

2025 Scallop Survey Short Report

Gulf of Maine

Prepared by:

Maine Department of Marine Resources

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8/25/25

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1.0 2025 SURVEY BIOMASS ESTIMATES

ME DMR Survey Dredge 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)	#Tows
NGOM	Machias Seal Island		12.3	213.6	77	17.5	126	0.03	22
	Platts Bank		2.0	43.3	30.9	22.2	115.6	0.019	16
	Ipswich Bank	SMAST domain	6.6	157.5	49.8	22.1	108.4	0.06	15
		Other	0.1	4	4	31.7	129.1	0.001	10
	Jeffreys Ledge	SMAST domain	13.4	349.1	87.6	26.4	114.4	0.063	20
		Other	0.9	37.7	37.2	43	142.3	0.003	16
	Stellwagen Bank (AOI from 2024)	SMAST domain	19.2	548.2	178.8	29	113.3	0.131	31
		Other	2.9	98.5	55.5	36.8	128.6	0.005	24
	NGOM Total		57.4	1451.9	520.8	28.6	122.2	0.039	154
Non-NGOM	Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)	SMAST domain	24.8	393.6	104.6	15.4	91.5	0.071	17
		Other	1.1	32.4	13.6	29.5	113.4	0.006	12
	WGOM Closure								
	Ipswich Bay (MA State Waters)								
	Fippennies Ledge (Closed Area)								
	Cashes Ledge (Closed Area)								
	Non-NGOM Total		25.9	426.0	118.2	22.5	102.5	0.0385	29

