2025 Scallop Survey Short Report
Gulf of Maine

Prepared by:

School for Marine Science & Technology

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1.0 2025 SURVEY BIOMASS ESTIMATES

Drop Camera. **Size cutoff for estimates is 40 mm.**

Area	Sub-Area		Abundance (mil.)	Biomass (mt)	SE	Avg. Weight (g)	Avg. Size (mm)	Avg. Density (#/m^2)	# Stations (4 drops per station) each 1 km apart
NGOM	Platts Bank		3.2	60	10	18.6	106.0	0.03	93
	Ipswich Bank	SMAST domain	4.7	130	11	27.5	112.7	0.05	96
		Other							
	Jeffreys Ledge	SMAST domain	8.0	188	16	23.5	106.0	0.04	188
		Other							
	Jeffreys Ledge WGOM	SMAST domain	24.1	721	62	29.9	117.3	0.11	208
		Other							
	Stellwagen Bank (AOI from 2024)	SMAST domain	16.7	389	52	23.3	102.1	0.13	131
		Other							
	NGOM Total		56.7	1488	151				716
Non-NGOM	Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)		23.3	297	22	12.8	82.3	0.07	317
	WGOM Closure (Stellwagen)		54.9	2559	229	46.6	136.8	0.59	88
	Ipswich Bay (MA State Waters)		1.1	15	2	13.5	79.6	0.04	29
	Fippennies Ledge (Closed Area)		25.4	708	65	27.9	118.4	0.31	83
	Cashes Ledge (Closed Area)		1.0	25	7	25.7	114.6	0.02	46
	Non-NGOM Total		105.7	3604	325				563

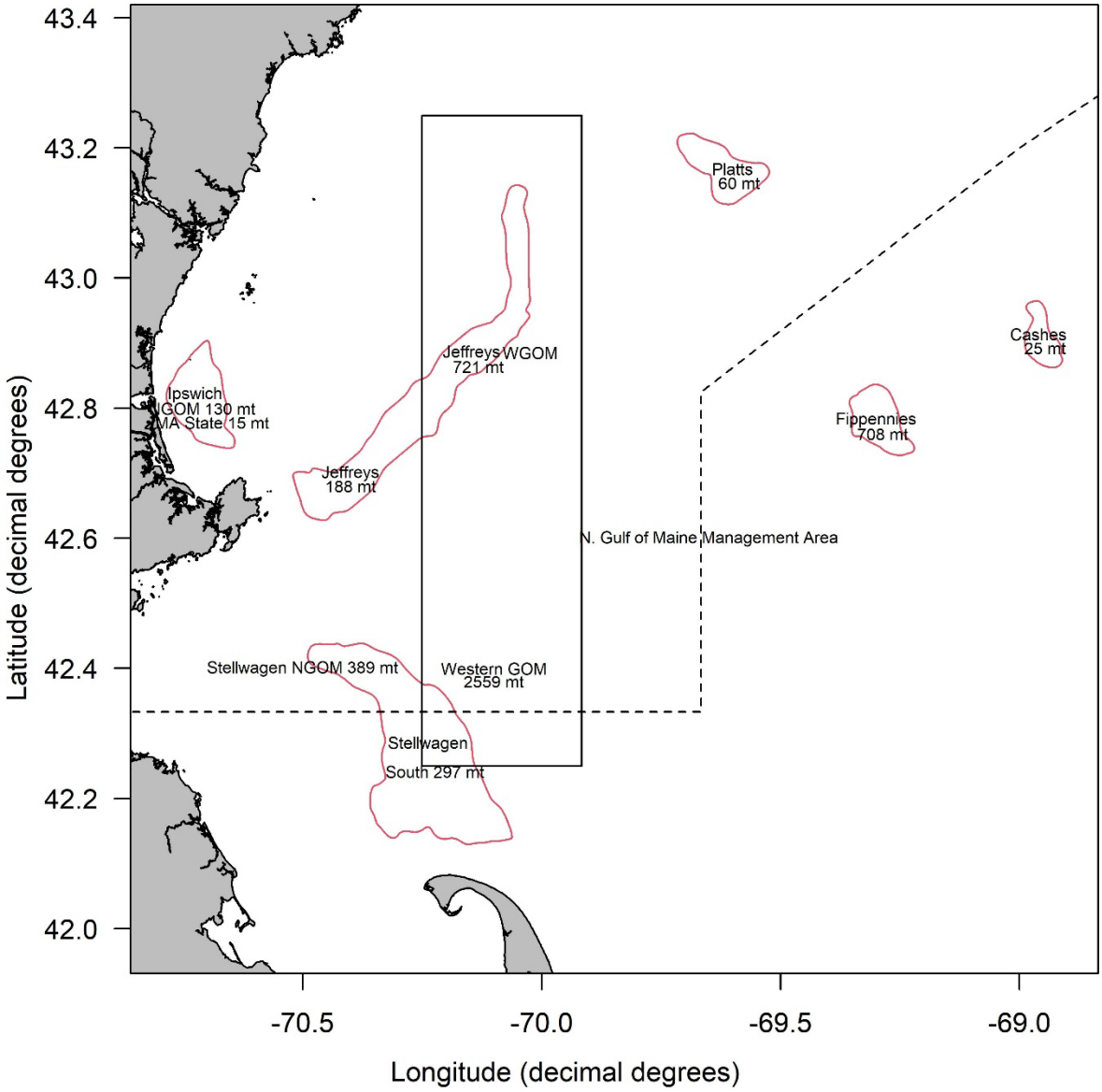

Figure 1. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey biomass estimates from 2025 for scallops ≥ 40 mm shell height, in metric tons, by bank in the Gulf of Maine. The red polygons are the survey boundaries in 2025. The gray land is eastern New England.

