

# GOM/GB WP and the Scallop Fishery

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New England  
Fishery Management Council

# Outline of Presentation

1. GF FW53 Alternatives for N.Windowpane flounder sub-ACL for scallop fishery
2. Estimates of recent WP catches
3. Scallop Committee Motion related to GF FW53
4. Scallop PDT projection of 2015 WP catch
5. Other measures in Scallop FW26 that could reduce WP catch

# GF FW53 Alternatives for N.Windowpane sub-ACL

Alternative (% of total ACL)	2015 Sub-ACL (mt)
No Action (29 <sup>0</sup> %)	44
2 <sup>0</sup> %	3
8 <sup>0</sup> %	11
14 <sup>0</sup> %	20

# Other sub-ACLs for the scallop fishery in FY2015

Stock	US ACL (mt)	Scallop sub-ACL (mt)	% of Total
GB YT	240	38	16%
SNE/MA YT	666	66	10%
SNE/MA WP	548	183	33%
GOM/GB WP	144 141	No Action (44) Range of 3 - 20	No Action – 29% Range of 2% - 14%

# Estimates of WP catch

- Assessment – CY (LA and LAGC separated out)  
Discard (WP) / Kept (All)
- RO Monitoring report – Scallop FY (LA and LAGC separated out)  
One D/K for entire stock area and year  
After sub-ACL assigned - stratified by area (CA1, CA2, open)
- Scallop PDT Projection – CY (LA and LAGC together)
  - Separate D/K ratio for 6 different SAMS areas (CA1, CA2, CA2 extension, Channel, Southern Flank of GB, and Northern Flank of GB)
  - Separate rate per quarter
  - Discard (WP) / Kept (scallops)

# RO Monitoring Report

- 2012 – Scallop catch = 76 mt (34 DAS, One 18,000 lb trip in CA2)  
*Scallop catch exceeded catch set aside for other sub-component fisheries – one factor leading to total ACL being exceeded*
- 2013 – Scallop catch = 41 mt (33 DAS, 0.5 13,000 lb trip in CA2)  
*Catch for scallop fishery below level set aside for other sub-component fisheries (44mt)*
- 2014 – AMs triggered for GF fishery based on total ACL being exceeded in 2012 and preliminary estimate of catch for GF fishery above 2013 ACL
- If catch in scallop fishery monitored as a sub-ACL – catch by area  
2013 = 40mt  
2014 to date = 29mt (31 DAS, 0.5 12,000 lb trip in CA2)

# 2013 Sample – not online – not a sub-ACL

## Northern Windowpane Flounder Catch for the Directed Scallop Fishery

Report run on: November 17, 2014  
 For data reported through: July 15, 2014  
 Quota period: 2013  
 Quota period dates: 03/01/13 to 02/28/14

Date	Limited Access Fleet*				Limited Access General Category IFQ Fleet				Monthly total catch (lb)	Cumulative catch (lb)	Percent of Other sub-component (44 mt, 97,003 lb)
	Open Areas		Closed Area I (521, 522, 525)**	Closed Area 2	Open Areas		Closed Area I (521, 522, 525)**				
	Kept (lb)	Discards (lb)	Discards (lb)	Discards (lb)	Dredge discards (lb)	Trawl discards (lb)	Dredge discards (lb)	Trawl discards (lb)			
March-13	-	7,206	-	-	357		-	-	7,563	7,563	7.8
April-13	-	9,298	-	-	608	-	-	-	9,906	17,470	18.0
May-13	-	16,267	637	200	858	-	-	-	17,962	35,431	36.5
June-13	-	15,361	1,094	2,437	666	-	-	-	19,558	54,990	56.7
July-13	-	10,050	199	2,647	561	-	-	-	13,456	68,446	70.6
August-13	-	7,479	30	1,076	441	-	-	-	9,027	77,473	79.9
September-13	-	3,777	98	-	245	-	-	-	4,120	81,592	84.1
October-13	-	640	131	-	175	-	-	-	946	82,538	85.1
November-13	-	399		572	117	-	-	-	1,088	83,626	86.2
December-13	-	519		285	111	-	-	-	915	84,541	87.2
January-14	-	991	-	119	160	-	-	-	1,270	85,811	88.5
February-14	-	3,041	9	144	118	-	-	-	3,312	89,123	91.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>75,027</b>	<b>2,197</b>	<b>7,482</b>	<b>4,417</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>89,123</b>			

\*The limited access fleet is not split into dredge and trawl components because there is insufficient observer coverage for such a stratification.

