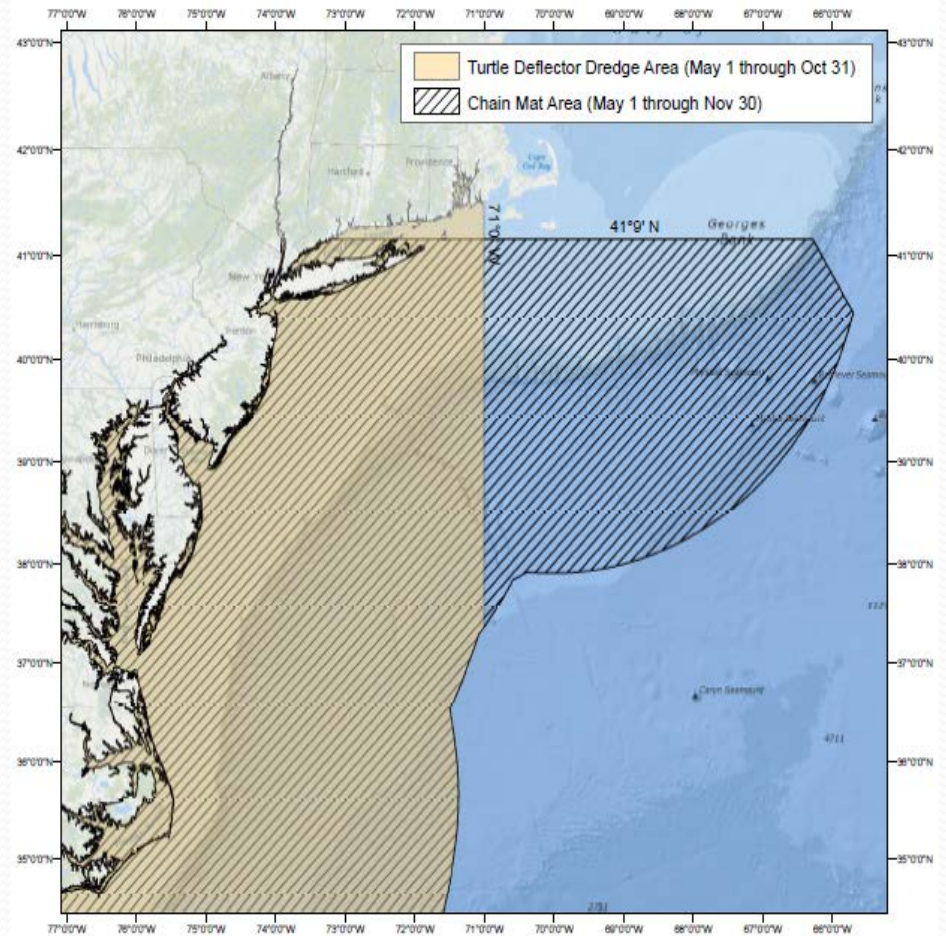
- **Status of alternative development and analyses**
  - Alternatives Fully Developed
  - Background analyses 80% complete
  - Analysis of Impacts – not complete



# Section 2.4 - Make turtle regulations consistent



Atlantic Sea Scallop Dredge Fishery - Areas Regulated for Sea Turtle Conservation



## Section 2.4 - Make turtle regulations consistent

- 2.4.1 – No Action

Season and area remain what they are for TDD and turtle chain mat requirements

- 2.4.2 – Revise season and area for turtle chain mat and TDD to be consistent (waters west of 71 W and during the months of May – November)

**The PDT recommends that this measure maintain status quo permit type differences –**

All scallop dredge vessels would need to use chain mat in area and season regardless of dredge size or permit category but LAGC IFQ vessels less than 10.5 feet would not have to use a TDD in the area and season

## Section 2.4 - Make turtle regulations consistent

- **Status of alternative development and analyses**
  - Alternatives Fully Developed
  - Background analyses 80% complete
  - Analysis of Impacts – not complete but subset of PDT has begun brainstorming how impacts should be assessed

# Section 2.5 - New AMs for northern WP and modify AMs for GB and SNE/MA YT

- 2.5.1 – AM for northern WP
  - No Action
  - Reactive AM
  - Proactive AM
- 2.5.2 – Modify GB and SNE/MA YT AMs
  - No Action
  - Reactive AM
  - Proactive AM

