2025 Scallop Survey Short Report

Prepared by:

School for Marine Science & Technology

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August 25th, 2025

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1.0 2025 SURVEY BIOMASS ESTIMATES

Drop Camera

Size cutoff for estimates is 40mm, all estimates should use the 2025 Scallop RTA equation.

Region	Area	Abundance (mil.)	Biomass (mt)	SE	Avg. Weight (g)	Avg. Size (mm)	Avg. Density (#/m^2)	# Stations (4 drops per station) and grid resolution (nautical miles)
Georges Bank	CL1-Access	30.9	590	127	19.1	108.0	0.03	36, 3 nmi
	CL1-Sliver	411.5	5278	792	12.8	96.3	0.52	102, 1.5 nmi
	CL1-South	0.0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	10, 3 nmi
	CL2-North	199.3	4231	570	21.2	105.1	0.43	60, 1.5 nmi
	CL2-South	92.1	1540	173	18.4	100.7	0.03	298, 1.5 nmi 41, 3 nmi
	CL2-Ext	165.6	1784	128	10.8	86.7	0.12	175, 1.5 nmi
	NLS-North	52.8	868	175	16.4	94.4	0.05	144, 1.5 nmi
	NLS-South (VIMS eq)	7863.7	24041	5214	3.1	60.4	6.03	169, 1.5 nmi
	NLS-West	34.6	620	276	17.9	101.8	0.02	46, 3 nmi
	GSC	210.8	2478	271	11.8	82.8	0.05	133, 3 nmi
	NF	138.6	1616	465	11.7	82.6	0.07	61, 3 nmi
	SF	3321.3	15999	11759	4.8	65.1	0.82	131, 3 nmi
	GB Total	12521.2	59045	19950				948, 1.5 nmi 458, 3 nmi

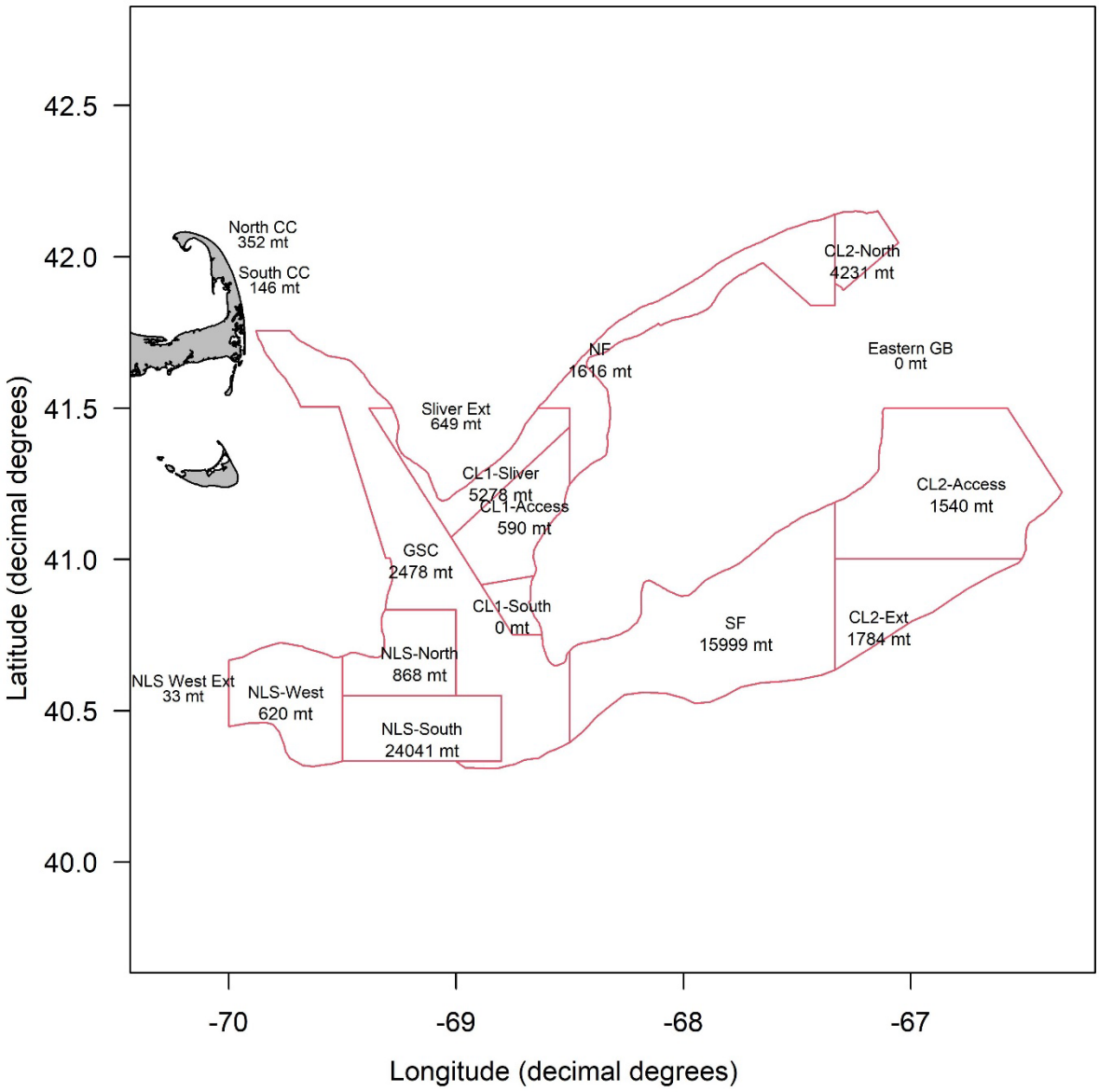

Figure 1. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey biomass estimates from 2025 for scallops ≥ 40 mm shell height, in metric tons, on Georges Bank by Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) zones (red polygons) and surveyed non-SAMS areas. The grey land is the eastern portion of Cape Cod.

2.0 FIGURES OF SURVEY COVERAGE

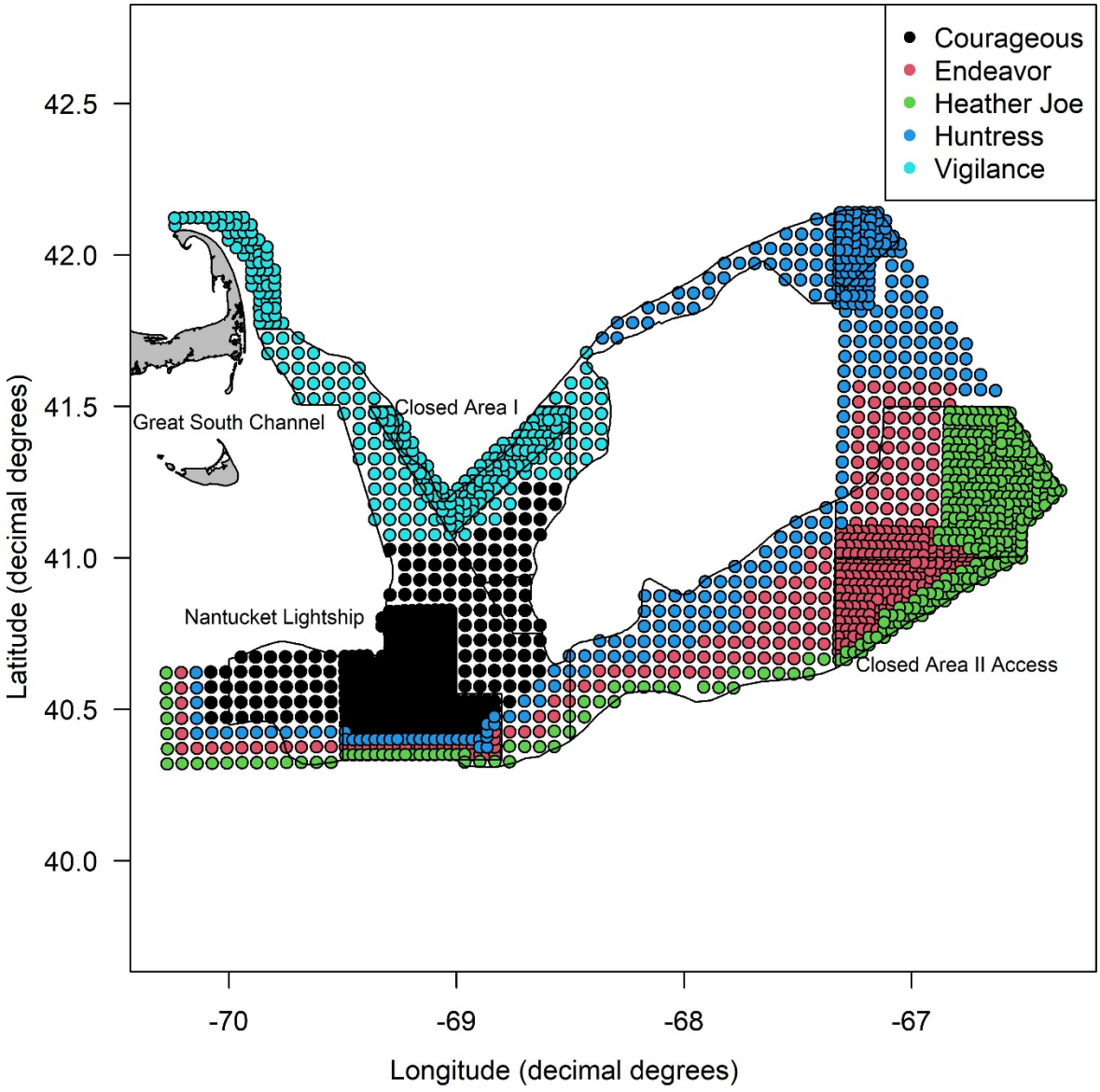

Figure 2. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey station locations by sampling vessel on Georges Bank in 2025. Stations were attempted to be 5.6 km apart with the exceptions of the Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) areas CL1-Sliver, CL2-North, CL2-Ext, NLS-North, NLS-South, and part of CL2-Access, and the North Cape Cod, South Cape Cod, Sliver Extension, and part of the Eastern Georges Bank non-SAMS areas, which had stations 2.8 km apart. Please refer to other figures in this report for specific area locations.