\*\*The northern windowpane stock area does not include statistical areas 526. Data reported here are for statistical areas 521, 522 and 525 only.

In order to comply with data confidentiality requirements, discards for areas and/or gear types that only have 1 - 2 trips in a month will be aggregated with discards from preceding month(s) until the 3 trip minimum is met.

NOTE: This report uses 12 months of audited observer data (March 2013 - February 2014) for both fleets in Open Areas, Closed Area I and Closed Area II.

# Nov. Scallop Cmte Motion#14

Kaelin/Kendall

The Scallop Committee recommends that the Council consider that any bycatch sub-allocation be based on projected catch of WWP in the scallop fishery or an average of the % of WWP catch in scallop fishery for the last 3-5 years (up to 2013 if available) (Supports AP Motion #17).

Vote: 5:0:1, carries



# GOM/GB WP Catch

(Discard (wp) /  
Kept (all))

CY	Total (mt)	Scallop (mt)	%
1994	687.6	63.1	9.2%
1995	1,444.6	28.2	1.9%
1996	1,197.4	58.9	4.9%
1997	1,532.5	270.2	17.6%
1998	651.6	78.3	12.0%
1999	107.8	22.7	21.1%
2000	343.3	19.1	5.6%
2001	228.7	22.3	9.7%
2002	184.0	30.1	16.4%
2003	379.4	16.0	4.2%
2004	337.1	16.2	4.8%
2005	962.2	21.1	2.2%
2006	684.8	77.9	11.4%
2007	1,087.6	100.7	9.3%
2008	379.1	45.8	12.1%
2009	445.5	20.5	4.6%
2010	242.0	13.8	5.7%
2011	181.6	33.4	18.4%
2012	190.5	36.6	19.2%
2013	358.6	66.8	18.6%

# Other Potential Alternatives based on D/K from different years

<b>Method</b>	<b>CY</b>	<b>Total (mt)</b>	<b>Scallop (mt)</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>FW53 Assessment</b>	2001-2010	4,930.4	364.5	7.4%
<b>Last 5 Years</b>	2009-2013	1,418.3	171.2	12.1%
<b>Last 3 Years</b>	2011-2013	730.8	136.9	18.7%
<b>Last 10 years</b>	2004-2013	4,869.1	433.0	8.9%

90<sup>th</sup> percentile = 11.4%

# 2015 Sub-ACL using other potential alternatives

Method	Total ACL (mt)	Scallop sub-ACL (mt)	% of Total
FW53 Assessment	141	3-20	2-14%
Last 5 Years	141	17	12%
Last 3 Years	141	27	19%
Last 10 years (mean)	141	13	9%
Last 10 years (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	141	16	11%