2.0 FIGURES OF SURVEY COVERAGE

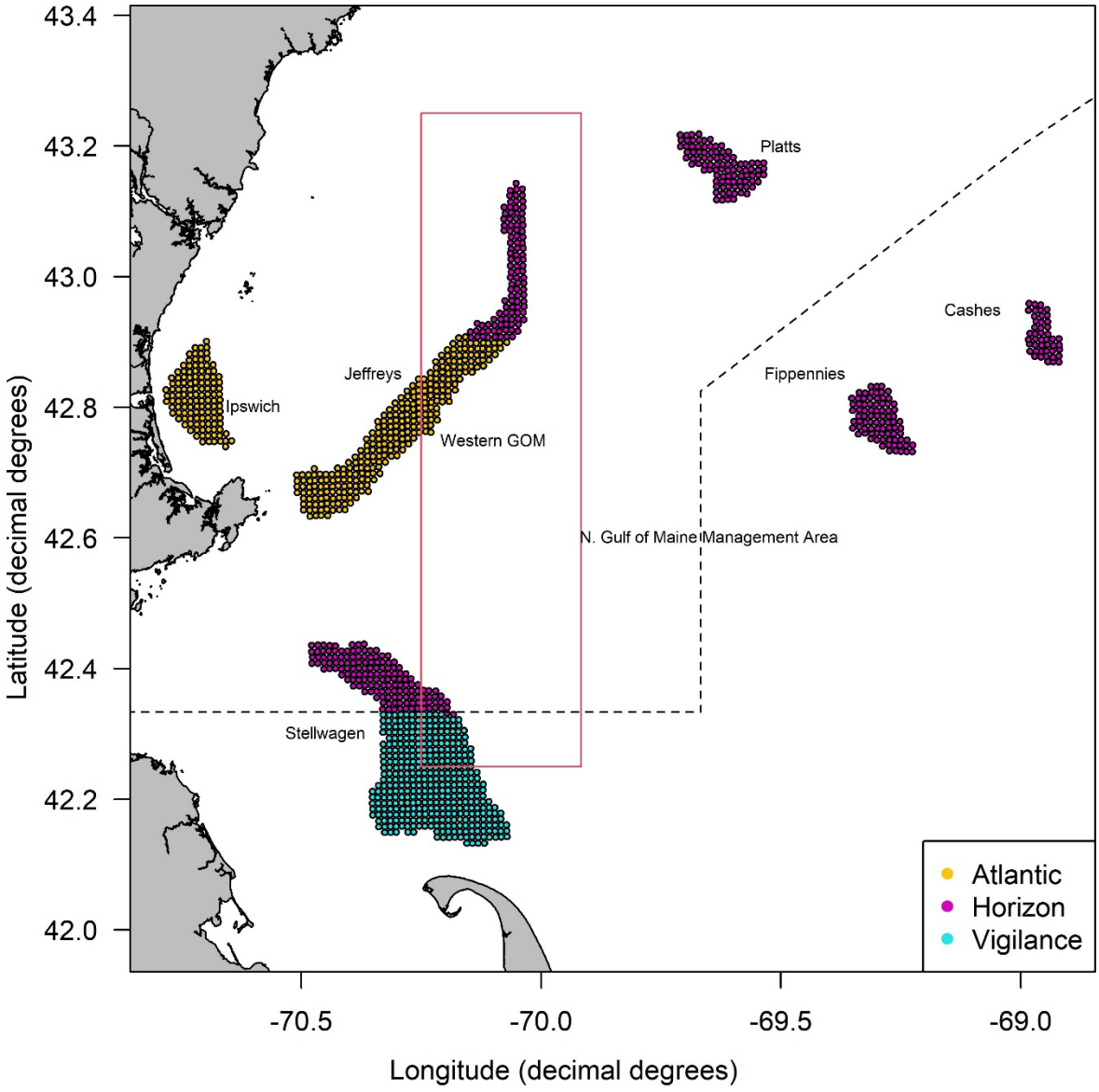

Figure 2. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey station locations by sampling vessel on in the Gulf of Maine in 2025. Stations were attempted to be 1 km (0.54 nautical miles) apart.

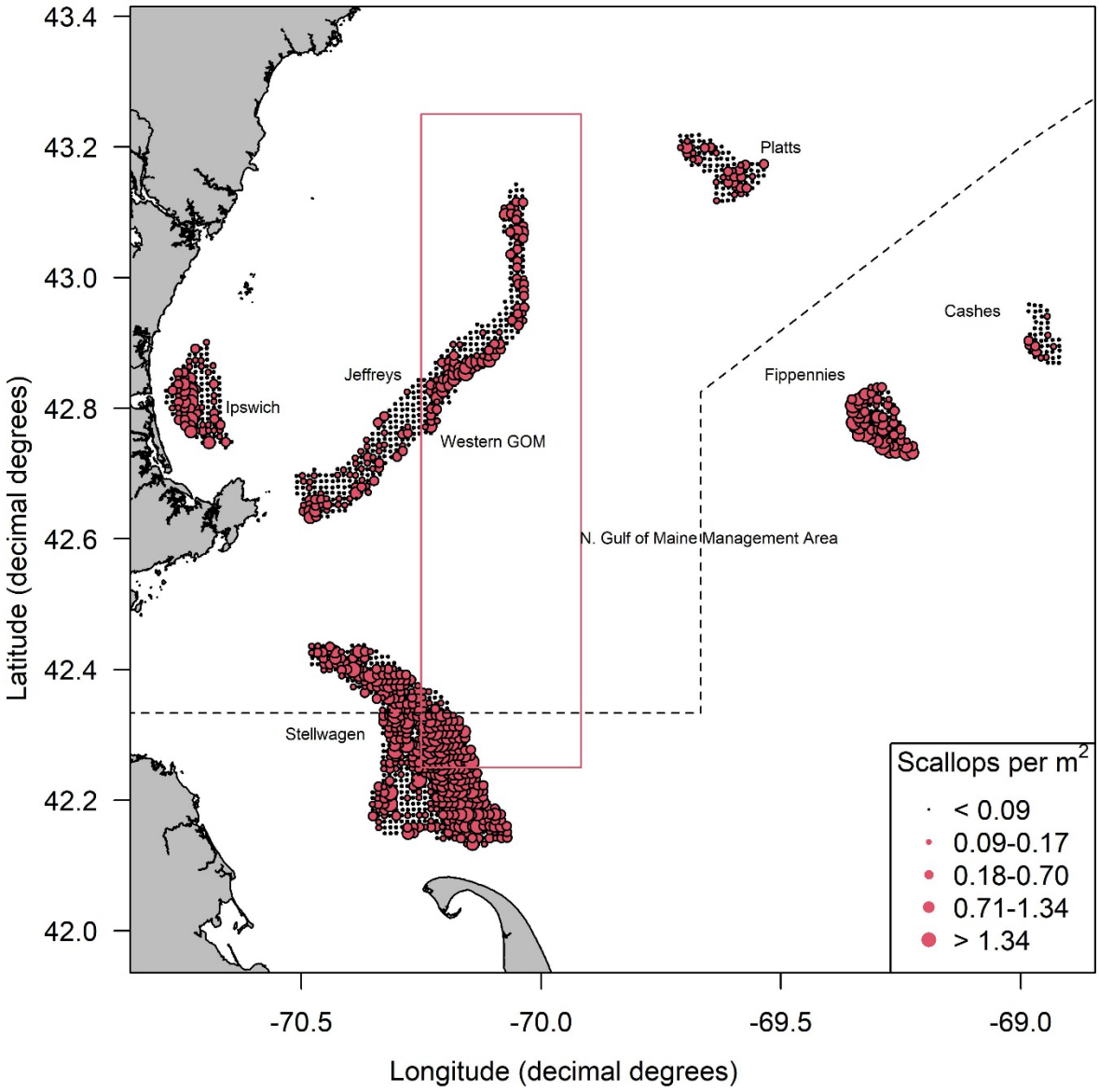

Figure 3. Mean scallop density (all scallop sizes, including those less than 40 mm shell height, per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Gulf of Maine.