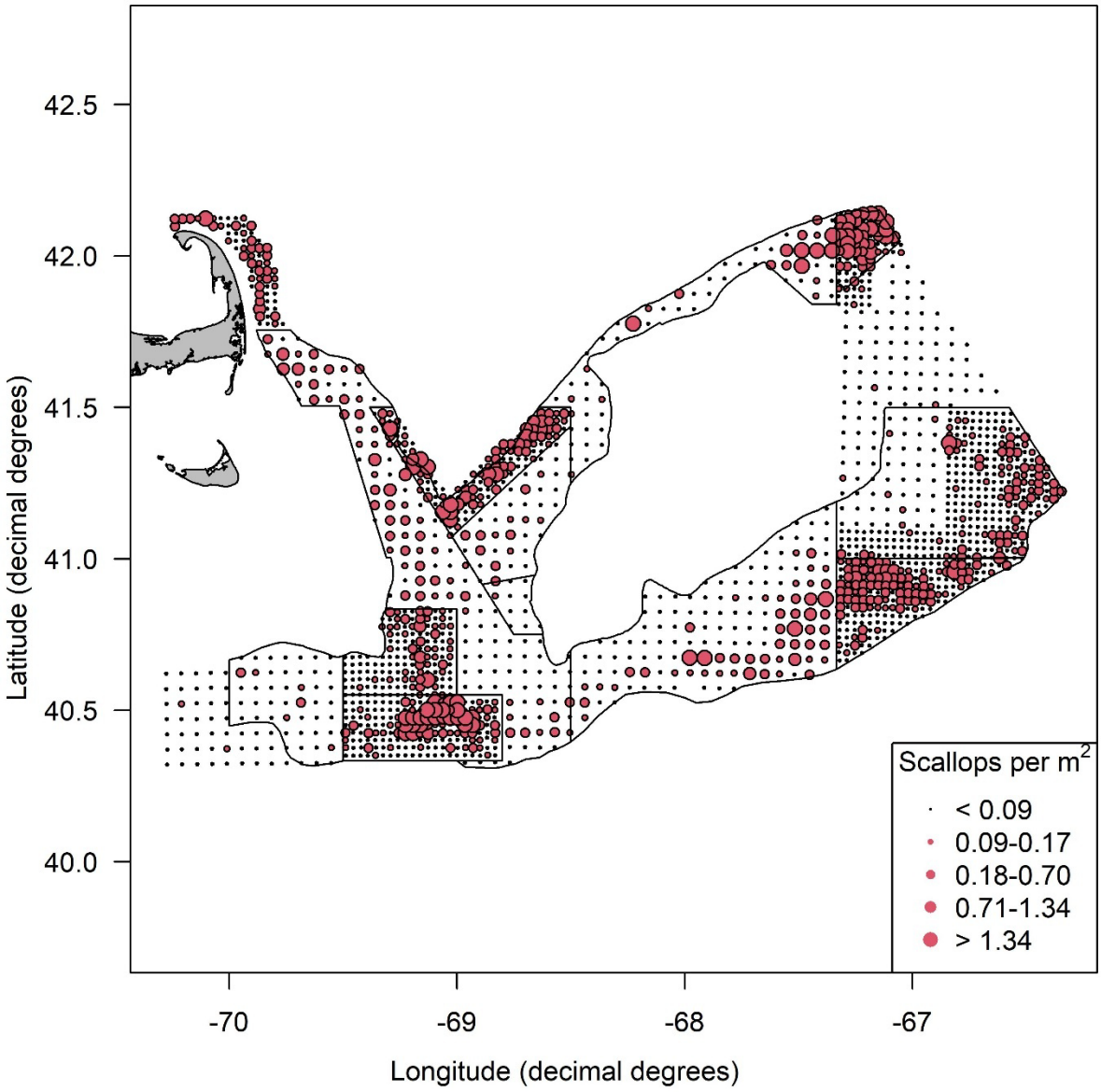

Figure 3. Mean scallop density (number of scallops of all sizes per m^2, including less than 40 mm shell height) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on Georges Bank.

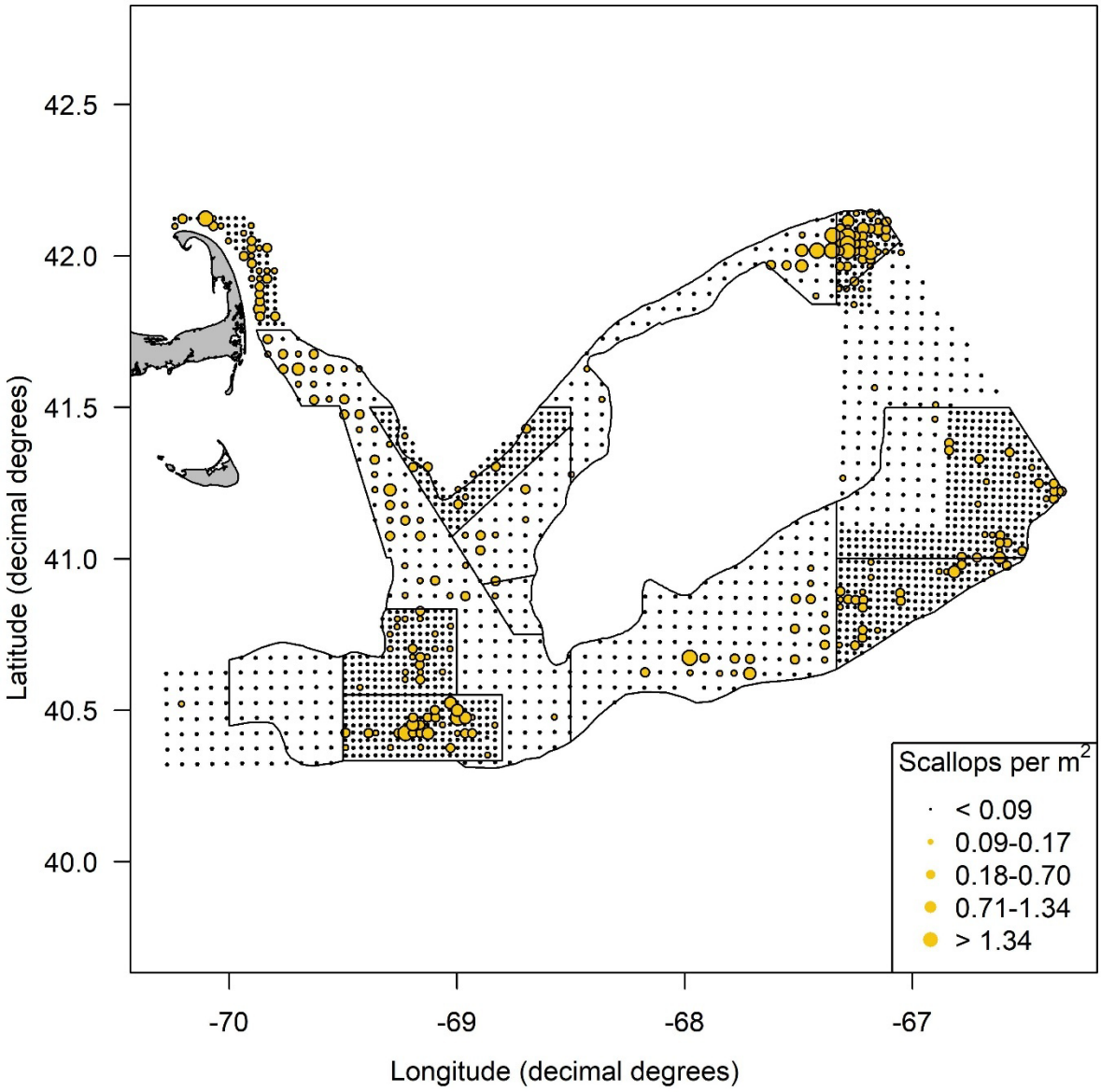

Figure 4. Mean pre-recruit scallop density (scallops less than 35 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on Georges Bank.

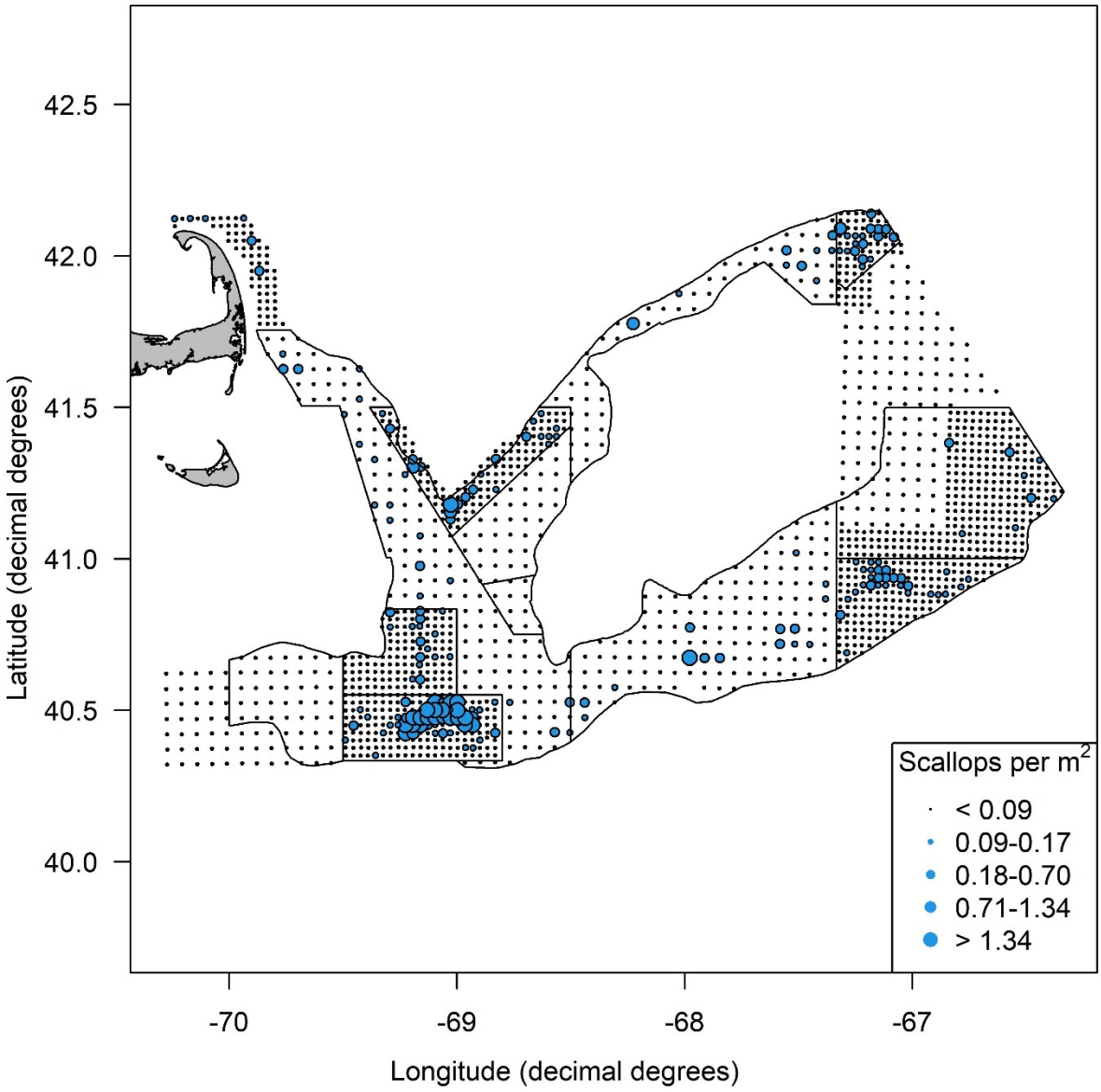

Figure 5. Mean recruit scallop density (scallops 35 to 75 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on Georges Bank.

