



NEFMC Inshore Scallop Fishing Workshop February 22-23, 2016

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Plaza Ballroom
801 Greenwich Ave.
Warwick, RI 02886

Workshop Goals

The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is hosting this workshop to provide an opportunity for participants in the scallop fishery to discuss concerns raised about the consequences of inshore scallop fishing pressure. The workshop will support constructive and open dialogue between all users of the resource, scientific experts, fishery managers, and interested members of the public.

Specifically, the workshop supports the following objectives:

- Share concerns and perspectives related to inshore fishing pressure and resulting impacts on the resource and the different segments of the fishery;
- Understand, define and frame the issue(s); including scope, scale, consequences, and influencing factors;
- Generate and discuss ideas that may alleviate the concerns and issue(s) identified;
- Understand each fleet's operational realities, incentives and expectations, and consider how each fleet's vision for the fishery aligns; and
- Foster collaboration and communication among user groups, scientists, fishery managers, and the general public.

Background and Materials

The Council is holding this workshop in response to concerns that have been raised about how inshore fishing pressure may impact the resource and different segments of the fishery. These issues were explored in a May 2015 draft White Paper on Inshore Scallop Fishing Issues. This paper, along with other workshop materials are available on the [Inshore Scallop Fishing Workshop page](#) of the Council's website.

Registration and Logistics

The Council encourages participants (i.e. permit holders, crew members, captains, etc.) in both the Limited Access General Category (LAGC) and Limited Access (LA) fisheries to attend this workshop. Registration is required. Please visit the [scallop workshop page](#) on Council's website to register for the workshop, complete the questionnaire, and find information about making travel arrangements. Participation in this workshop is voluntary. Participants are responsible for their own travel, with the exception of Council members and advisors (i.e., Advisory Panel or Plan Development Team members).

The Council has enlisted the Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum (Fisheries Forum) to facilitate workshop discussions (<http://www.fisheriesforum.org>).

DAY 1 | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2016

- 7:30 – 8:30 am** **Workshop Registration**
Plaza Ballroom Foyer
- 8:30 – 9:00 am** **Workshop introduction and opening remarks**
Terry Stockwell, Chair, New England Fishery Management Council
Kim Gordon, Co-Director, Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum
- 9:00 – 10:00 am** **Management context**
The scallop fishery has changed significantly over the past 20 years. Council staff will provide a quick orientation on current and historical management of the fishery.
Deirdre Boelke, Sea Scallop Plan Coordinator, Council staff
- 10:00 – 10:15 am** **BREAK**
- 10:15 – 12:00 pm** **Breakout discussions: Fishery goals and expectations (Part 1)**
The LA and LAGC fleets are very different components of the scallop fishery. Workshop participants will discuss the goals, expectations and incentives that shape how the two fleets operate.
Fisheries Forum facilitators
- Discussion questions:*
- *What does a successful fishery look like for you?*
 - *What factors, constraints and incentives inform how businesses in each fleet operate?*
- 12:00 – 1:15 pm** **LUNCH**
- 1:15 – 2:00 pm** **Full group discussion: Fishery goals and expectations (Part 2)**
Share the ideas (e.g., needs, goals, factors, constraints) identified through small group discussions, and consider commonalities and differences between the two fleets.
Fisheries Forum facilitators
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm** **Fishery trends**
To help provide context for workshop discussions, council staff will present recent data and describe effort and landing trends in the fishery.
Deirdre Boelke, Sea Scallop Plan Coordinator, Council staff
- 3:00 – 3:15 pm** **BREAK**

3:15 – 5:00 pm

Breakout discussions: Framing the issues (Part 1)

Some participants in the scallop fishery have raised concerns about competition among the LA and LAGC fleets for access to inshore scallops, and the effects of inshore fishing on localized productivity. Participants will share experiences and discuss these issues.

Fisheries Forum facilitators

Discussion questions:

- *Have you encountered concerns about access to inshore scallops?*
- *Have you encountered concerns about the impacts of inshore fishing on the localized productivity of the scallop resource?*
- *In your experience, do these concerns vary over time or by region?*
- *What factors and conditions contribute to these issues (e.g., localized resource abundance, time of year, specific regulations, etc.)?*

5:00 – 5:15 pm

Day 1 Wrap Up

DAY 2 | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016

8:30 – 8:45 am

Day 2 Introduction

8:45 – 9:45 am

Full group discussion: Framing the issues (Part 2)

Share the ideas identified through small group discussions, and establish a common understanding of the concerns that have been expressed.

Fisheries Forum facilitators

9:45 – 10:30 am

Experience from other fisheries

Participants will explore examples of how similar issues have been approached in different regions and fisheries.

Trisha Cheney, Management Coordinator, Maine Department of Marine Resources (tentative)

Kim Gordon, Co-Director, Fisheries Leadership & Sustainability Forum

10:30 – 10:45 am

BREAK

10:45 – 12:15 pm

Breakout discussions: Ideas and opportunities (Part 1)

Participants will consider opportunities to address concerns about access and productivity of inshore scallops and share perspectives on whether these concerns could or should be addressed.

Fisheries Forum facilitators

Discussion questions:

- *What are the benefits and drawbacks of taking steps to mitigate the concerns raised?*
- *What are some potential opportunities to address concerns?*

12:15 – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

1:30 – 3:00 pm

Full group discussion: Ideas and opportunities (Part 2)

Consider how the ideas and opportunities identified in small group discussions relate to larger fishery goals and objectives.

Fisheries Forum facilitators

Discussion questions:

- *How might these opportunities support the goals and expectations for each fleet?*
- *What considerations, questions, and information would help inform the exploration of potential solutions?*

3:00 – 3:30 pm

Workshop wrap up and closing remarks