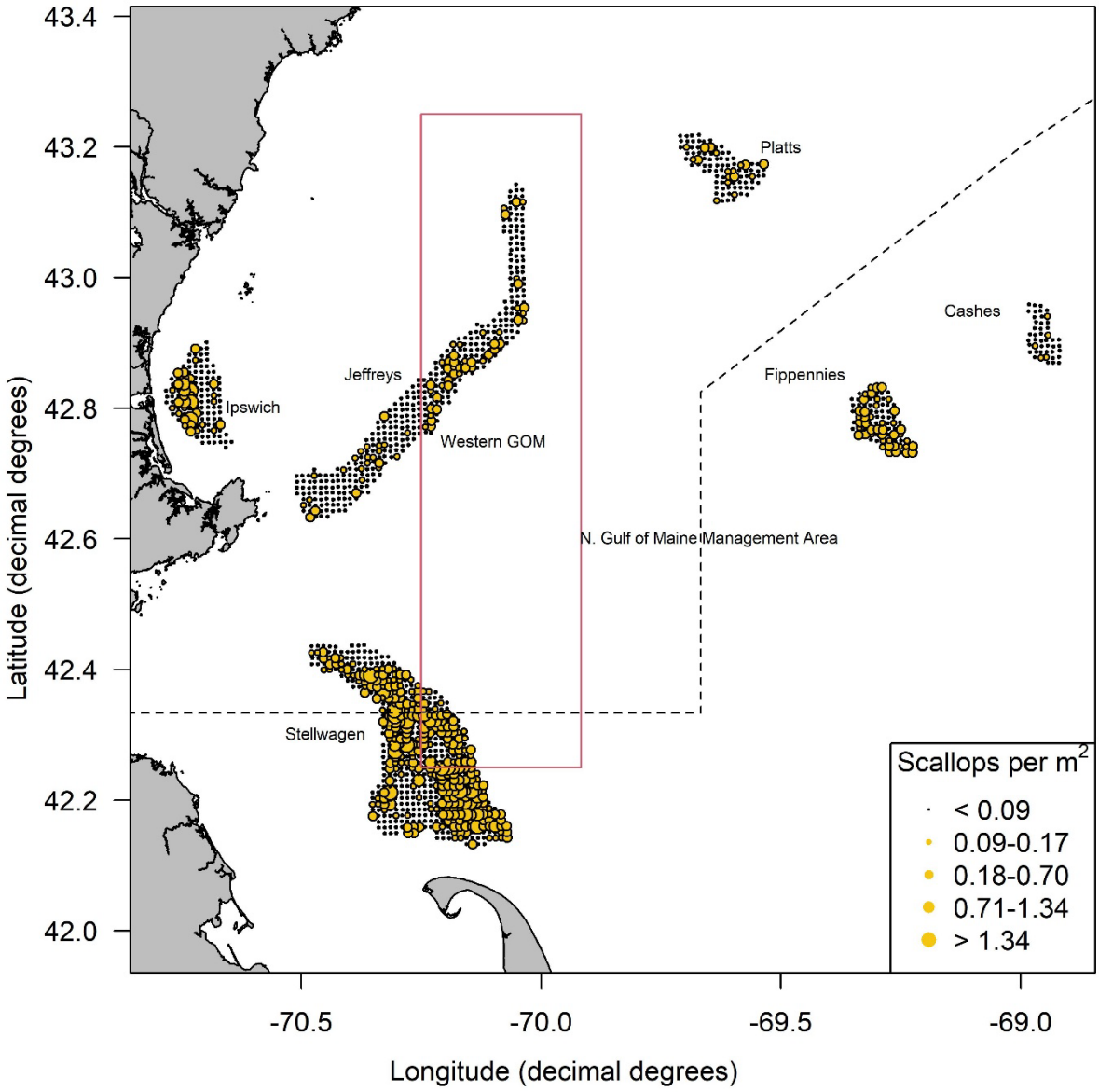

Figure 4. Mean pre-recruit scallop density (scallops less than 35 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the Gulf of Maine.

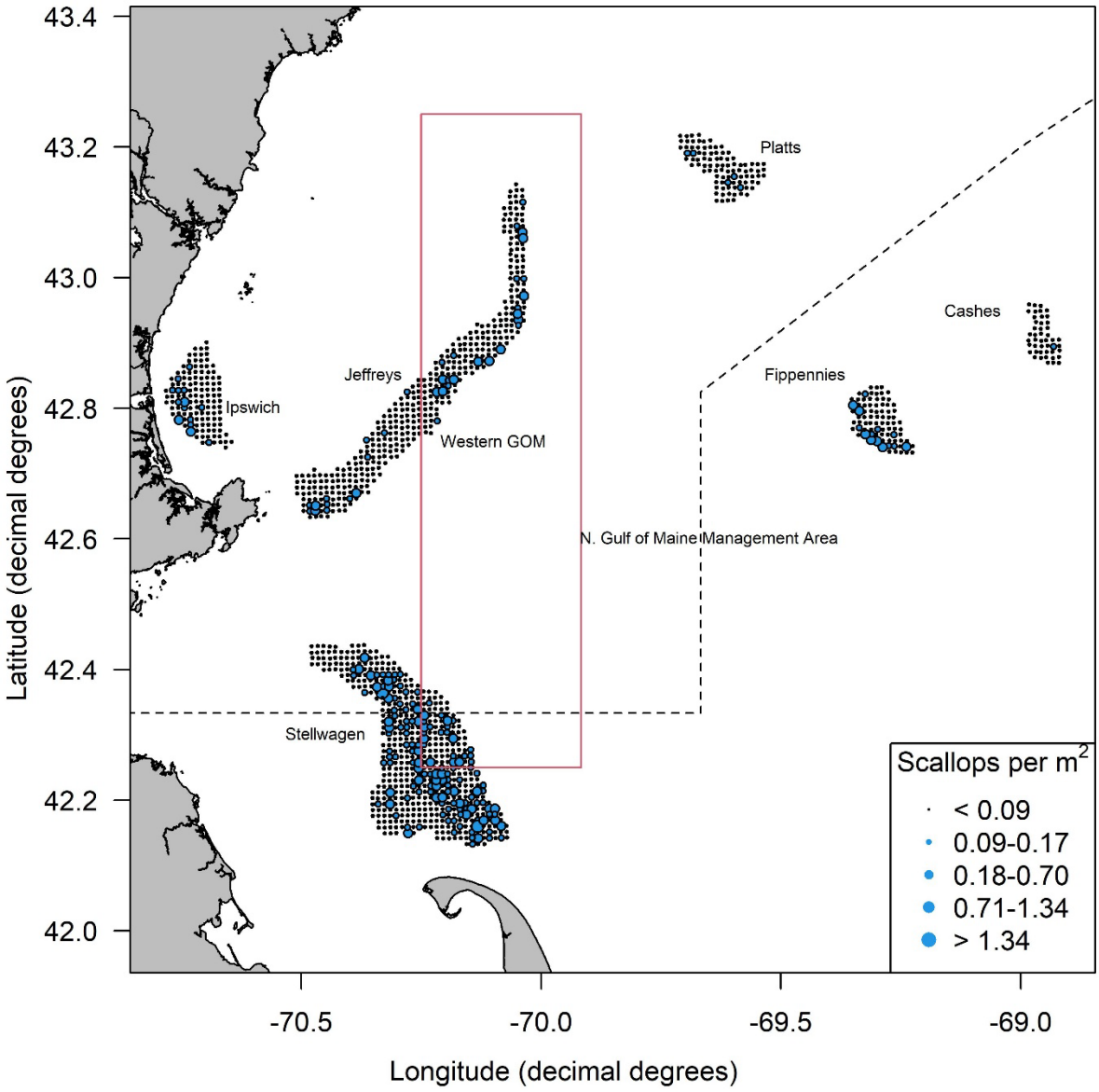

Figure 5. Mean recruit scallop density (scallops between 35 to 75 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in the Gulf of Maine.