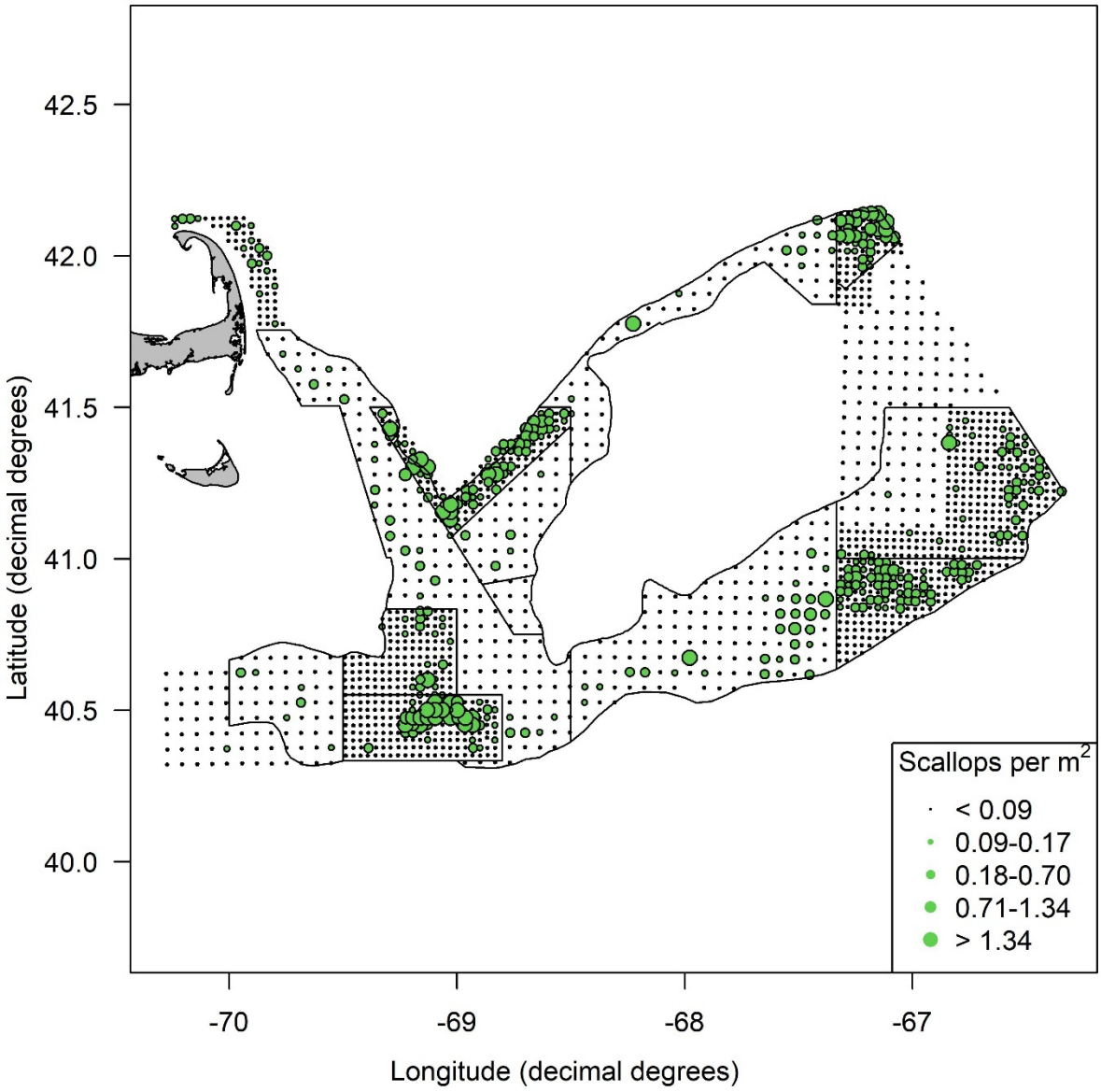

Figure 6. Mean recruited scallop density (scallops greater than 75 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on Georges Bank.

3.0 LENGTH FREQUENCY PLOTS BY SAMS AREA

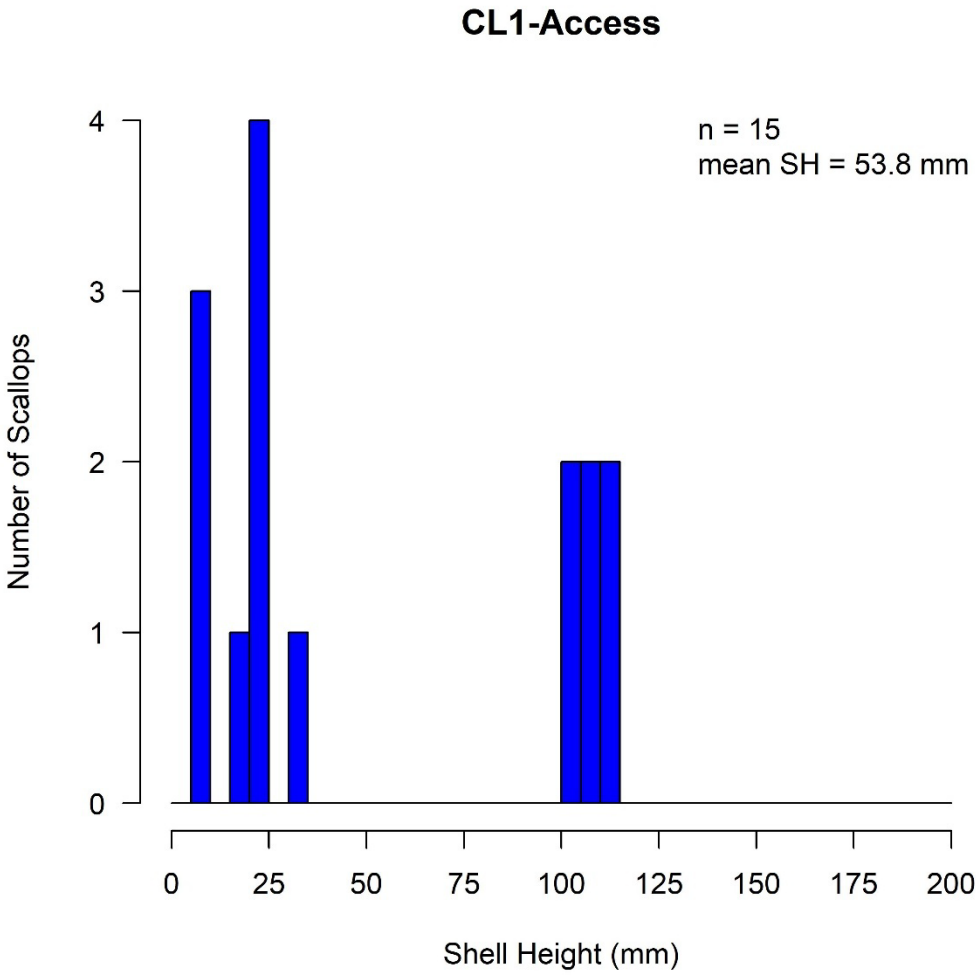

Figure 7. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL1-Access Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

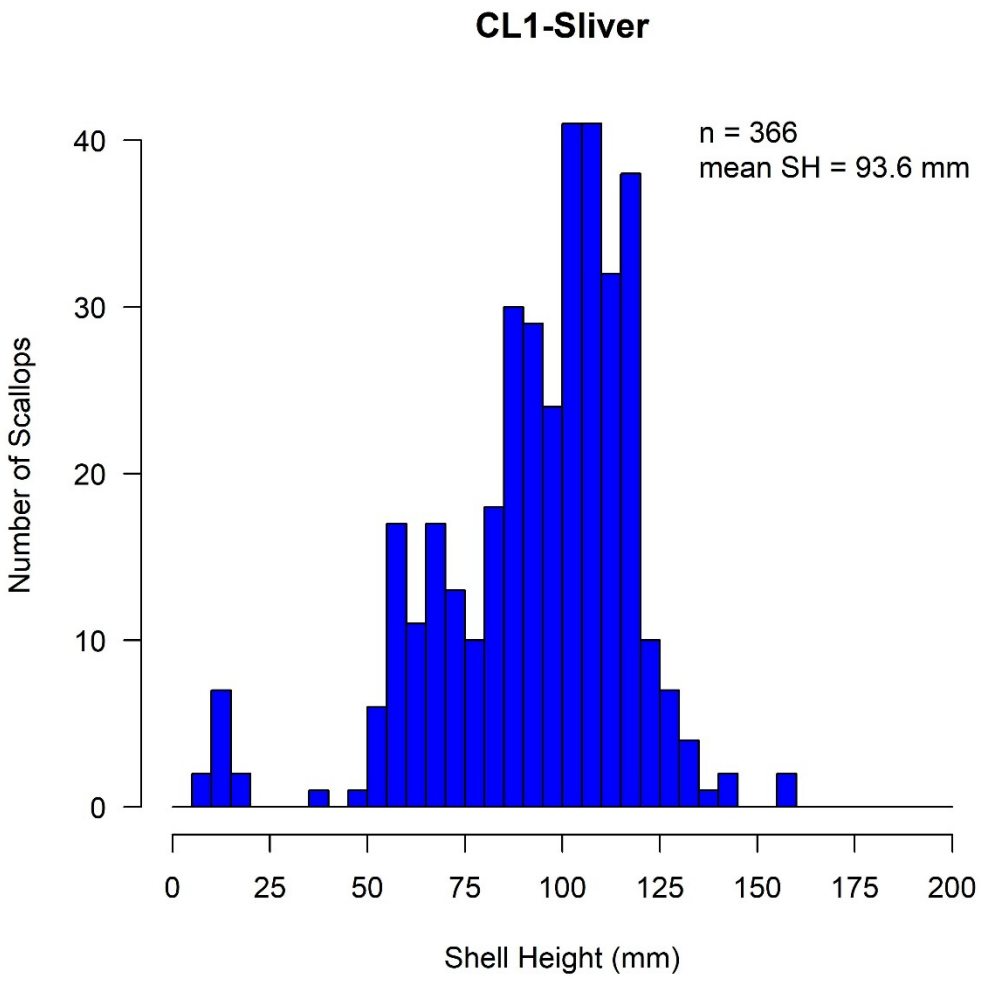

Figure 8. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL1-Sliver Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