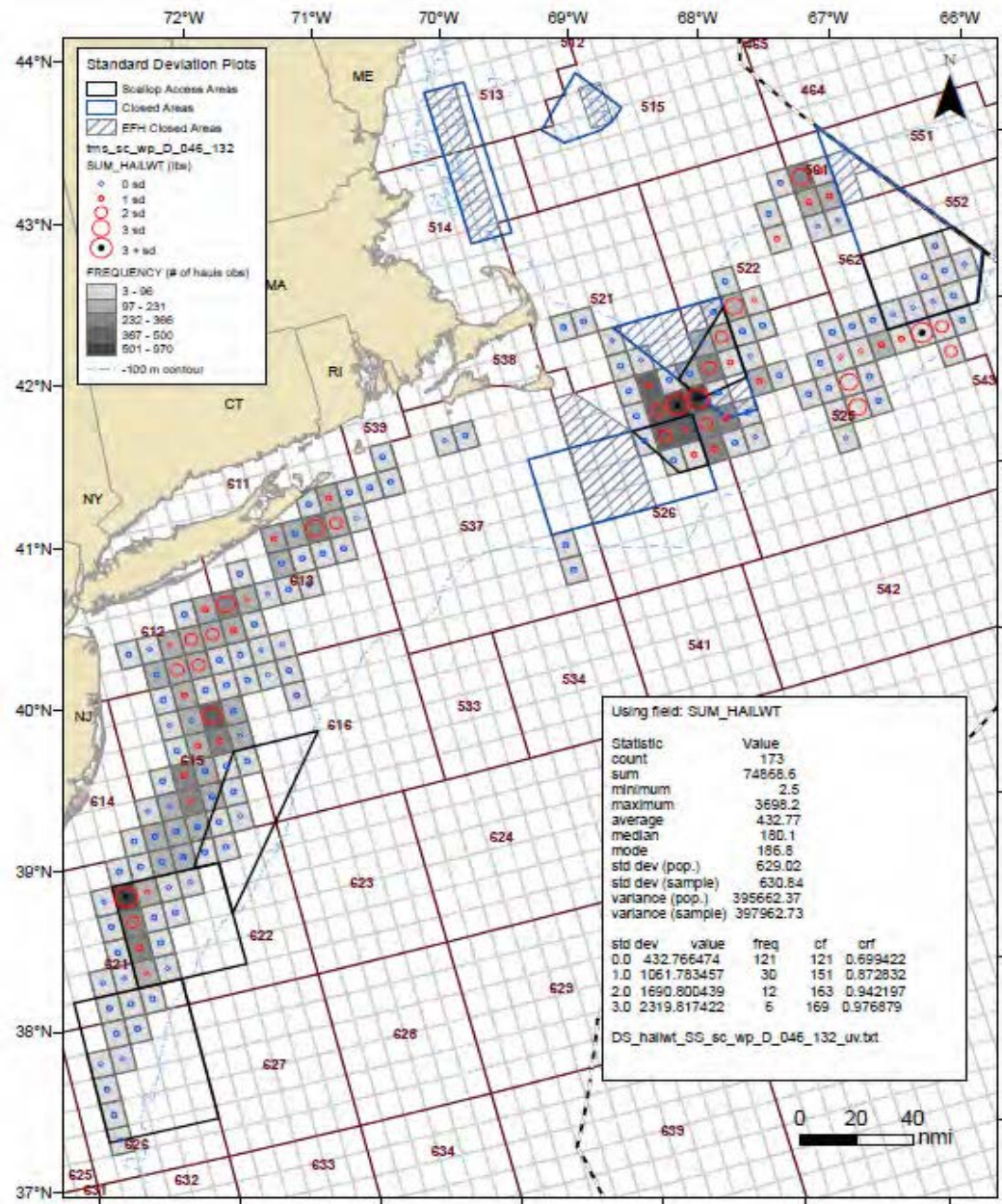
Mean of last 3 years provides the highest sub-ACL – 19%

# Scallop PDT Projections

- Recent estimates – not reviewed by full PDT
- Bycatch projections relatively uncertain
- WP bycatch rates vary by season and area
- PDT estimate broken out by 6 SAMS areas and 4 quarters
- Uses 2013 D/K ratios
- Annual D/K calculated as well

Year	D/K
2010	0.005
2011	0.005
2012	0.004
2013	0.008
2014	0.014

# Sum of Observed WP catch by TMS for LA Scallop vessels (2006-2011)



DRAFT

Observed windowpane flounder discards summarized by ten minute quadrangle from 2008-2011, where the target species was Atlantic sea scallops. Values are symbolized by the standard deviation of the data and where at least 3 unique vessels were observed.