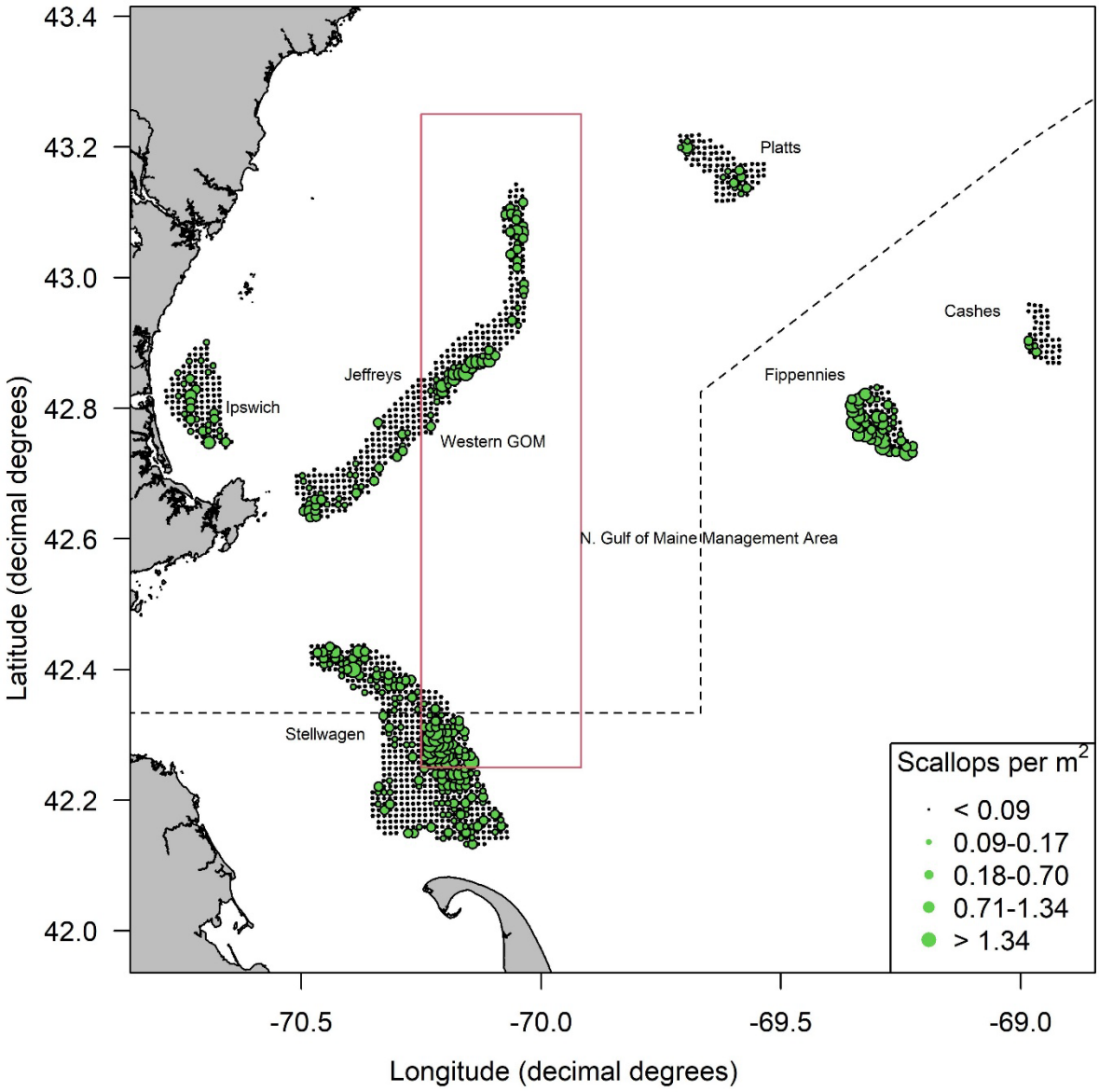

Figure 6. Mean recruited scallop density (scallops greater than 75 mm shell height per m^2) at each station from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in the Gulf of Maine.

3.0 LENGTH FREQUENCY PLOTS BY SAMS AREA

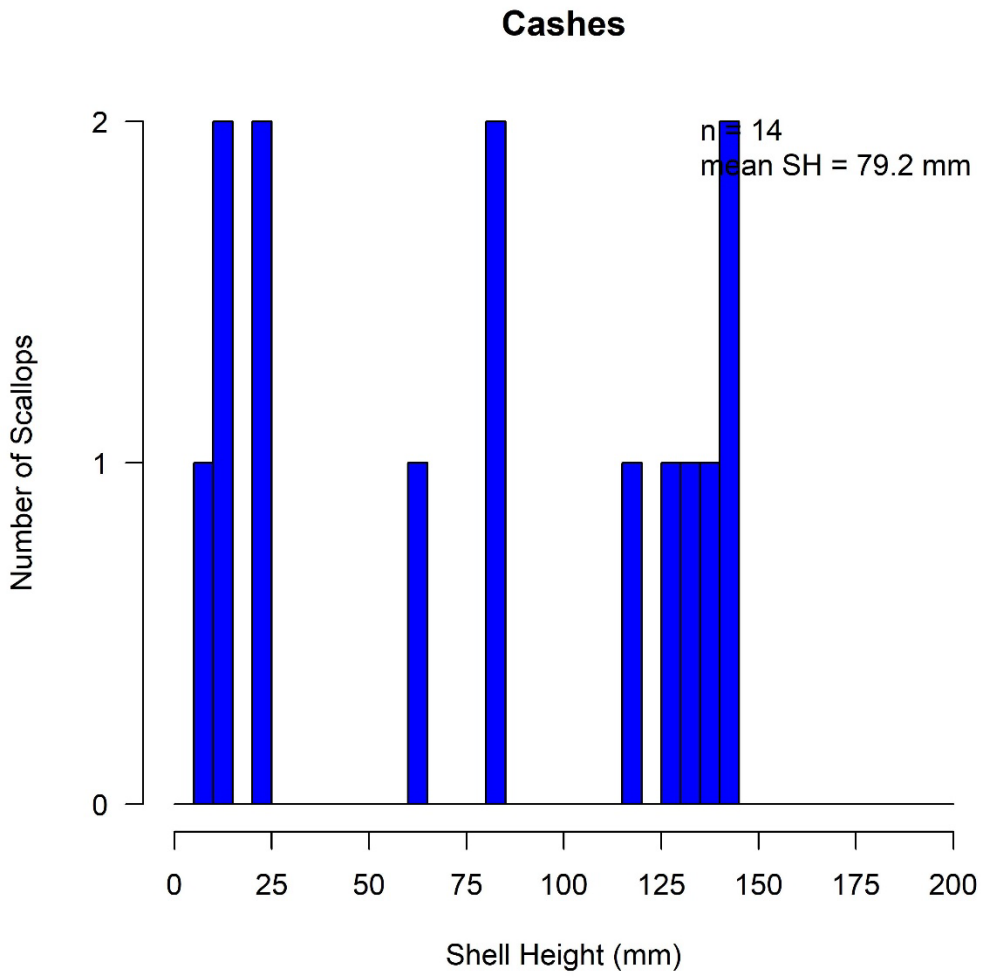

Figure 7. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in Cashes Ledge in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height are also displayed in the figure.

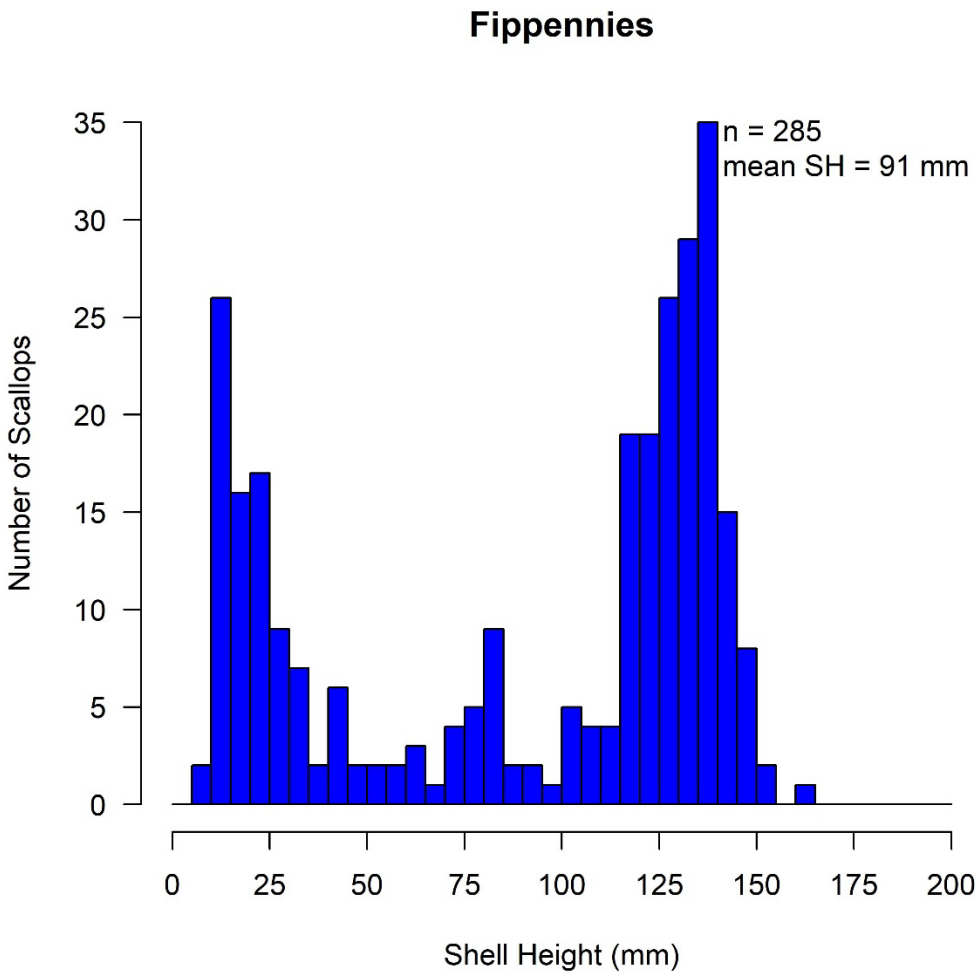

Figure 8. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey on Fippennies Ledge in 20245 The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