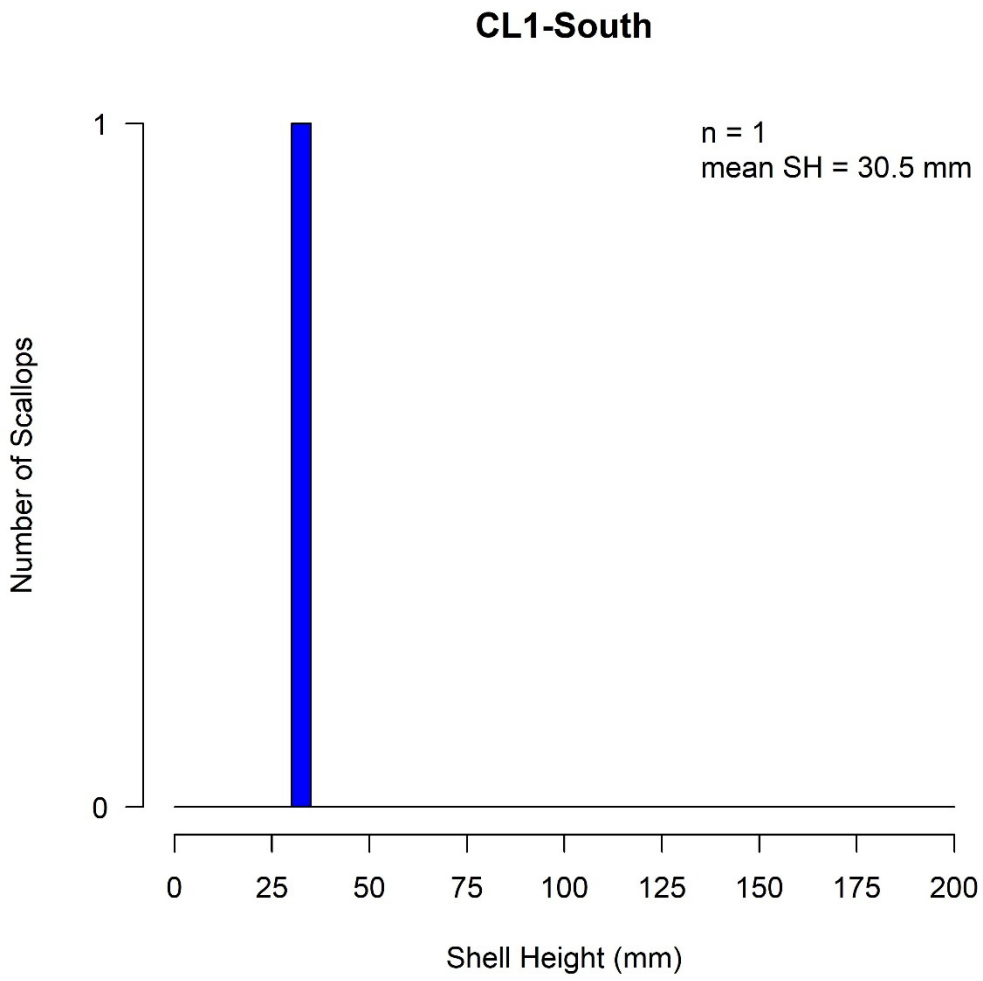

Figure 9. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL1-South Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

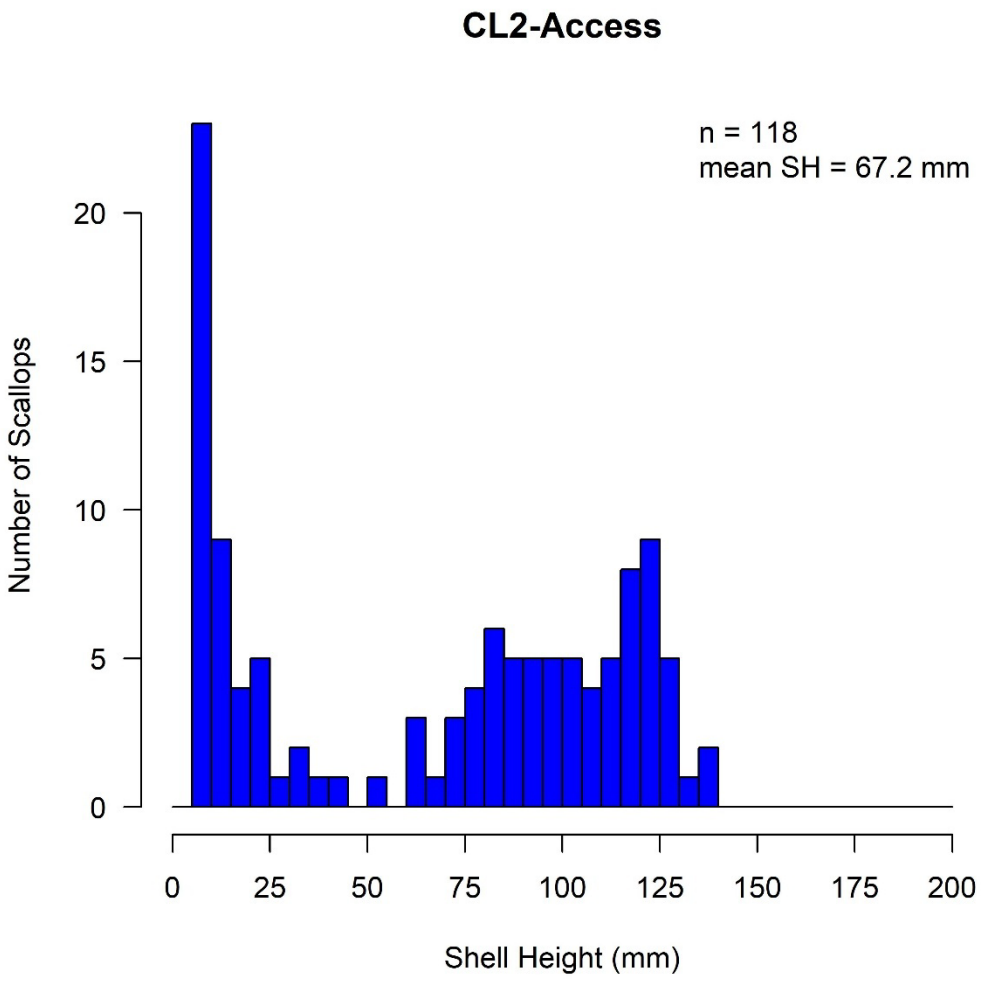

Figure 10. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL2-Access (CL2-South) Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

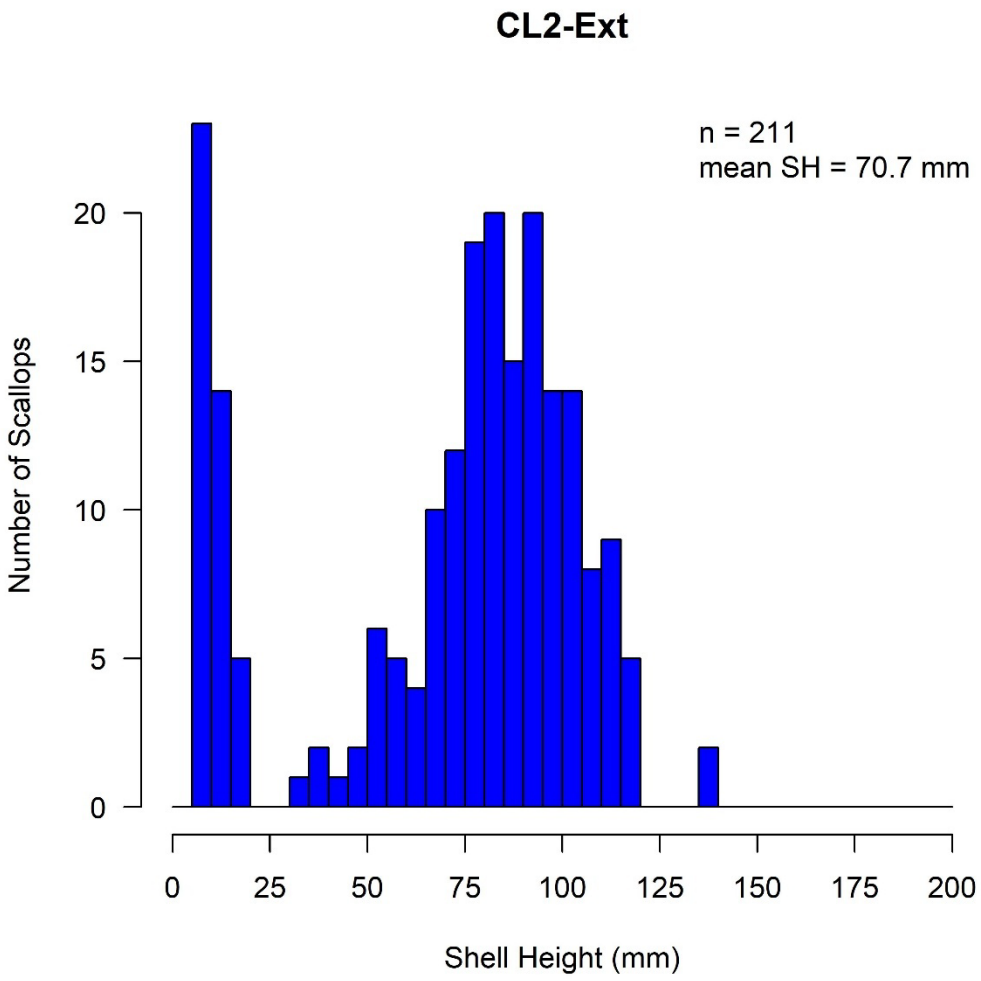

Figure 11. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL2-Ext Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

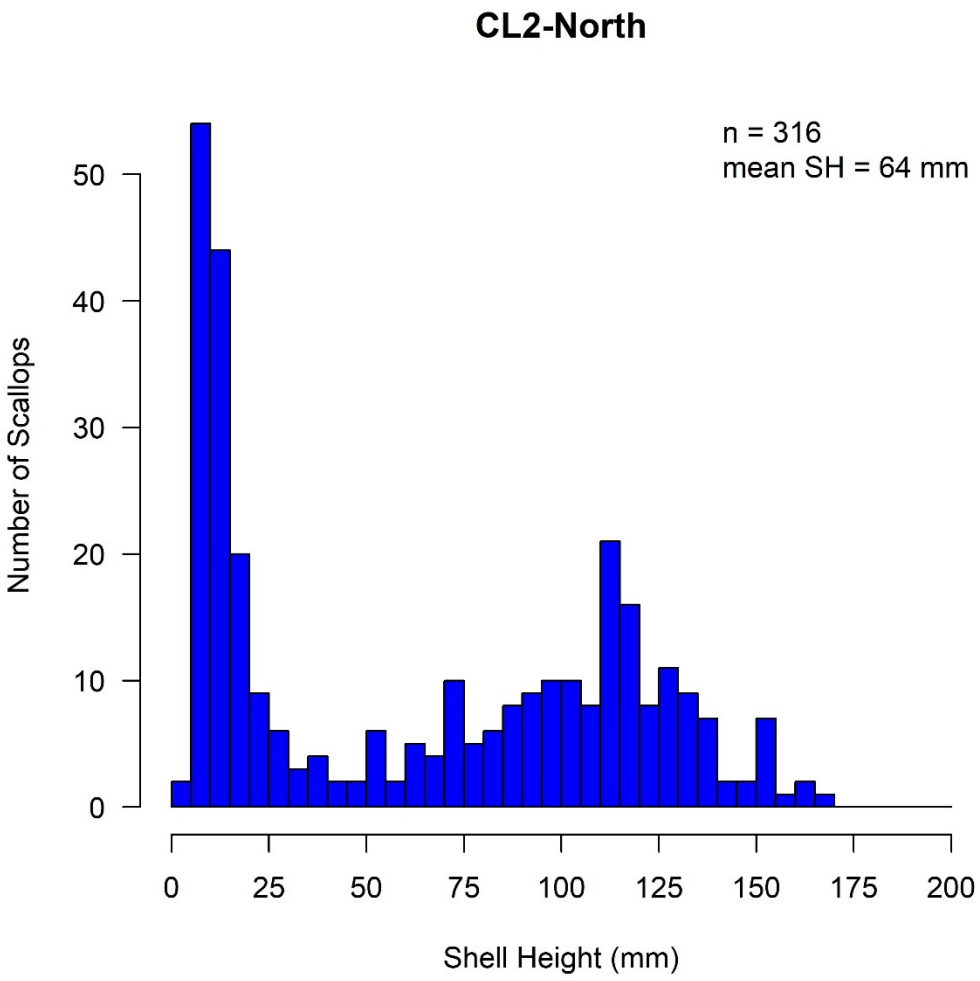

Figure 12. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the CL2-North Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