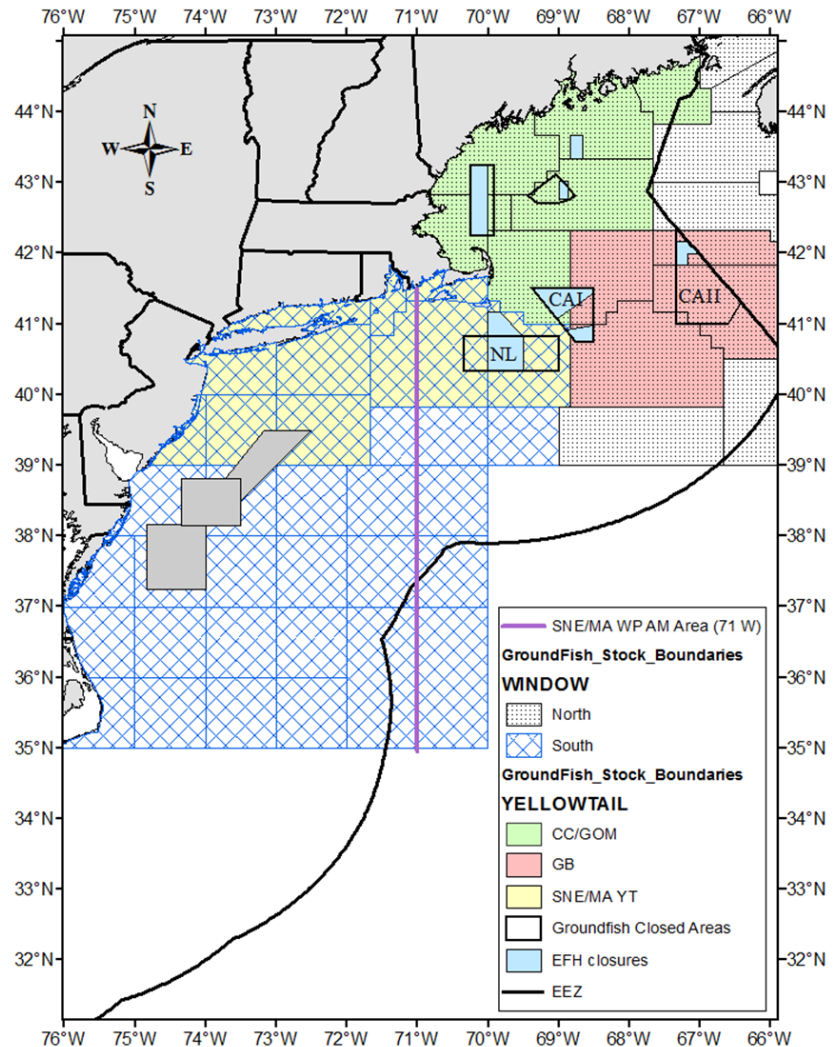




Table 1 – FY 2010-2012 Northern Windowpane Flounder Catch

Fishing Year	Total Catch Limit	Catch (mt)				% of Catch Limit Caught
		Total	Groundfish Fishery	State Waters	Other sub-Components	
2010	161 mt	163	154	0	9.1	101%
2011	161 mt	191	157	0	35	119%
2012	163 mt	209	130	2	77	128%

# Memo from GF PDT (Sept 12)

Table 2 – Other sub-Component Catch of Northern Windowpane

Fishing Year	Total Catch	Scallop Fishery	Squid/Whiting Fisheries
2010	9.1	8.2	0.7
2011	34.8	33.0	1.4
2012	77.0	75.7	0.9

Table 3– Limited access scallop fishery discards of GOM/GB windowpane flounder, 2001-2010. Landings were less than 1 metric ton in all years. Catch from Table I2 in the 2012 GF Updates pp. 571. LA Scallop Dredge from Table I5 in the 20112 GF Updates pp. 573-574. Gen Cat estimated at 4 mt, average of 2004-2011 discards using the same method as the in the 2012 GF Updates.

Calendar Year	Catch	Limited Access Scallop Dredge	Limited Access Scallop Catches as Percent of Total	General Category Scallop Fishery Catch Assumption	Total Scallop Fishery Catch As Percent of Total
	A	B	B/A	C	(B+C)/(A+C)
2001	229	22	9.6%	4	11.2%
2002	176	21	11.9%	4	13.9%
2003	377	13	3.4%	4	4.5%
2004	328	7	2.1%	4	3.3%
2005	968	17	1.8%	4	2.2%
2006	683	73	10.7%	4	11.2%
2007	1091	98	9.0%	4	9.3%
2008	376	43	11.4%	4	12.4%
2009	440	15	3.4%	4	4.3%
2010	236	9	3.8%	4	5.4%
		Average, 2001-2010	6.7%		7.8%
		90th percentile, 2001-2010	11.9%		13.7%

## Section 2.5 - New AMs for northern WP and modify AMs for GB and SNE/MA YT

- **Status of alternative development and analyses**
  - Alternatives Not Developed –  
Potential gear modification has been presented to RSC, but PDT needs to summarize results  
No work done yet on potential areas or seasons – PDT plans to do the same methods as FW25, but need to pull observer data for these stocks and update fishery effort data (may try VMS)
  - Background analyses 25% complete
  - Analysis of Impacts – not complete
  - Need to coordinate with GF PDT at some point