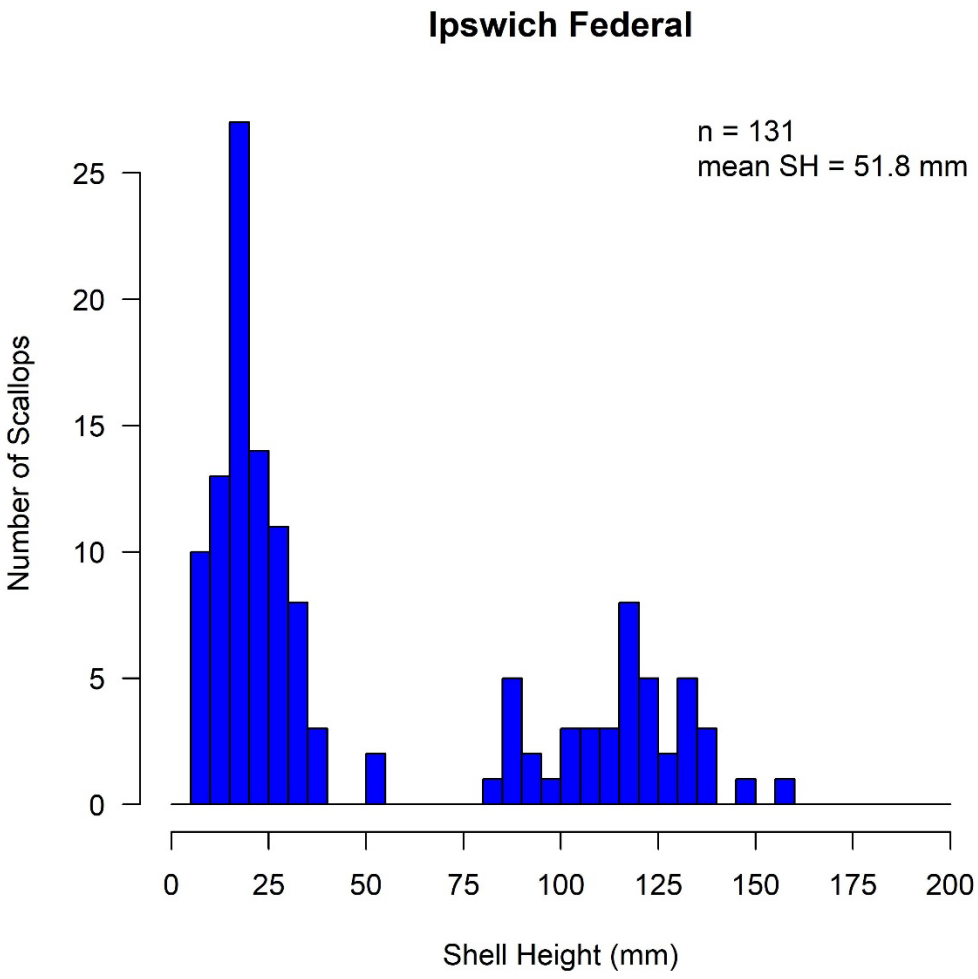

Figure 9. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the part of Ipswich Bay in federal waters in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

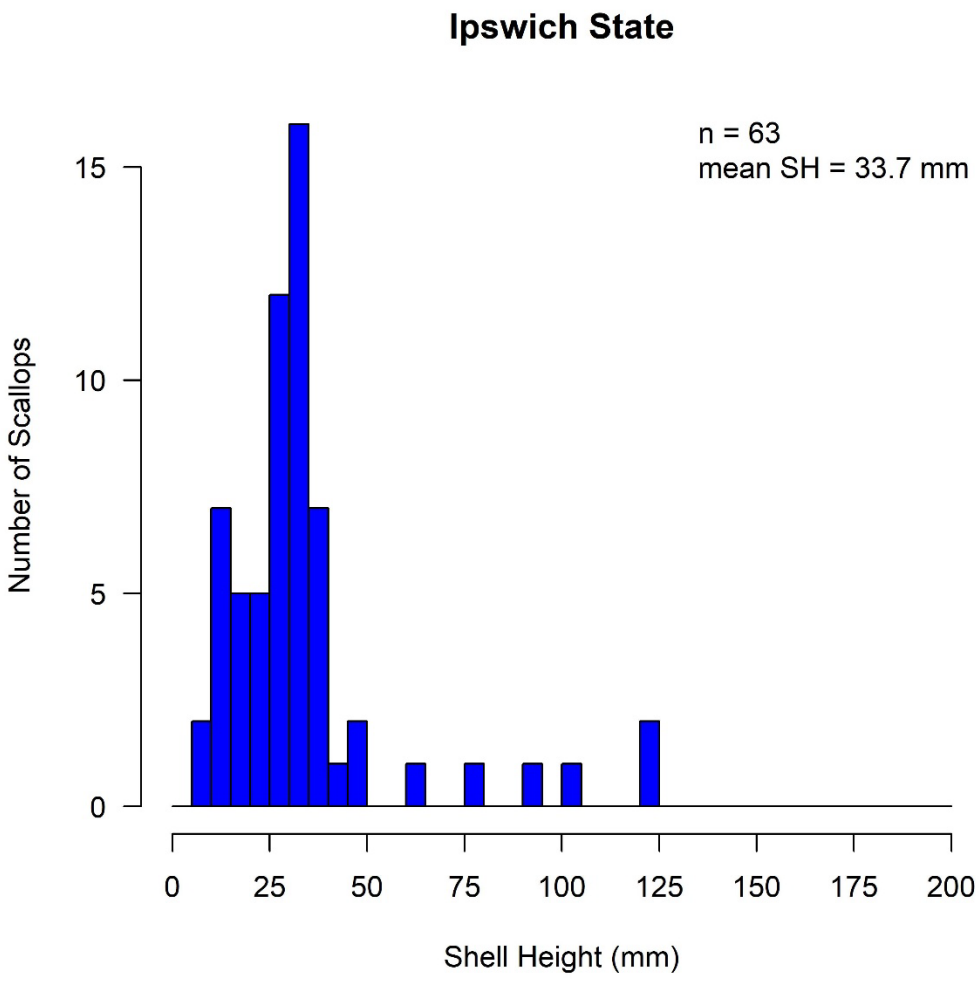

Figure 10. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the part of Ipswich Bay in Massachusetts state waters in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

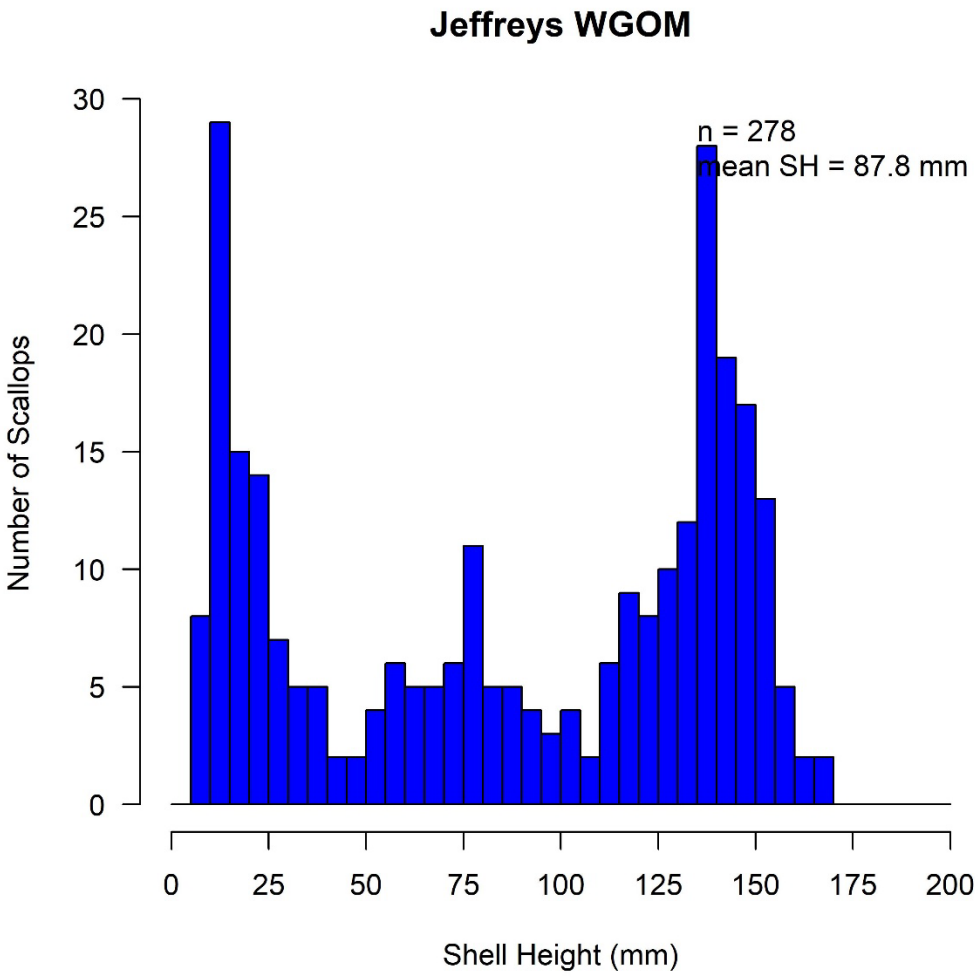

Figure 11. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on the part of Jeffreys Ledge within the Western Gulf of Maine (WGOM) closure area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height(mm) are also displayed in the figure.