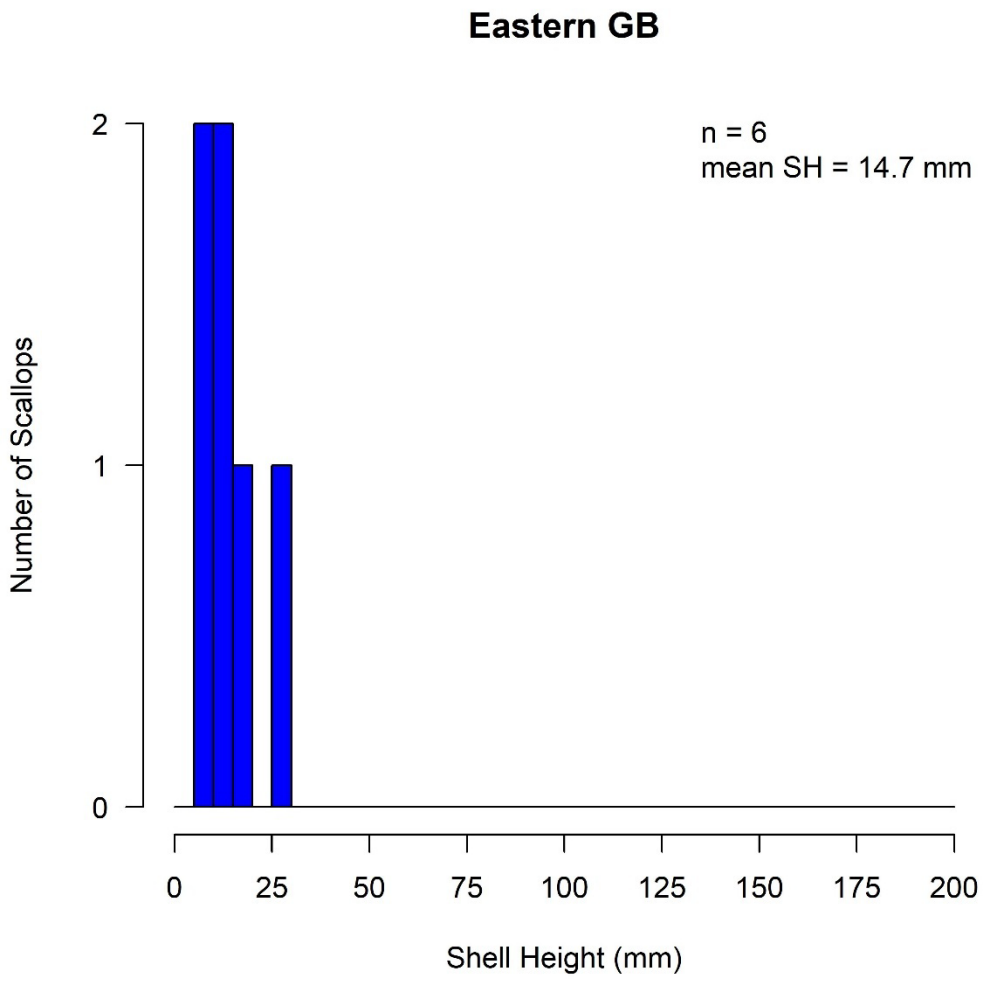

Figure 13. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Eastern Georges Bank non-Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

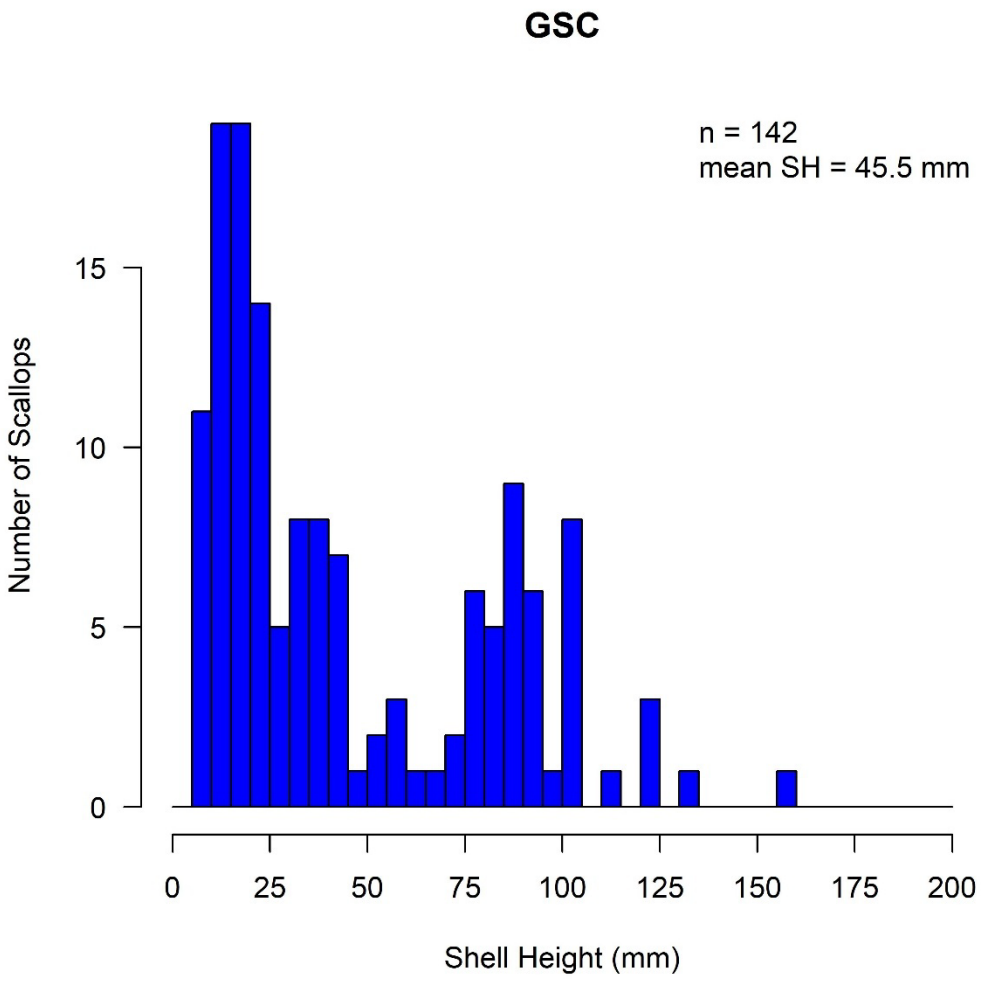

Figure 14. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Great South Channel Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

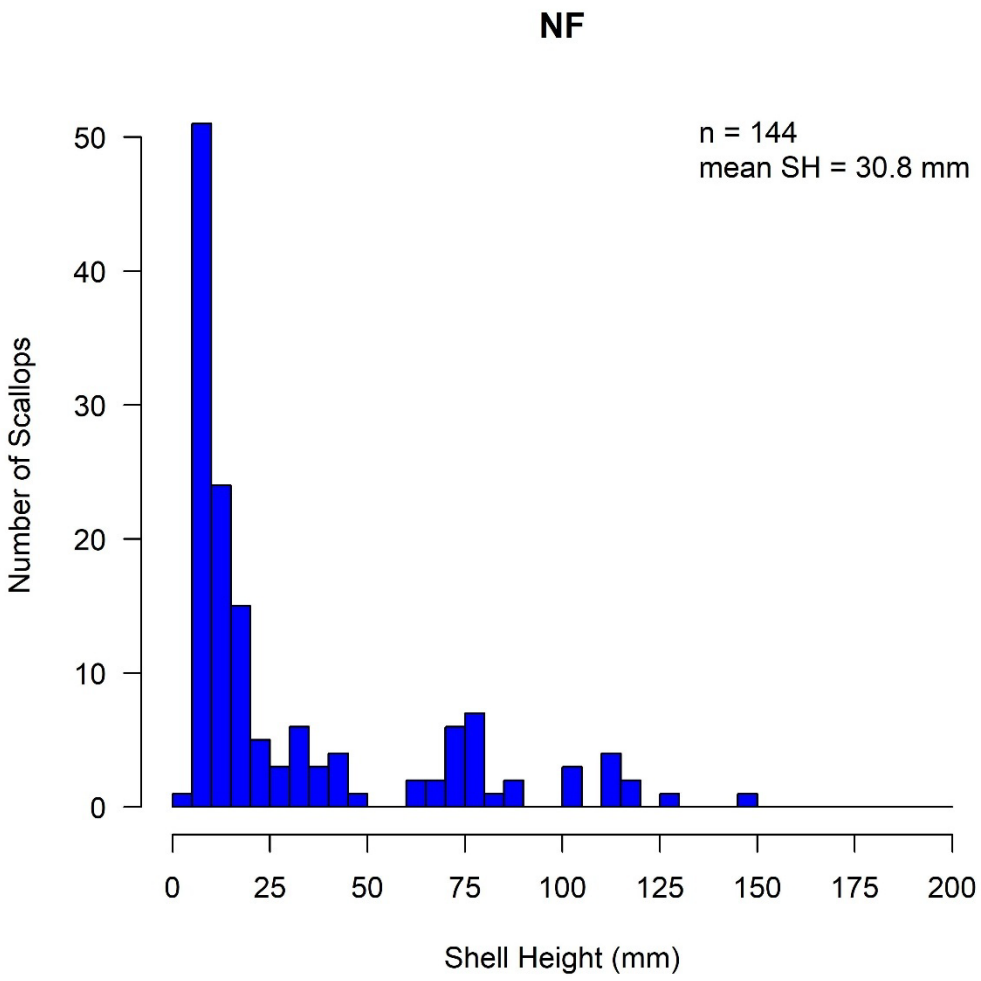

Figure 15. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Northern Flank Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

