



New England Fishery Management Council

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E.F. "Terry" Stockwell III, *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEETING SUMMARY

Scallop Committee Meeting

Radisson – Warwick, RI

November 19, 2015

The Scallop Committee met on November 19, 2015 to identify final preferred alternatives for Amendment 19, Framework 27, and 2016 work priorities.

This meeting was held right before the December Council meeting so the summary is brief with final motions only.

AMENDMENT 15

Motion 1: Kaelin/Quinn

The Committee recommends Alternative 2.2 (implement a specifications process) as preferred for final action in Scallop Amendment 19.

Vote: 7:0:0, carries

Motion 2: Kaelin/Sissenwine

The Committee recommends Alternative 2.3 (change the start of the fishing year to April 1) as preferred for final action in Amendment 19.

Vote: 7:0:0, carries

FRAMEWORK 27

- Clarifications

By consensus, the Committee supports the clarifying alternatives developed by the PDT for state water catch, three year average.

Motion 3: Pappalardo/Kaelin

The Committee recommends default measures for FY2017 include the equivalent of one access area trip poundage in the Mid-Atlantic Access Area (MAAA) starting April 1, 2017 for LA vessels as well as the same default level of MAAA trips the LAGC fishery was allocated in Framework 26.

Vote: 7:0:0, carries

- Preferred Alternatives

Motion 4: Pappalardo/Robins

The Committee recommends Alternative 2.1.2, updated OFL and ABC, as preferred in Framework 27.

Vote: 8:0:0, carries

Motion 5: Alexander/Pappalardo

The Committee recommends the PDT analyze the elements of AP motion #5 for the December Council meeting

Consider a separate alternative for Framework27 for specifications including the items below for FY2016:

1. 34.69 DAS for FT LA vessels (same as Alternative 3)
2. Creation of another closure south of the current CA2 access area with the intent the area stay closed for one year but would remain closed until a subsequent action is considered (same area as Alternative 3)
3. No limited access AA effort would be allocated in either the CA2 south or NL north access areas
4. Each FT LA vessel would get 54,000 pounds in MAAA only (with an 18,000 pound possession limit) and each LA PT vessel would get 21,600 pounds (with a 10,800 pound possession limit)
5. Maintain the current closure in Elephant Trunk, not the extension

Vote: 8:0:0, carries

Motion #6: Pappalardo/Sissenwine

Request the PDT evaluate the biological impacts of allocating some level of access from NL equivalent to Area Option 3 Alternative 2.2.3.2.3 (Area Option 3), which would allocate 19% of the total LAGC gen cat fleetwide trips from NL north (485 trips and 290,994 pounds).

Vote: 5:2:1, carries

Motion 7: Kaelin/Pappalardo

The Committee recommends Access Area Allocation Option 2 as preferred for the number of LAGC IFQ access area trips (Section 2.2.3.1). This option is the same method used in Framework 26, which is based on the proportion of total projected catch from access areas.

Vote: 7:0:0, carries

Motion 8: Kaelin/Robins

The Committee recommends Alternative 3 in Section 2.2.4 as preferred; RSA compensation fishing would be allowed in any area open to the scallop fishery, but prohibited in NL whether that area is open to the fishery or not.

Vote: 7:0:0, carries

PRIORITIES

By consensus, the Committee recommends adding the PDT recommendation for potential 2016 priorities. Specifically, the overall performance of the ACL structure should be reviewed since it was adopted under Amendment 15 in 2010. This issue could be considered in a future action in 2016 or later.

Motion 9: Kaelin/Robins

The Committee recommends adding an item to potential 2016 priorities that would consider modifications of the current reactive YT AMs (seasonal closures) to be more consistent with the AMs in place for southern WP flounder (gear modification areas).

Vote: 7:0:0, carries