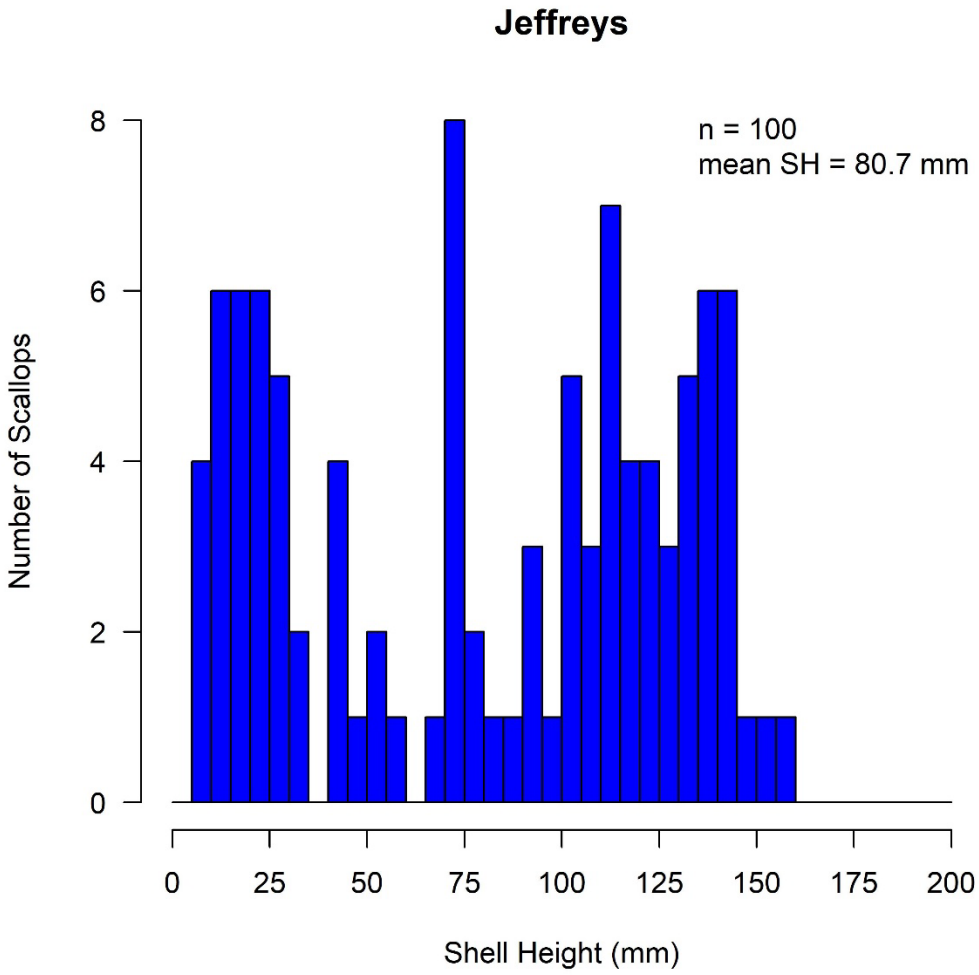

Figure 12. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey on the part of Jeffreys Ledge outside the Western Gulf of Maine closure area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height(mm) are also displayed in the figure.

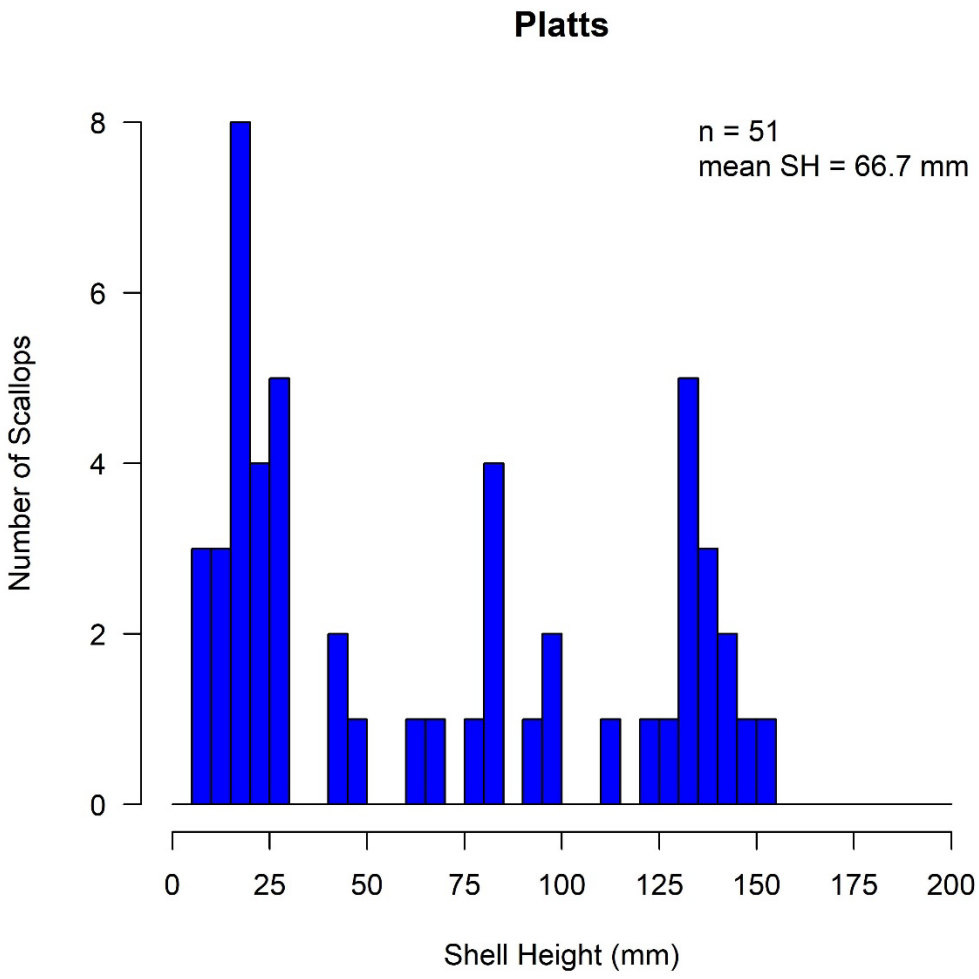

Figure 13. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in Platts Bank in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