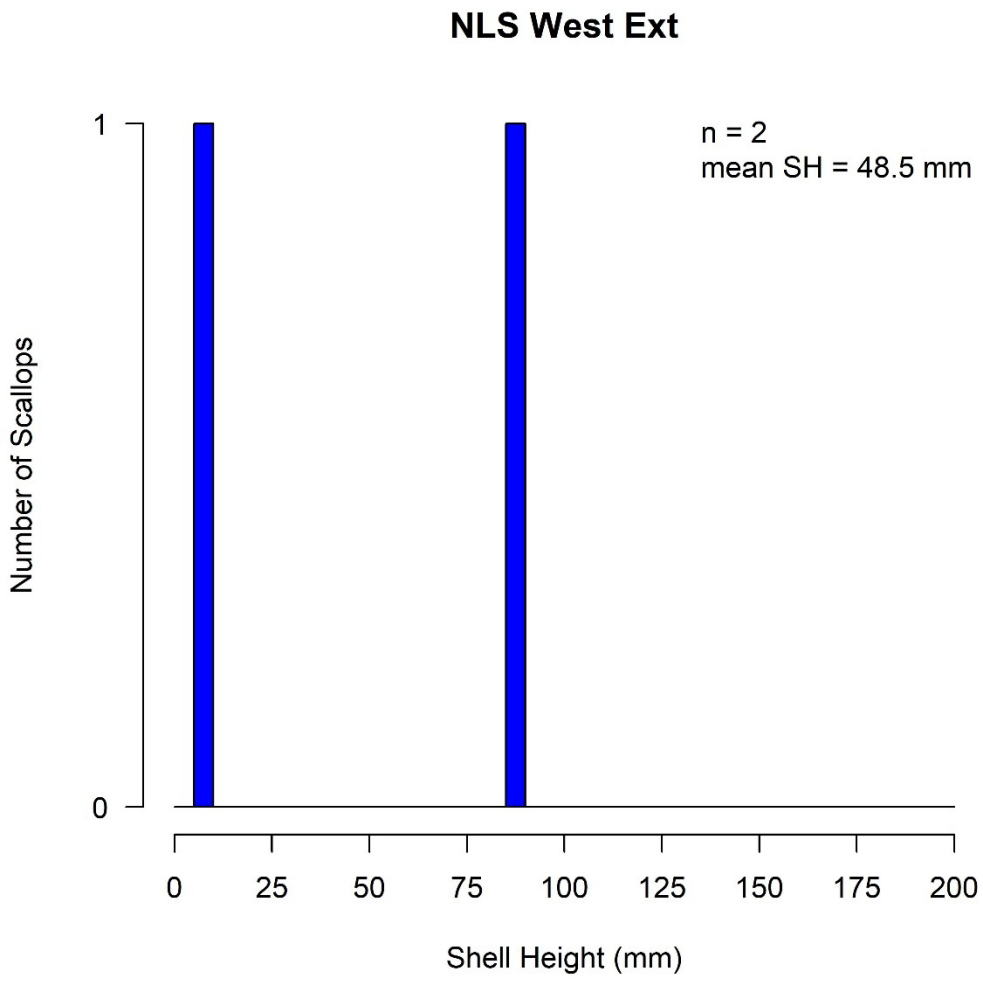

Figure 16. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the NLS West Extension non-Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

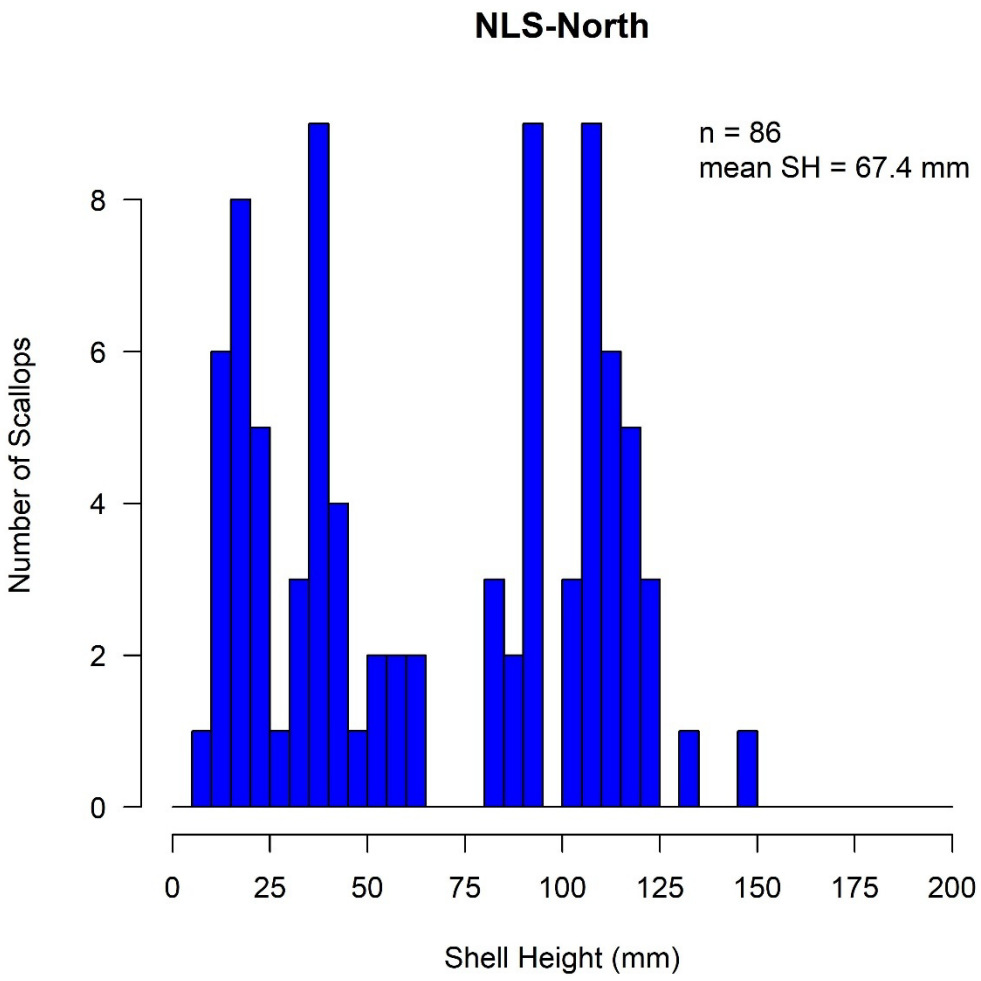

Figure 17. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the NLS-North Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

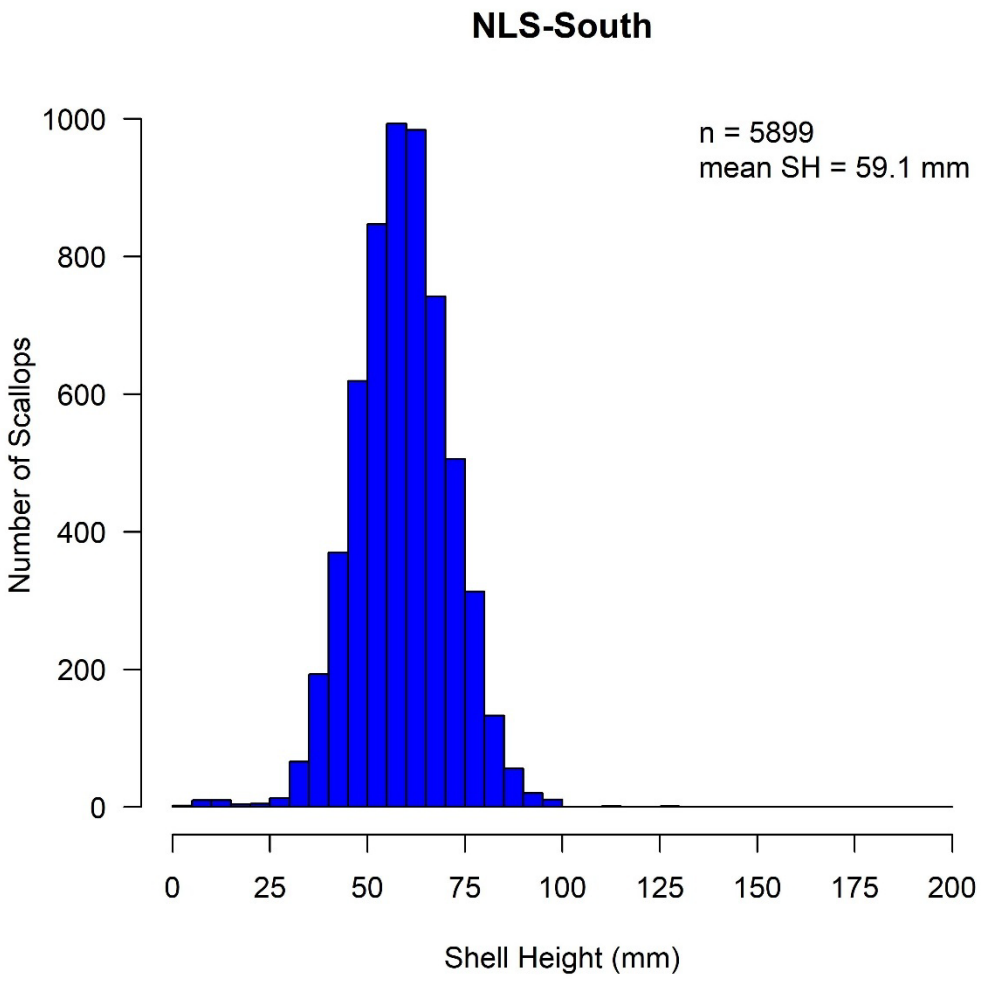

Figure 18. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the NLS-South Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