## Section 2.6 - Allow a limited access vessel to declare out of fishery on return to port

- **2.6.1 – No Action**

LA vessels are charged DAS from the time a vessel positions seaward of VMS demarcation line until it once again positions seaward of the line

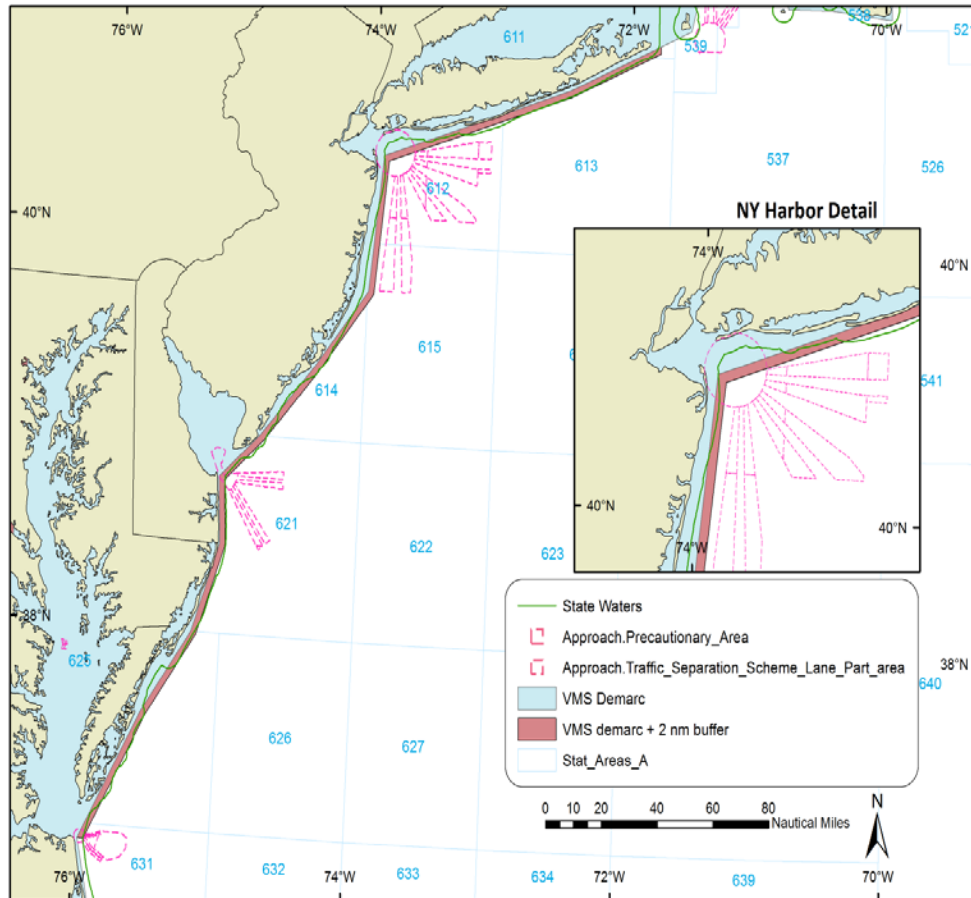
- **2.6.2 – Inshore transit corridor**

Vessels could return to port and not be charged DAS while in corridor. Several requirements recommended to prevent potential abuse

- **2.6.3 – Implement separate VMS declaration code for steaming back to port**

Trip would end when vessel goes inside demarcation line and declare out of fishery, new DOF code with product onboard

# Section 2.6 - Allow a limited access vessel to declare out of fishery on return to port



## Potential Requirements

- Vessel must return directly to port and offload scallops immediately
- Pre-landings notification required
- No in-shell product on board (or maximum of 50 bu)
- Gear must be stowed
- Increased VMS polling within corridor (suggested as potential measure at Council meeting buy initial input from NMFS OLE is that this is not feasible)
- Others?



## Section 2.6 - Allow a limited access vessel to declare out of fishery on return to port

- **Status of alternative development and analyses**
  - Alternatives Developed
  - Background analyses 25% complete
  - Analysis of Impacts – not complete
  - Plan to coordinate with Enforcement Committee

# Additional PDT Recommendations to Consider

- Section 2.7 - Increased observer compensation for LAGC IFQ trips that are more than 24 hours
  - If a trip extends more than 24 hours could consider awarding 75 additional pounds to cover cost of observer on second day.*
- Section 2.8 - Modify regulation related to flaring bar provision for turtle deflector dredge
  - Consider allowing a “flaring U”*

*Not discussed at PDT level, but has come up at previous AP meetings  
– allow different material for turtle chain mat*

# AP/Cmte Input on Other Measures in FW26

- Should either of the additional PDT recommendations be included in FW26 (increased observer comp and/or turtle regulations)?