2.0 FIGURES OF SURVEY COVERAGE

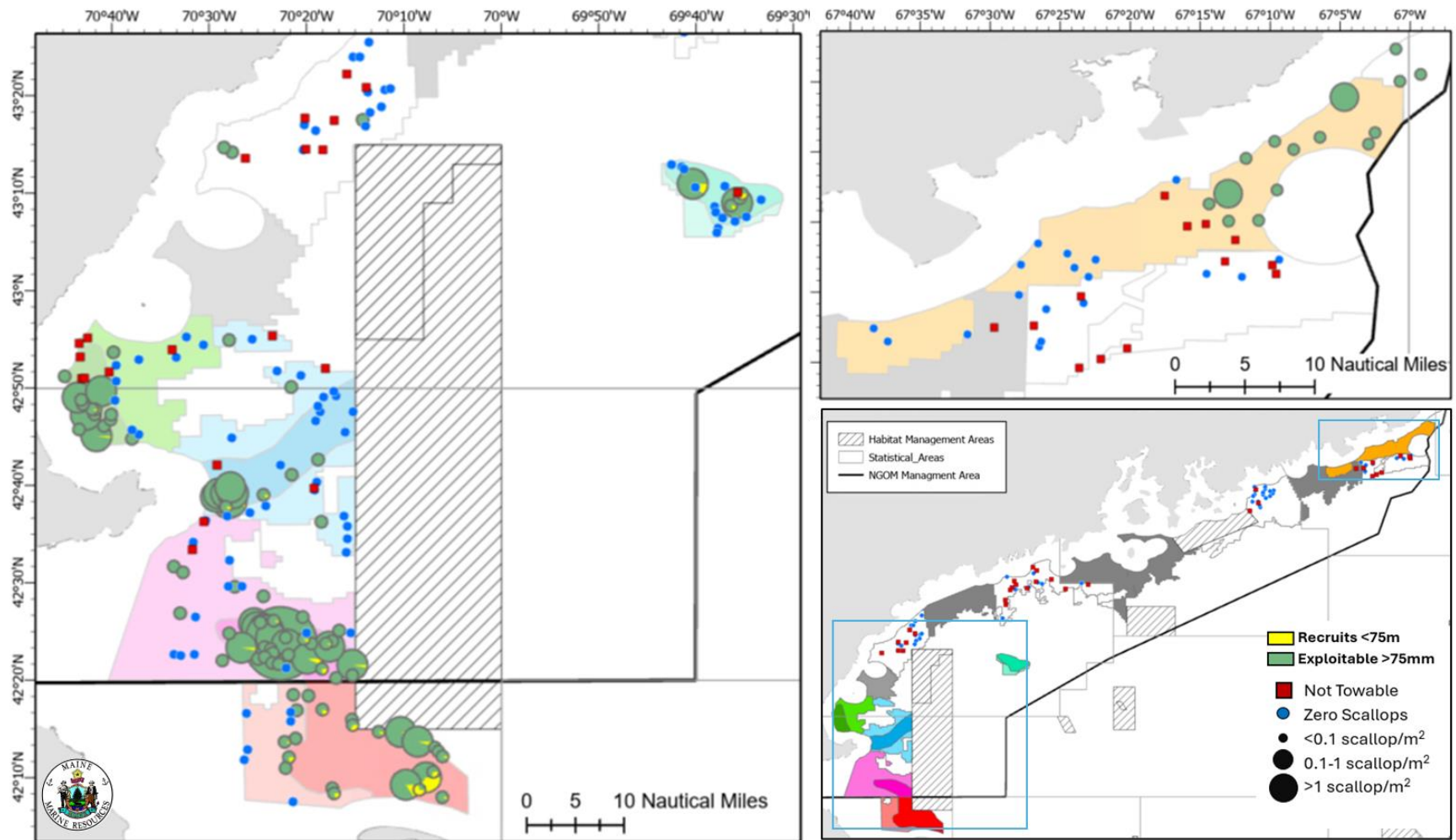


Figure 1. Tow results from the 2025 ME DMR dredge survey. The shaded areas represent the survey areas within the domain, where the darker shaded areas represent overlap with the SMAST drop camera survey. Tows with no scallops are shown as blue circles, sites not towable due to fixed gear or bottom type are indicated by red squares where the size of the other circles is representative of the density of scallops at each site.

Exploitable Scallops (>75mm)