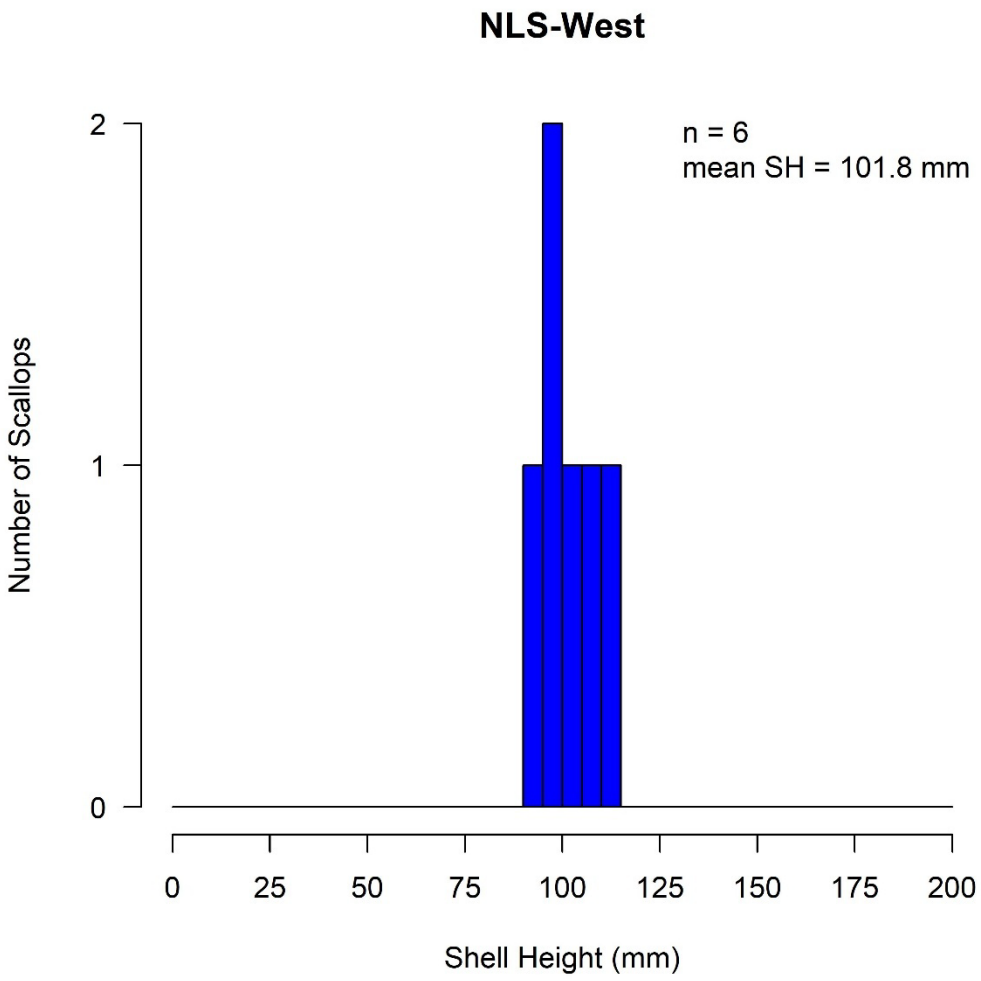

Figure 19. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the NLS-West Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

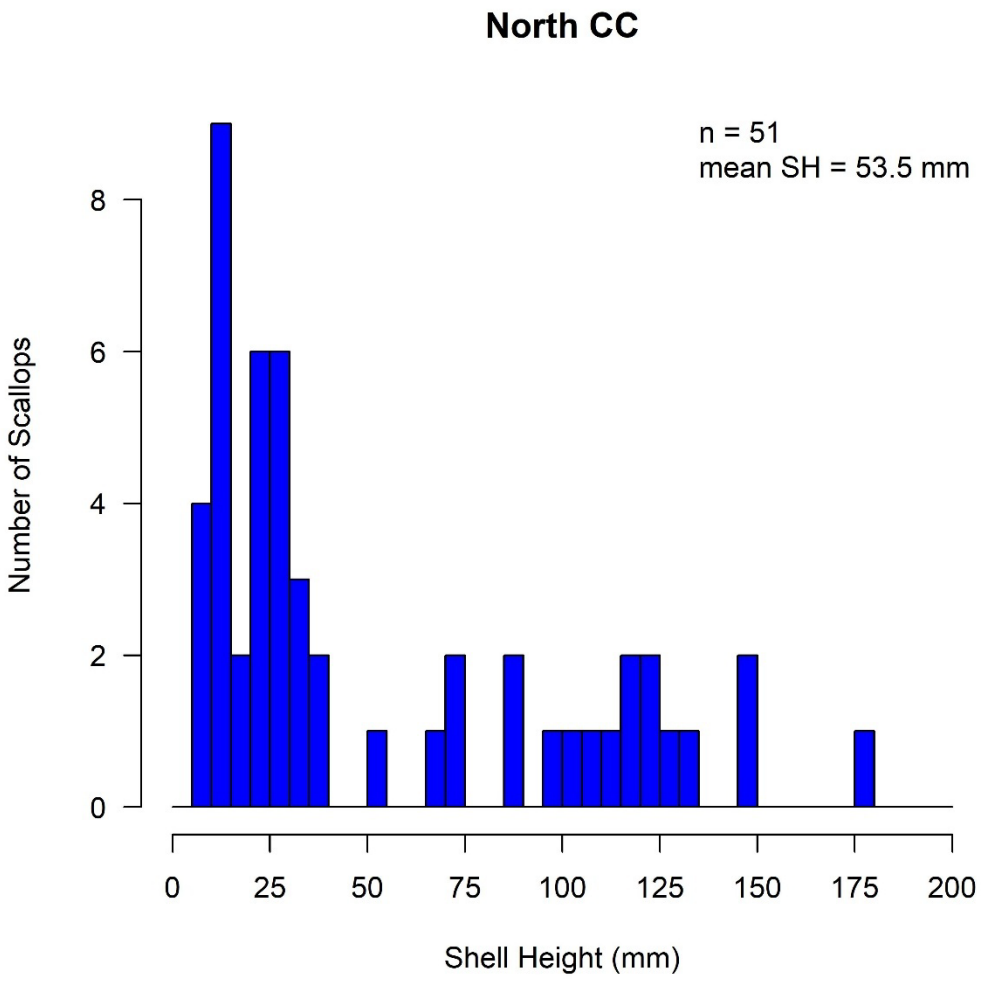

Figure 20. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the North Cape Cod non-Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

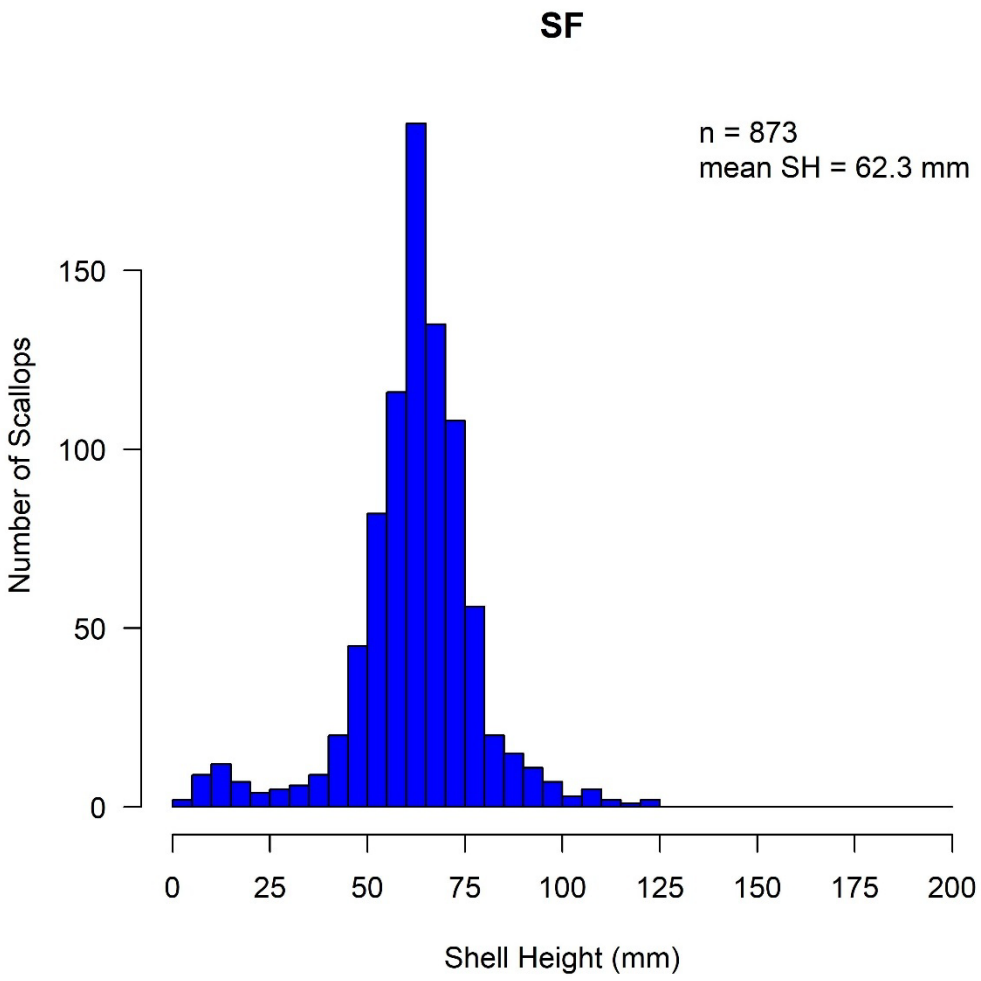

Figure 21. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Southern Flank Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

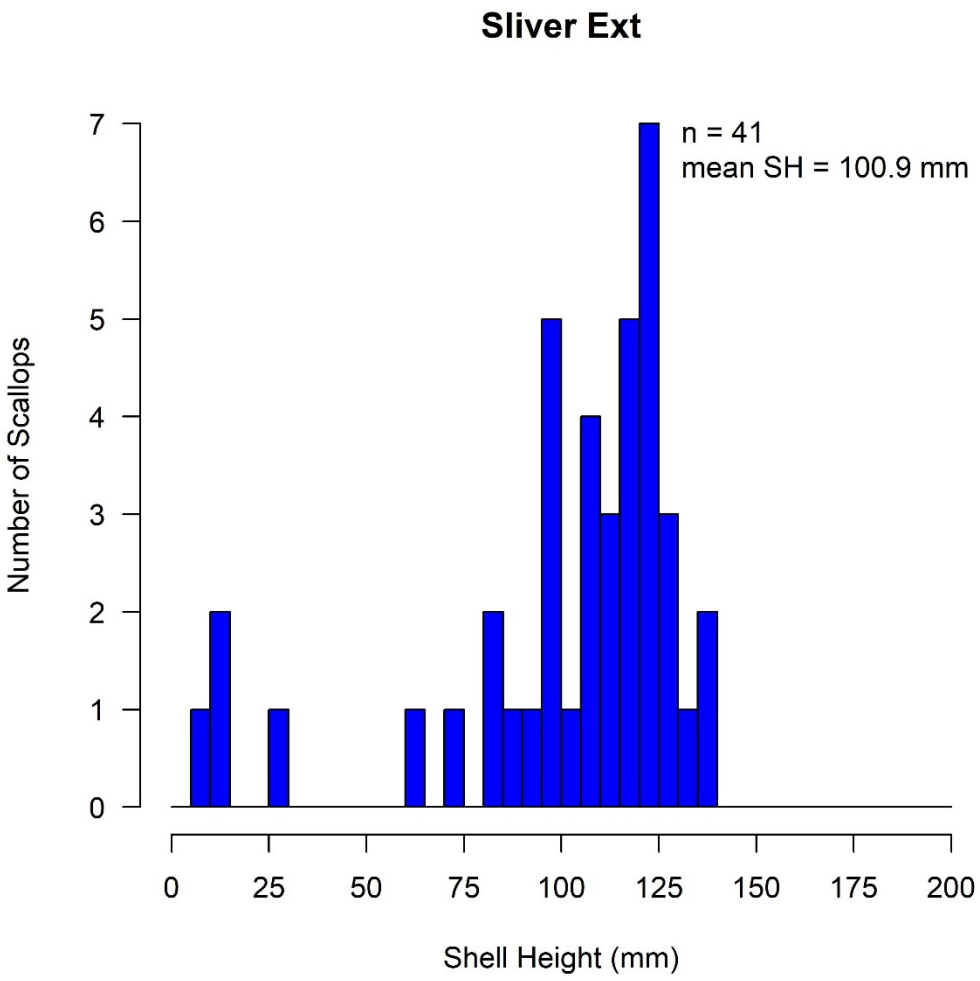

Figure 22. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Sliver Extension non-Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