LA = 048, GC = 047, Scal Dredge = 132, OT Scal Bot = 052

Date: 8/14/2012

# FW26 Projections – Scallop PDT

2009-2014

Quarter	CA1	CA2	C2Ext	Sch	SEP	NEP
1	0.006	0.410	0.079	0.006	0.160	0.013
2	0.002	0.004	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.004
3	0.007	0.003	0.001	0.005	0.004	0.004
4	0.024	0.007	NA	0.004	0.006	0.014

2013

Quarter	CA1	CA2	C2Ext	Sch	SEP	NEP
1	0.006	0.410	0.079	0.004	0.160	0.013
2	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.011	0.002
3	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.008	0.004	0.019
4	0.000	0.025	0.025	0.011	0.006	0.014

# Range of 2015 Projected Catch

For the Committee Preferred Alternative (Alt 3 (NL+CA2 ext)) = **45 – 94 mt of VWP catch**  
**High** – Based on where model thinks effort will go (1 million catch from “CA2 Extension” and 6.2 million from Southern Flank (SEP) of GB – but probably an overestimate  
**Low** – Reduces catch to 2013 levels in CA2 extension and SEP

	CA1	CA2	C2Ext	Sch	SEP	NEP	Total
D:K 2013	0.003	0.005	0.027	0.005	0.022	0.009	
<b>HIGH</b>							
Alt 2 Scallop Landings	0	0	512	2386	2840	706	6444
Alt 2 WP Catch	0	0	14	11	63	6	94
Alt 3 (3 closures) Scallop Landings	0	0	0	2386	2844	706	5936
Alt 3 (3 closures) WP Catch	0	0	0	11	63	6	80
Alt 3 (NL+ETA) Scallop Landings	0	0	512	2381	2839	705	6437
Alt 3 (NL+ETA) WP Catch	0	0	14	11	63	6	94
<b>LOW</b>							
Alt 2 ReducedSEPLand	0	0	200	2386	1000	706	4292
Alt 2 ReducedSEP WP Catch	0	0	5	11	22	6	45
Alt 3 (3 closures)ReducedSEPLand	0	0	0	2386	1000	706	4092
Alt 3 (3 closure)ReducedSEP WP Catch	0	0	0	11	22	6	39
Alt 3 (NL+ETA)ReducedSEPLand	0	0	200	2386	1000	706	4292
Alt 3 (NL+ETA)ReducedSEP WP Catch	0	0	5	11	22	6	45

