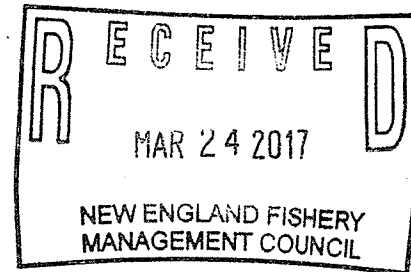


ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

Sherie Goutier

From: Dan Murphy <fvbantrybay@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:04 PM
To: comments
Subject: Fwd: NGOM



Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dan Murphy <fvbantrybay@hotmail.com>
Date: March 24, 2017 at 2:28:27 PM EDT
To: "comments@nefmc.com" <comments@nefmc.com>
Subject: NGOM

Dear Director Nies,

I am a very concerned LAGC fisherman. Over the last few years I have witnessed large LA scallop boats fishing more and more on the inshore fishing grounds. The inshore fishing grounds can not sustain the overwhelming fishing power of these boats. The inside fishing grounds are mostly small highly condensed areas. They can be easily be caught up and would take many years for them to replenish.

As a scallop permit holder I have every right to make a living from scallop fishing. As it stands now, with the way regulations are, I have lost that right.

I realize LA boats are in a different category. I would just would like you to level the playing field. If they are allowed to fish the inside grounds there needs to be some out put controls. Whether it be dredge size, trip limits or differential DAS counting in those areas.

I realize the scallop fishery is heathy for now and is a wonderful success story. The LA fleet is doing very well for itself. I hope that you don't forget about the small LAGC and NGOM fleet. We have every right to have a sustainable livelihood too.

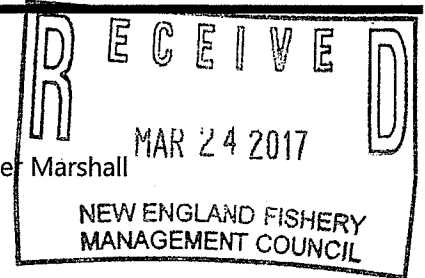
Dan Murphy
FV Bantry Bay

Sent from my iPhone

JP, SA 3/27/17

Sherie Goutier

From: togue@downeastdayboat.com
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 1:17 PM
To: comments
Cc: Jonathon Peros; Peter Christopher; David Pierce; Peter Marshall
Subject: Comments on the NGOM scallop fishery



Peter Marshall, F/V Venture is unable to submit comments via e-mail today so he asked me to submit these comments he sent via text. He also asked me to copy Pete Christopher and MA DMF. What follows is his text word for word. Thank you. - Togue

To: NEFMC

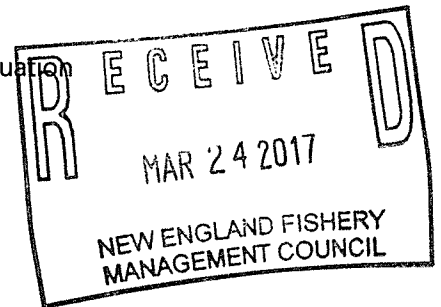
Creating what amounts to a derby style fishery in the Northern Gulf of Maine has resulted in a dangerous situation where small boats feel compelled to fish in bad weather. Knowing the area is open for a very short time drives people to fish in hazardous seas. It's only a matter of time before something bad happens and people die as a result.

The 70,000 pound TAC has no meaning whatsoever pertaining to sustainability of the resource. It has now become only the trigger used to curb the complete annihilation of the Gulf of Maine resource by trip boats. If the Council believes the Northern Gulf of Maine can only sustainably handle 200 pounds per day pressure from LAGC and NGOM permitted boats, why would they believe it can handle 50,000 pound per week trips from 53 trip boats? Obviously the current rules have no basis in science. Until these issues are dealt with, there will never be safety or sustainability in this Northern Gulf of Maine Fishery.

Peter Marshall
Venturefisheries
F.V Venture Permit 150036
LAGC
8 LeBaron Road
Essex, MA 01929

Sherie Goutier

From: Alex Todd <alextodd207@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 1:06 PM
To: comments
Subject: Comments on the NGOM Scallop Management Situation



Dear members of the Council and Scallop Advisory Panel:

I'm writing to let you know how important the Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop Fishery is to me, my family, and the small boat communities of Maine as well as New Hampshire and Massachusetts. This is a small box that us fishermen with the NGOM permit are boxed into. We can't go out of this box - our TAC comes from this box. Given our number of permit holders and the low daily catch limit if the scallops off Cape Ann had been fished sustainably, they would've provided needed opportunities and income to the families struggling to keep their families and communities going. Instead it seems that this was a one time gold mine for people whose allocations come from outside this designated area.

I can't and don't blame fisherman for fishing, it's what we do. However normally NMFS keeps us leashed back with limits: trap limits, cod limits, 200 lb scallop limits, etc. They do this to keep us from doing what we do excessively. We have those limits in the NGOM. But the vessels whose allocation comes from outside the NGOM don't. How is it OK for them to come into the NGOM and ignore the limits designed to protect it? When the IFQ boats come in they have to abide by the "most restrictive rule". Why don't the Limited Access boats? Why do the boats with the greatest fishing power get to ignore the limits?

The reality is the TAC that should have been set here could have provided hundreds of families income for several months out of the year while still growing the biomass. But now The DAS boats can drop back below the line and continue to provide for their families. Well those of us in the box are shut down. This isn't open bottom it's a small box with cyclical recruitment, and if it's allowed to be a limitless derby for the biggest boats with the most power it will never be sustainable. Please correct this inconsistency and take into consideration that it's the only area we have to fish and we need a sustainable fishery, and we need it to provide more than a couple weeks worth income. This could provide months of income if managed sustainably. It's time to do that. In fact it's way overdue.

Thank you,

Alex Todd
F/V Jacob and Joshua
Chebeague Island, ME