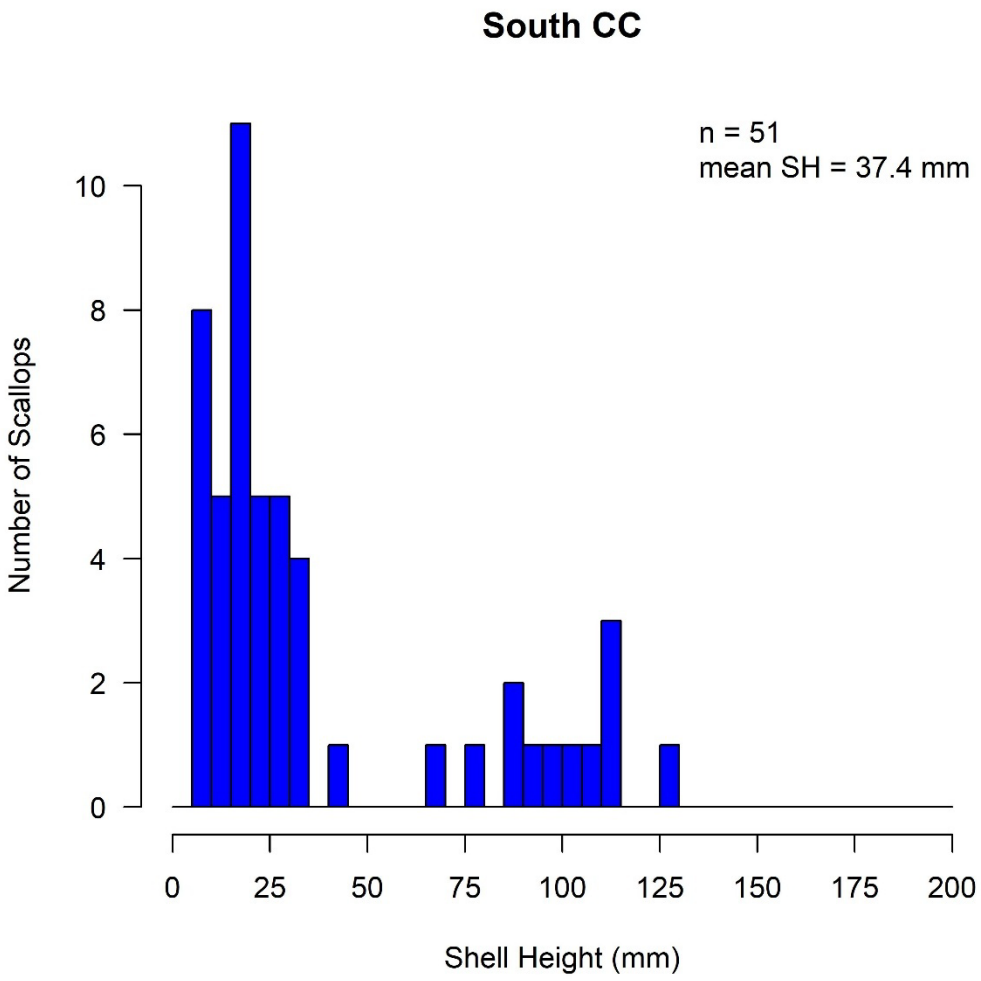

Figure 23. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the South Cape Cod non-Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

4.0 ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Non-SAMS area	Abundance (mil.)	Biomass (mt)	SE	Avg. Weight (g)	Avg. Size (mm)	Avg. Density (#/m^2)	# Stations (4 drops per station) and grid resolution (nautical miles)
North Cape Cod	14.6	352	82	24.1	109.2	0.065	29, 1.5 nmi
South Cape Cod	10.2	146	23	14.4	94.3	0.036	37, 1.5 nmi
EGB Non-SAMS	0.0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.000	21, 1.5 nmi 85, 3 nmi
West of NLS-W	2.9	33	20	11.2	87.5	0.002	45, 3 nmi
Sliver Extension	43.7	649	31	14.8	110.3	0.218	26, 1.5 nmi

Comparison of biomass estimates from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology drop camera survey using different shell height meat weight equations in the NLS-South. Stations were 1.5 nautical miles apart. The VIMS 2016-2023, 2025 equation was compared to the SARC 65 NLS-South specific equation and the new generic Georges Bank RTA 2025 equation. All values are for scallops greater than or equal to 40 mm in shell height. This table refers to the previously used NLS-South-Deep area and does not refer to the new NLS-South area that was adopted by the Scallop PDT in early September 2024. All other figures and tables in this report refer to the newly adopted area.

	Biomass estimate using: VIMS equation.	Biomass estimate using: SARC 65 specific	Biomass estimate using: RTA 2025 GB
NLS South			
Average meat weight (g)	3.06	3.51	4.06
Biomass (mt)	24041	27590	31920
Standard error	5214	5984	6923
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	3.74	4.35	4.93
Exploitable biomass (mt)	3262	3796	4305
Exploitable standard error	707	823	934

5.0 SPECIAL COMMENTS

The standout area on Georges Bank this year was the NLS-South, where we saw considerable densities of all three size classes at the same stations. The 35 to 75 mm shell height size class were observed in very high densities in this area.

6.0 EXPLOITABLE BIOMASS ESTIMATES FOR 2025 (CURRENT FY)

Drop camera					
Region	**Area**	**Abundance (mil.)**	**Exp. Biomass (mt)**	**SE**	**Avg. Weight (g)**
Georges Bank	CL1-Access	13.4	258	56	19.3
	CL1-Sliver	144.0	2301	345	16.0
	CL1-South	0.0	0	N/A	N/A
	CL2-North	85.8	2432	328	28.4
	CL2-South	36.4	742	83	21.0
	CL2-Ext	44.4	607	43	13.7
	NLS-North	18.4	397	80	21.5
	NLS-South	872.9	3262	707	3.7
	NLS-West	13.1	242	108	18.5
	GSC	54.1	980	107	18.1
	NF	35.9	675	194	18.8
	SF	438.2	2755	2025	6.3
GB Non-SAMS	North Cape Cod	6.7	223	52	33.2
	South Cape Cod	3.5	62	10	17.9
	EGB Non-SAMS	0.0	0	N/A	N/A
	West of NLS-W	0.7	8	5	11.2
	Sliver Extension	20.4	340	16	16.7

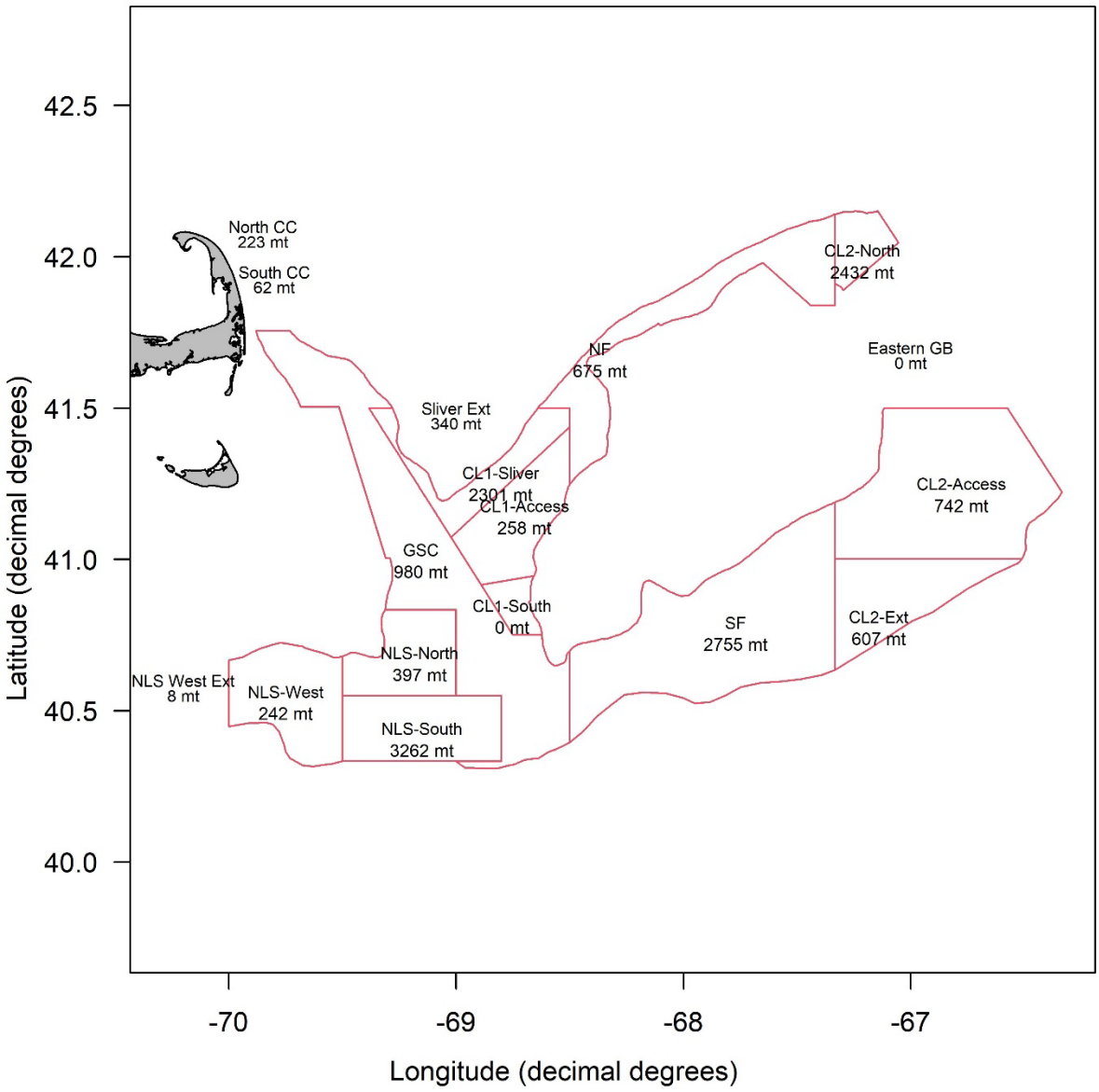

Figure 24. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey exploitable biomass (estimated using a selectivity curve) estimates from 2025, in metric tons, on Georges Bank by Scallop Area Management Simulator (SAMS) zones (red polygons) and surveyed non-SAMS areas. The grey land is the eastern portion of Cape Cod.