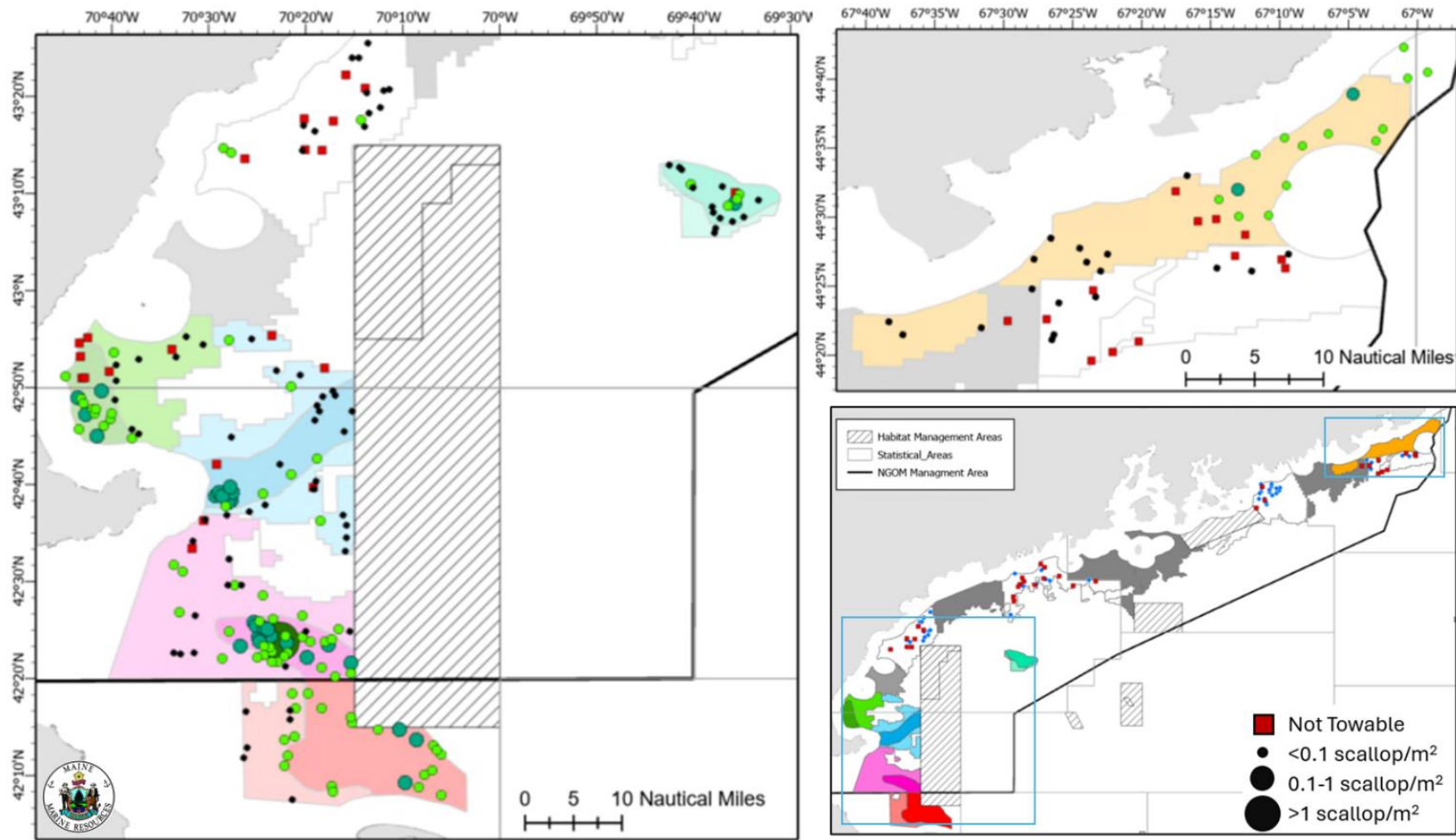


Figure 2. Abundance of >75mm scallops from the 2025 ME DMR dredge survey. The shaded areas represent the survey areas within the domain, where the darker shaded areas represent overlap with the SMAST drop camera survey. Tows with no scallops are shown as blue circles, sites not towable due to fixed gear or bottom type are indicated by red squares where the size of the other circles is representative of the density of scallops at each site.

Recruit Scallops (35-75mm)