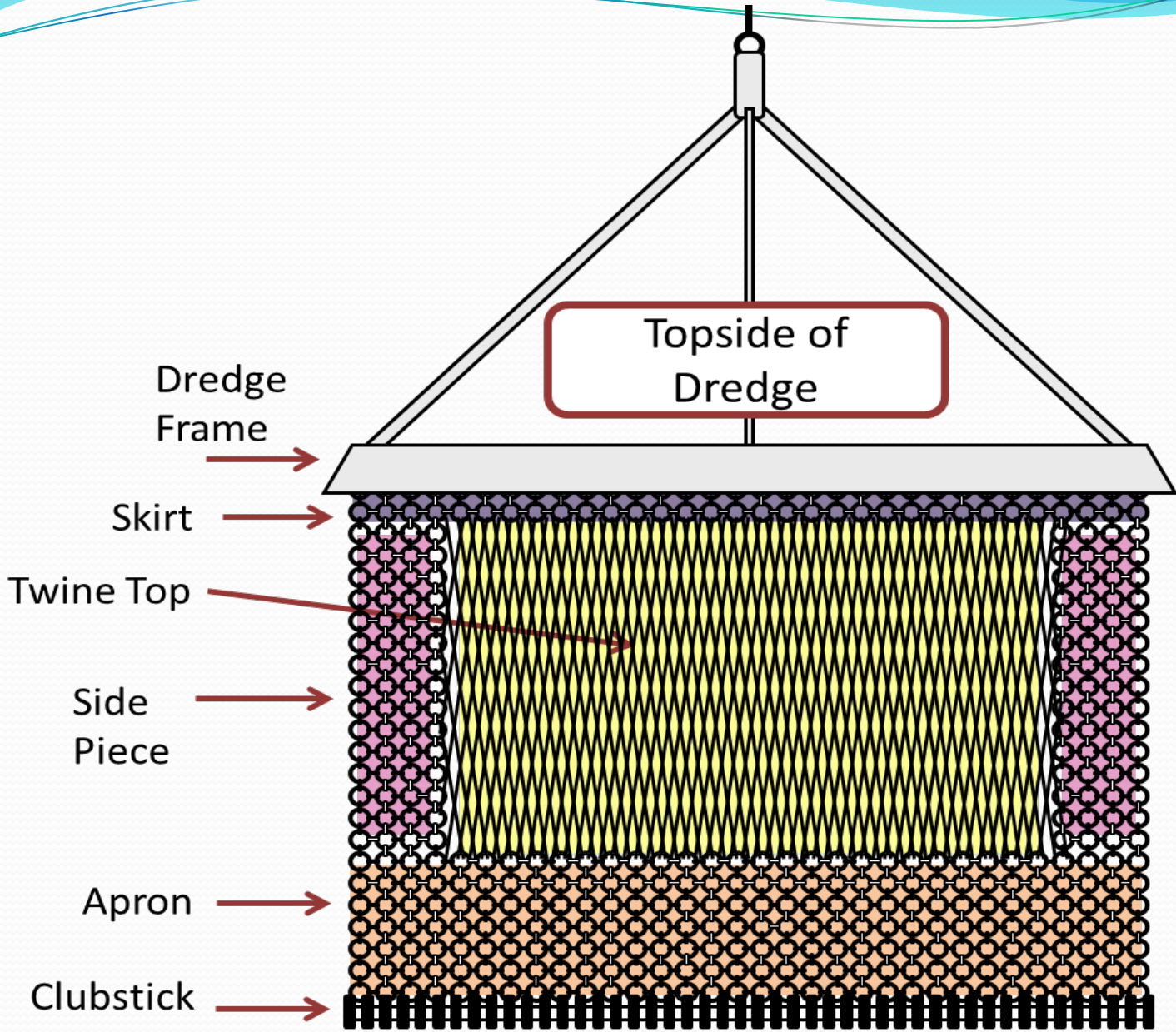
# Summary of projection results

- Annual D/K increasing over time
- Highest D/K in winter – low in summer
- Channel is one hotspot, but southern part of channel – SNE/MA WP stock area
- CA2 extension also a hotspot; closing that area in 2015 would likely reduce WP catch – by about 6-14 mt
- Both the low and high projection for the FW26 preferred specification alternative above the range of sub-ACL alternatives in FW53, except for No Action (just below at 44mt). The high projection is 67% of 2015 ACL and the low is 32%.
- Even new ideas offered by Scallop Cmte below projected catches
- Scallop fishery catch of WP likely to increase in future years when more access on GB



# Proactive AMs under consideration in Scallop FW26

- Under Status Quo – all scallop vessels required to fish with minimum of 7 rows in apron of dredge
- FW25 – proactive AM – require MAXIMUM of 7 rows – but limited to open areas west of 71W only
- FW26 – same requirement under consideration for all open and access areas
  - maximum of 7 rows
  - eliminate provision all together (vessel could use less or more than 7 rows)



- Observer data suggests that majority of fleet currently using more than 7 rows (most using 8-10 rows)
- 2011 RSA project compared different apron heights (7/8 rows vs. vessels with 10-13 rows) on 14 trips in CA1 and CA2. Overall, flatfish bycatch rates lower for shorter aprons.
- Reactive AMs not complete in FW26 – need to be developed in FW27 – could be retroactive for any overage in 2015
- FW26 Alternative that closes CA2 extension has lower WP catch
- In conclusion, 2015 catch of WP could be reduced by implementing proactive AMs and closing CA2 extension, but this will likely be a larger issue in future years when more effort allocated on GB.
- Difficult to assess impacts of sub-ACL alternatives before AMs are known, but gear modification AMs generally preferred by fishery over seasonal closed area AMs (more flexible).