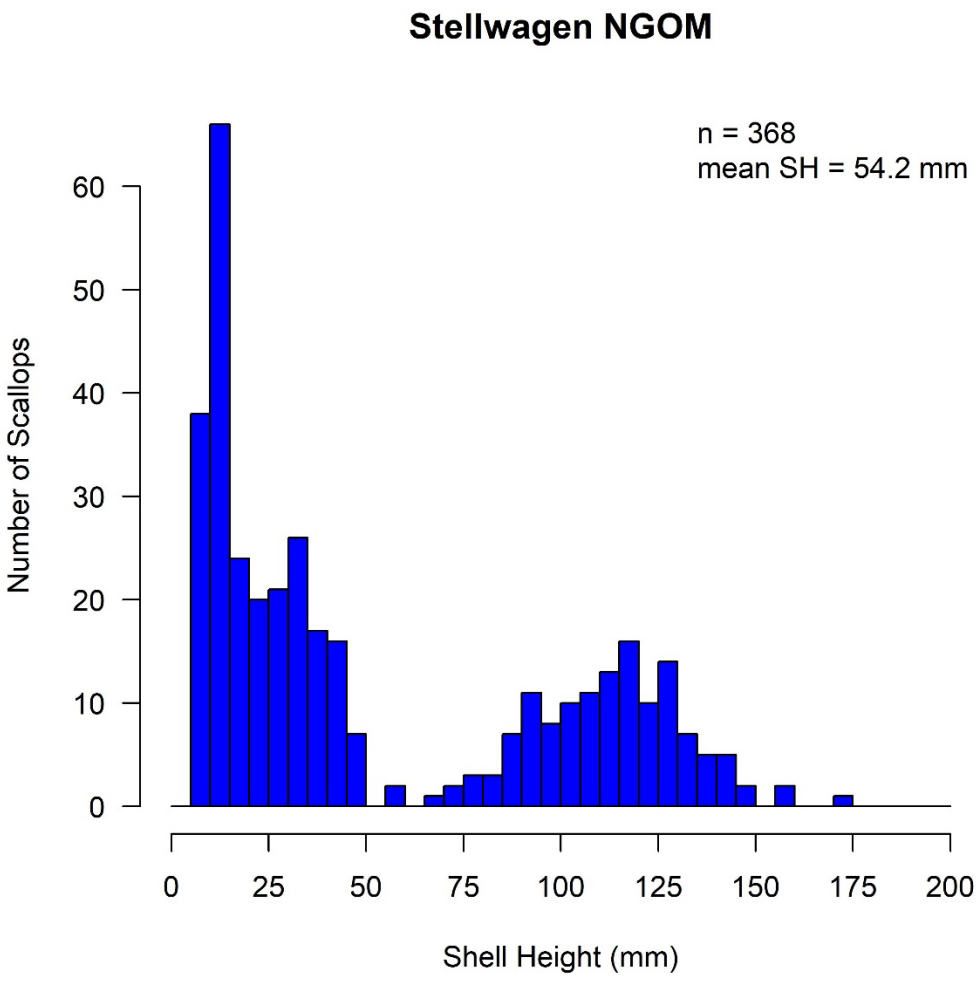

Figure 14. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey in the part of Stellwagen Bank within the Northern Gulf of Maine management area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

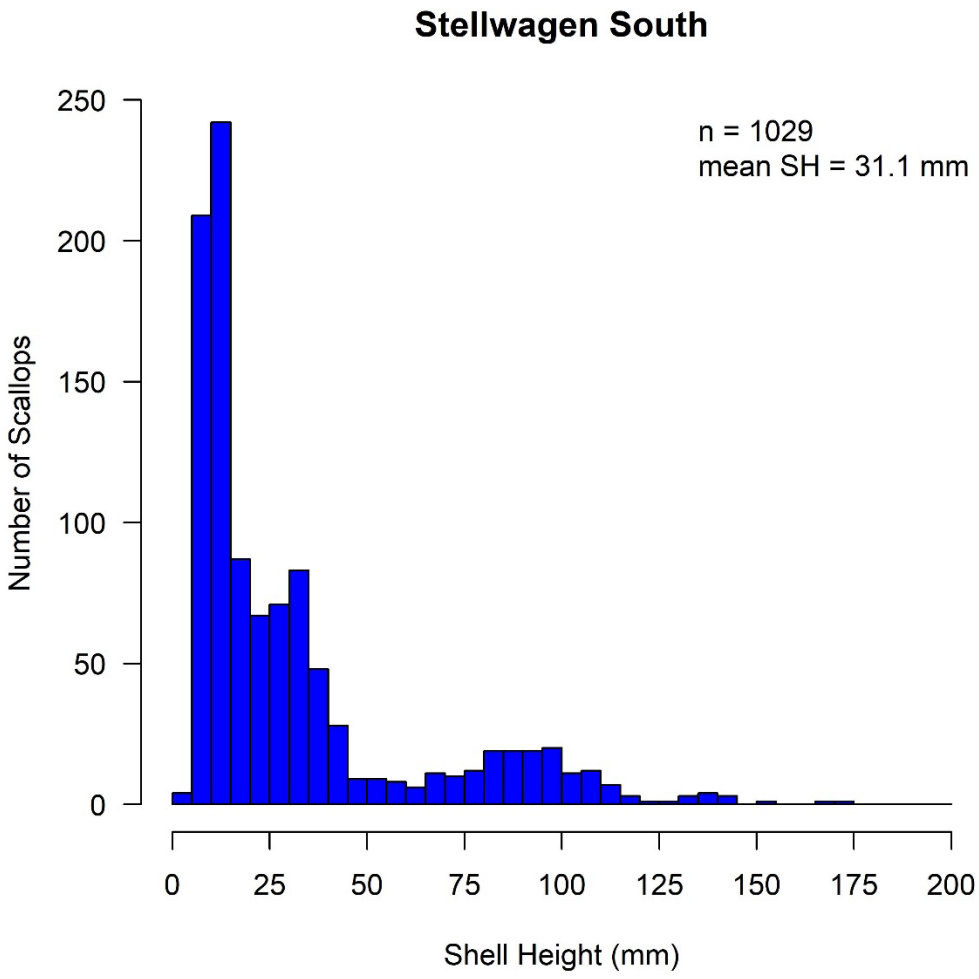

Figure 15. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in the southern part of Stellwagen Bank outside of the Northern Gulf of Maine management area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

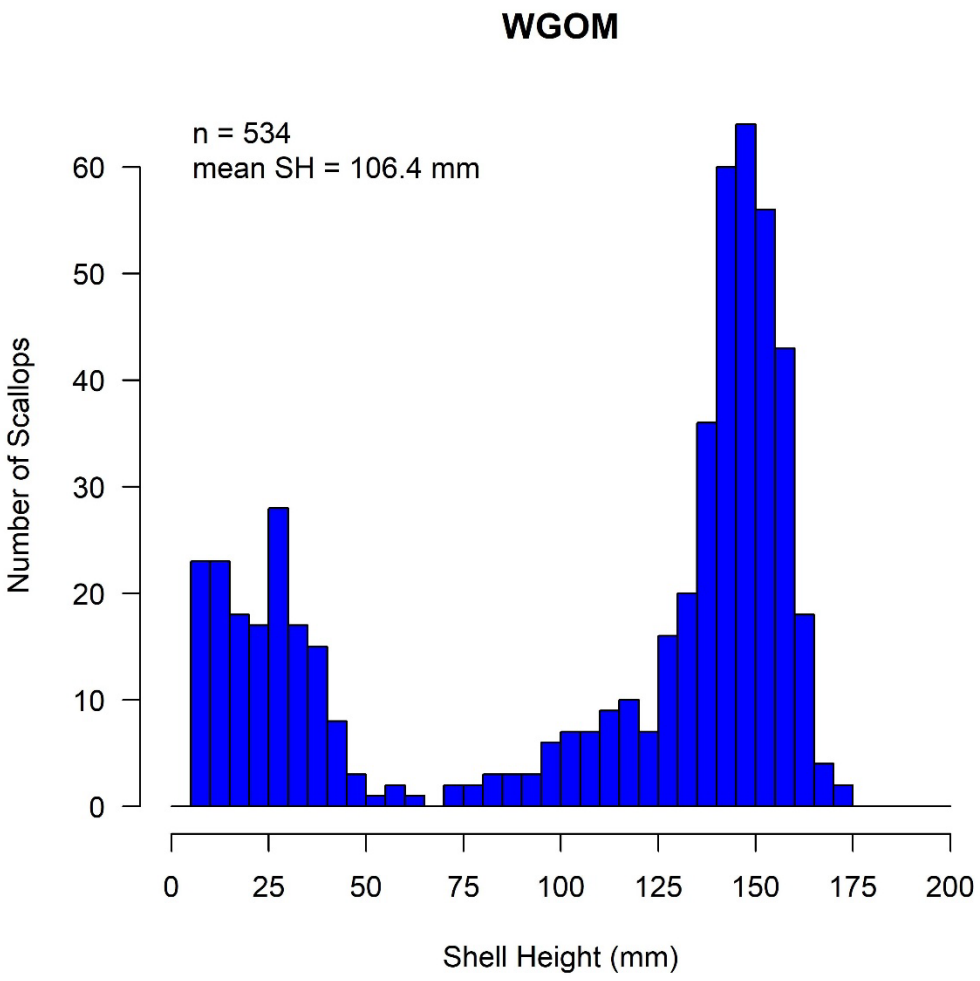

Figure 16. Shell height distribution (5 mm bins) of scallops measured by the School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera survey in the southern part of the Western Gulf of Maine (WGOM) closure area in 2025. The number of scallops measured, and the mean shell height (mm) are also displayed in the figure.