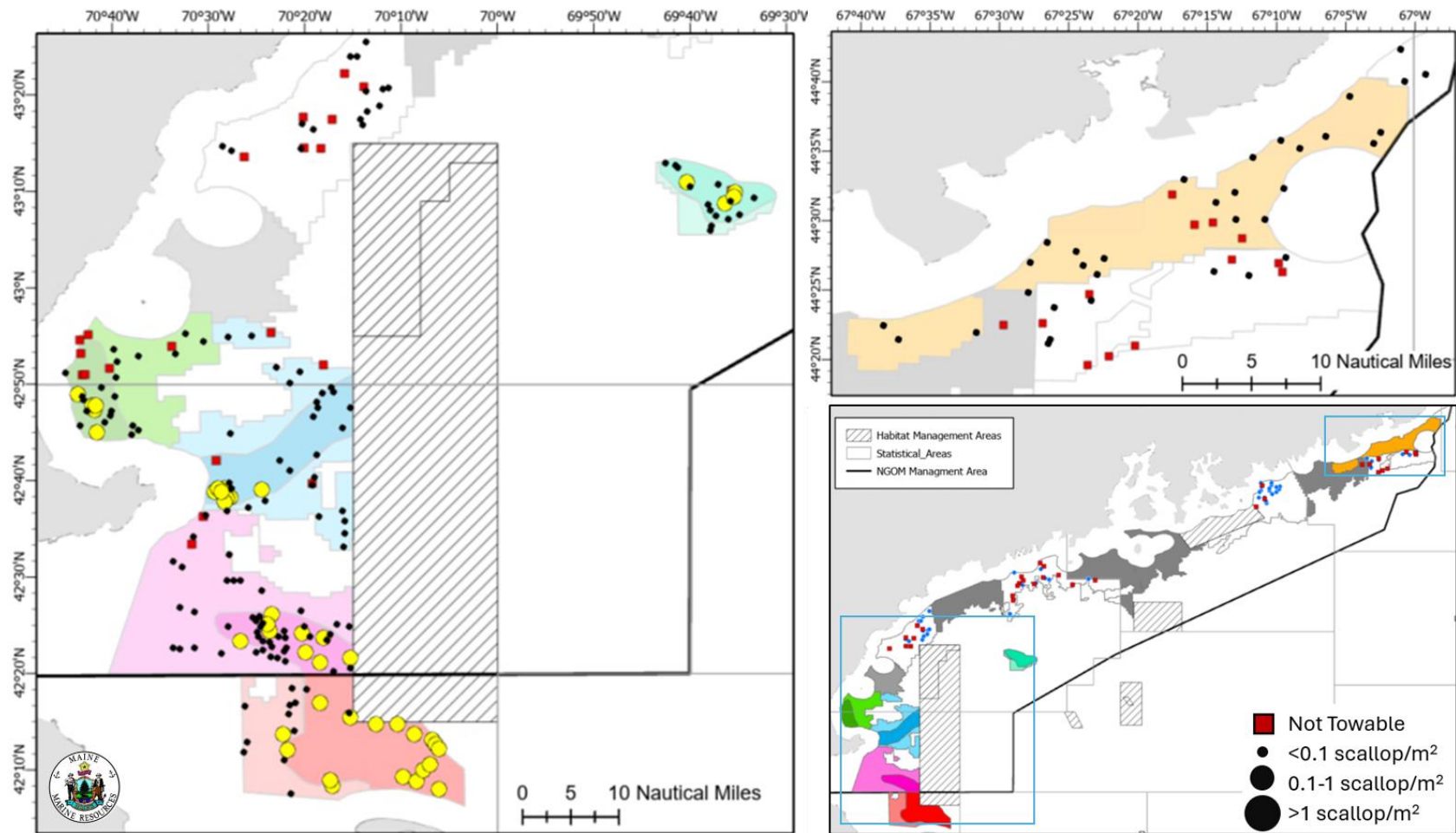


Figure 3. Abundance of recruit (<75mm) scallops from the 2025 ME DMR dredge survey. The shaded areas represent the survey areas within the domain, where the darker shaded areas represent overlap with the SMAST drop camera survey. Tows with no scallops are shown as blue circles, sites not towable due to fixed gear or bottom type are indicated by red squares where the size of the other circles is representative of the density of scallops at each site.

Pre-Recruit Scallops (<35mm)

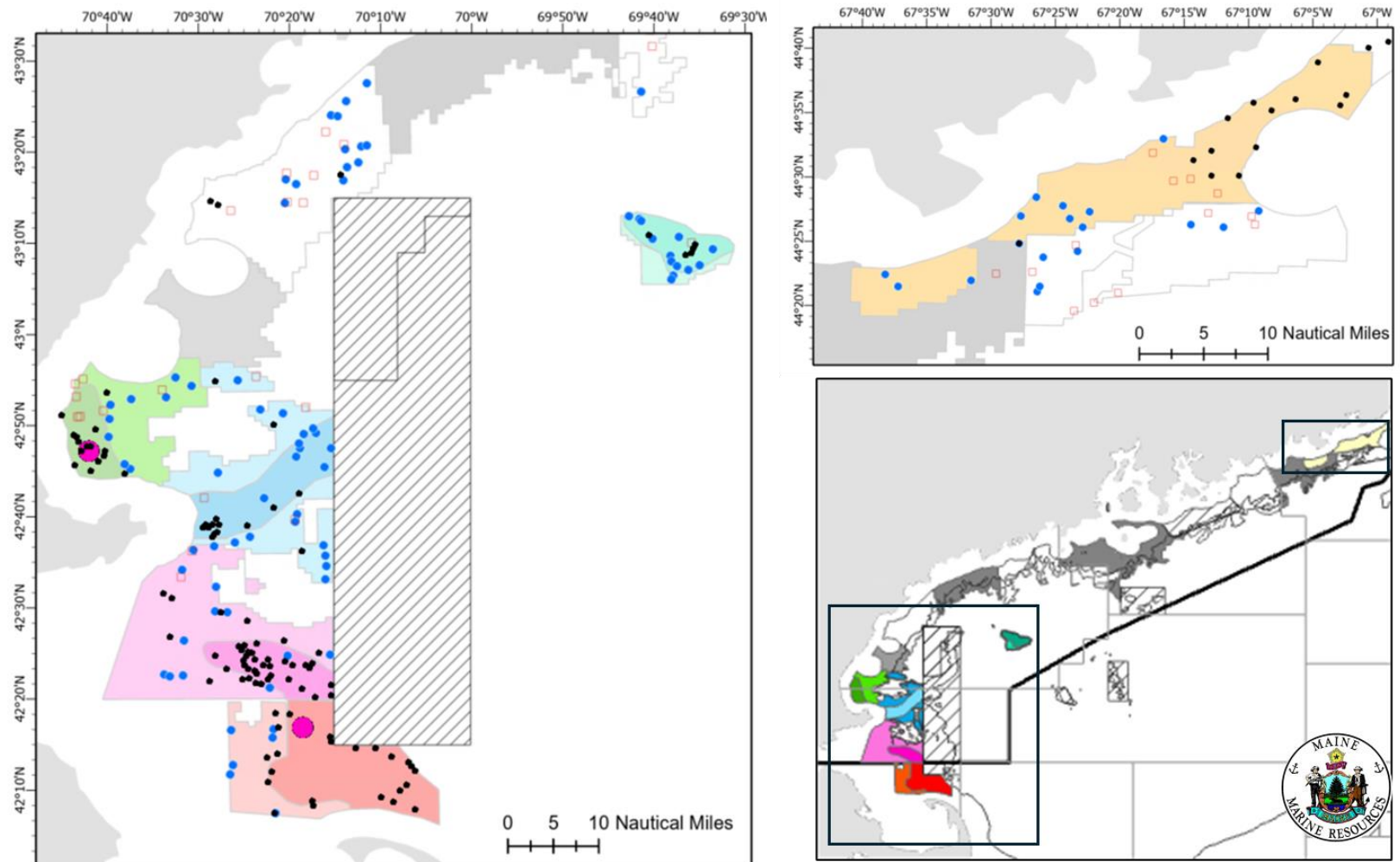
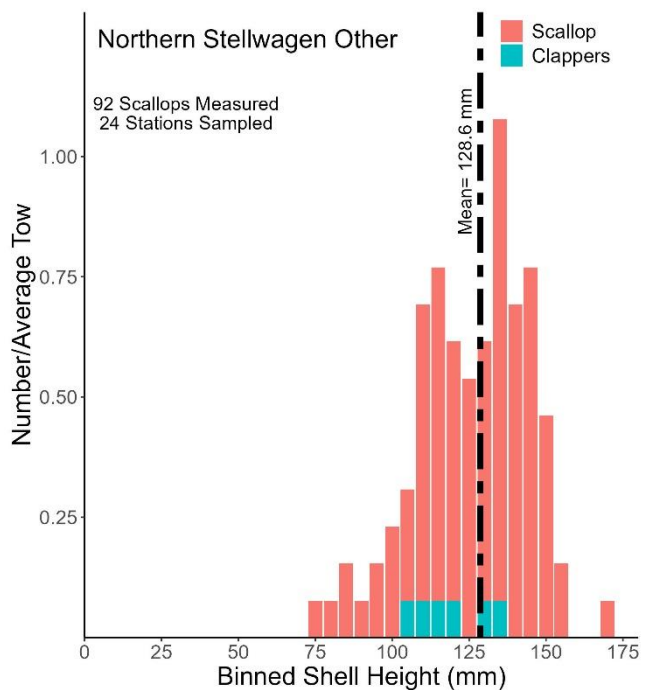
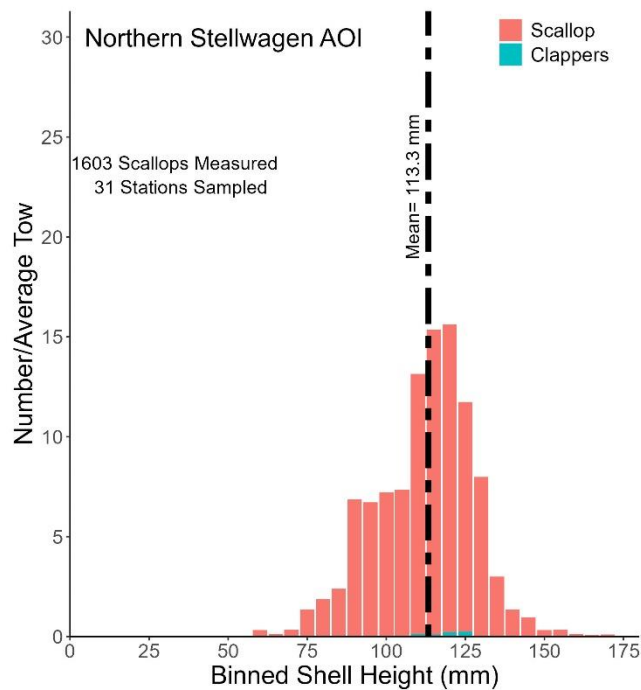