4.0 SPECIAL COMMENTS

We observed relatively high recruitment throughout Stellwagen Bank, in MA state waters of Ipswich Bay, on Fippennies Ledge, and in parts of Jeffreys Ledge within the Western Gulf of Maine closed area.

Comparison of biomass estimates from the 2025 School for Marine Science and Technology drop camera survey using different shell height meat weight equations in selected areas. Stations were 0.54 nautical miles apart. The DMR/SMAST shell height meat weight equation was derived from dredge sampling conducted in 2016, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 and is compared to an additional year of data collected in 2025. All values are for scallops greater than or equal to 40 mm in shell height.

	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2024 equation.	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2025 equation.
NGOM Stellwagen Bank		
Average meat weight (g)	23.4	23.3
Biomass (mt)	391	389
Standard error	53	52
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	31.6	31.3
Exploitable biomass (mt)	221	219
Exploitable standard error	30	29
Non-NGOM Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)		
Average meat weight (g)	12.7	12.8
Biomass (mt)	295	297
Standard error	22	22
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	21.3	21.2
Exploitable biomass (mt)	128	128
Exploitable standard error	9	9
Ipswich Bank		
Average meat weight (g)	27.7	27.5

Biomass (mt)	131	130
Standard error	12	11
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	32.6	32.3
Exploitable biomass (mt)	75	75
Exploitable standard error	7	7
Non-NGOM Ipswich Bay		
Average meat weight (g)	13.5	13.5
Biomass (mt)	15	15
Standard error	2	2
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	23.3	23.1
Exploitable biomass (mt)	7	7
Exploitable standard error	1	1
Jeffreys Ledge (outside WGOM)		
Average meat weight (g)	23.5	23.5
Biomass (mt)	187	188
Standard error	16	16
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	32.0	31.9
Exploitable biomass (mt)	114	113
Exploitable standard error	10	10

5.0 EXPLOITABLE BIOMASS ESTIMATES FOR 2025 (CURRENT FY)

Drop Cam. **Size cutoff for estimates is 40 mm.**

Area	Sub-Area		Abundance (mil.)	Exp. Biomass (mt)	SE	Avg. Weight (g)
NGOM	Platts Bank		1.5	36	6	24.7
	Ipswich Bank	SMAST domain	2.3	75	7	32.3
		Other				
	Jeffreys Ledge	SMAST domain	3.6	113	10	31.9
		Other				
	Jeffreys Ledge WGOM	SMAST domain	13.0	502	43	38.5
		Other				
	Stellwagen Bank (AOI from 2024)	SMAST domain	7.0	219	29	31.3
		Other				
	NGOM Total		27.4	946	95	
Non-NGOM	Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)		6.0	128	9	21.2
	WGOM Closure		38.3	1968	176	51.4
	Ipswich Bay (MA State Waters)		0.3	7	1	23.1
	Fippennies Ledge (Closed Area)		14.1	461	42	32.7
	Cashes Ledge (Closed Area)		0.5	16	4	32.5
	Non-NGOM Total		59.2	2580	232	

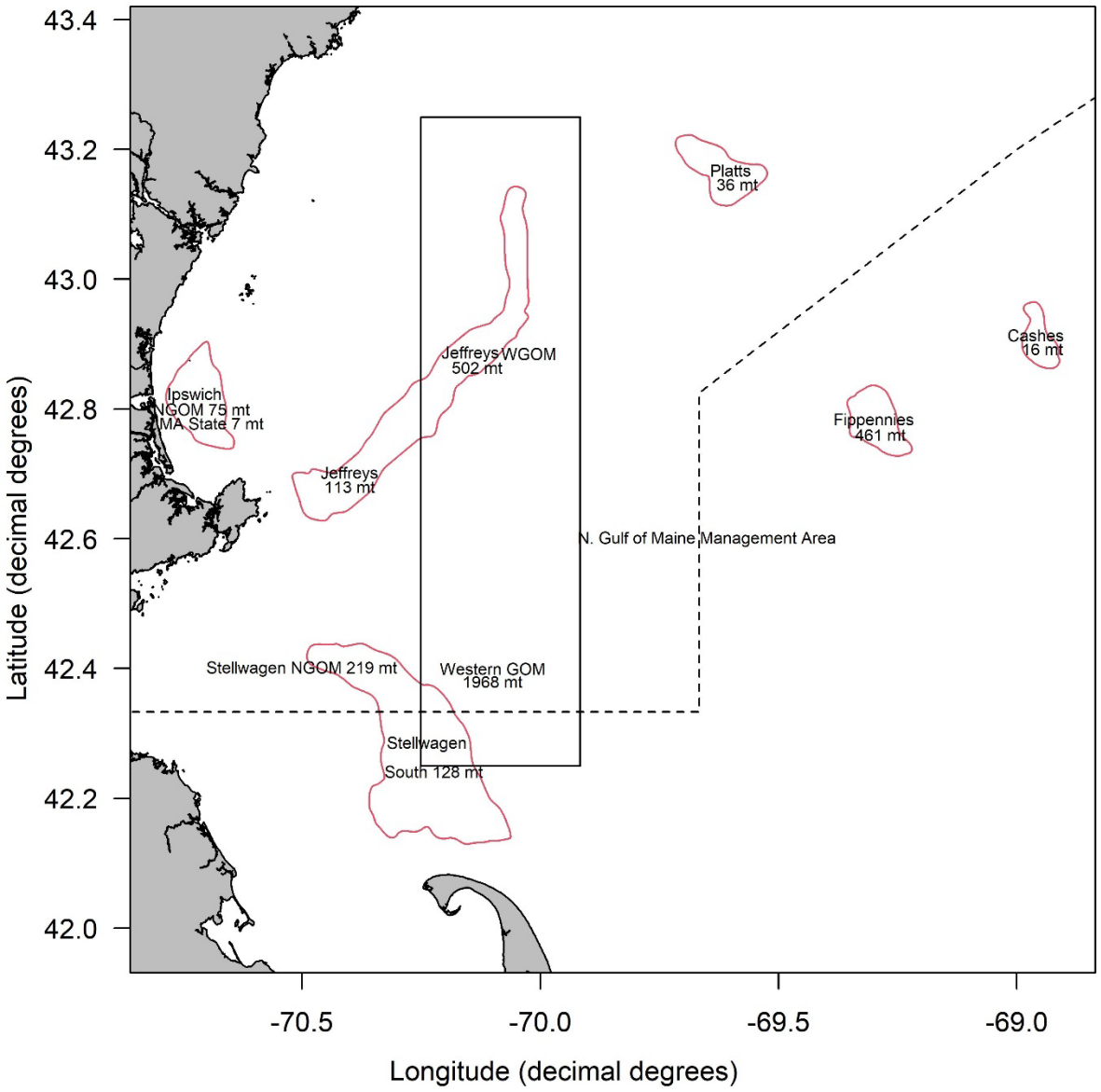

Figure 17. School for Marine Science and Technology Drop Camera Survey exploitable biomass (derived using selectivity equation) estimates from 2025, in metric tons, by bank in the Gulf of Maine. The red polygons are the survey boundaries in 2025. The gray land is eastern New England.