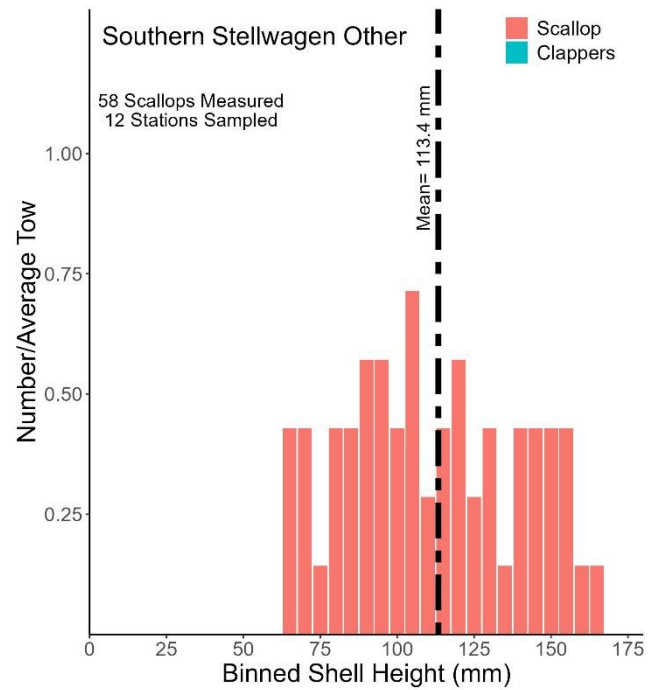
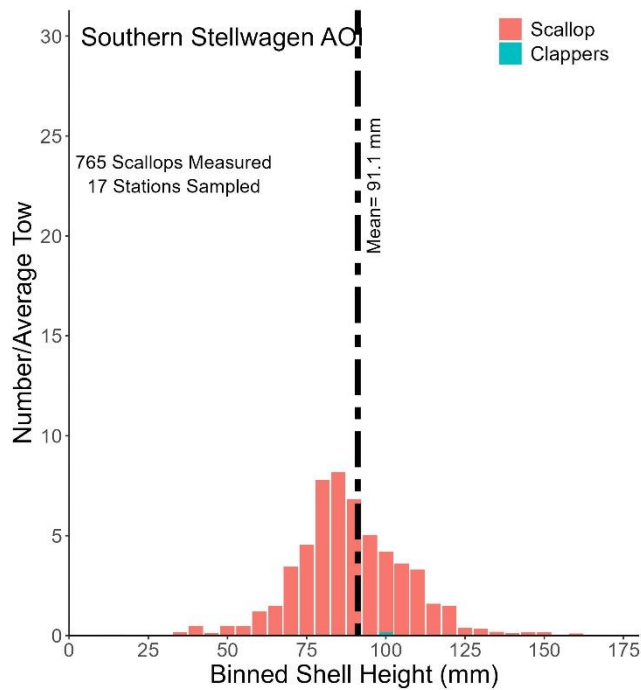
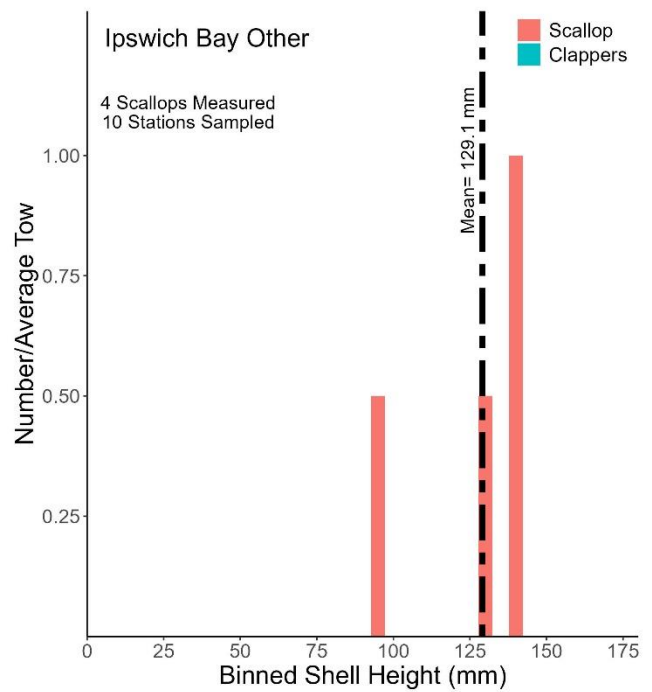
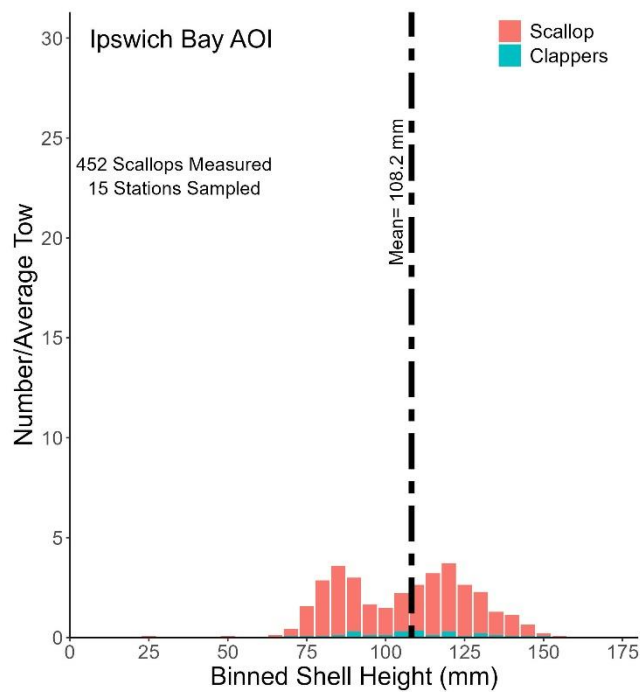
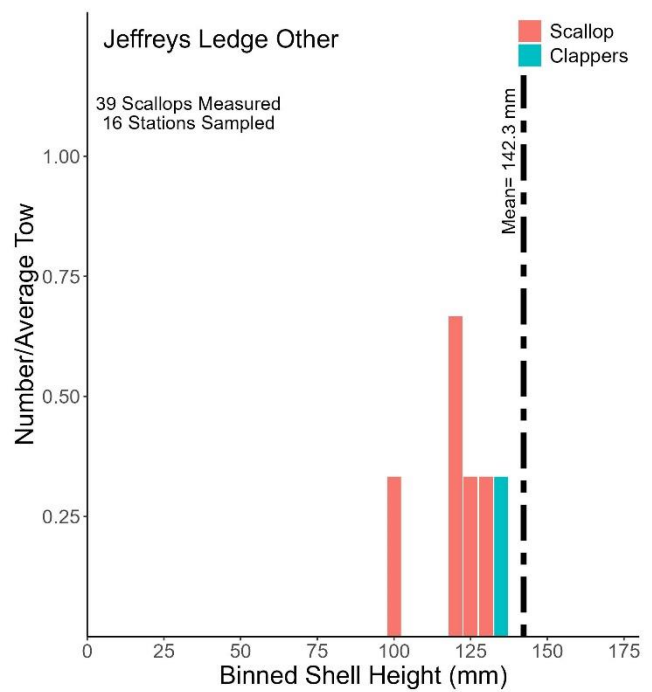
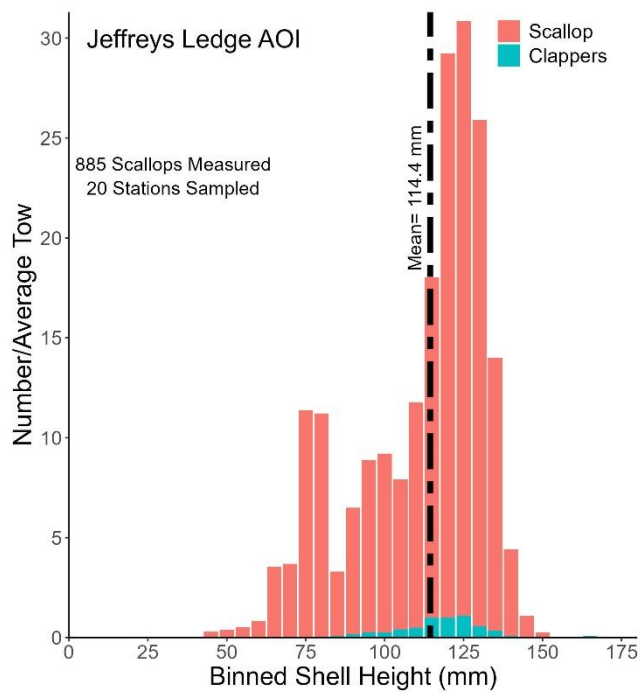
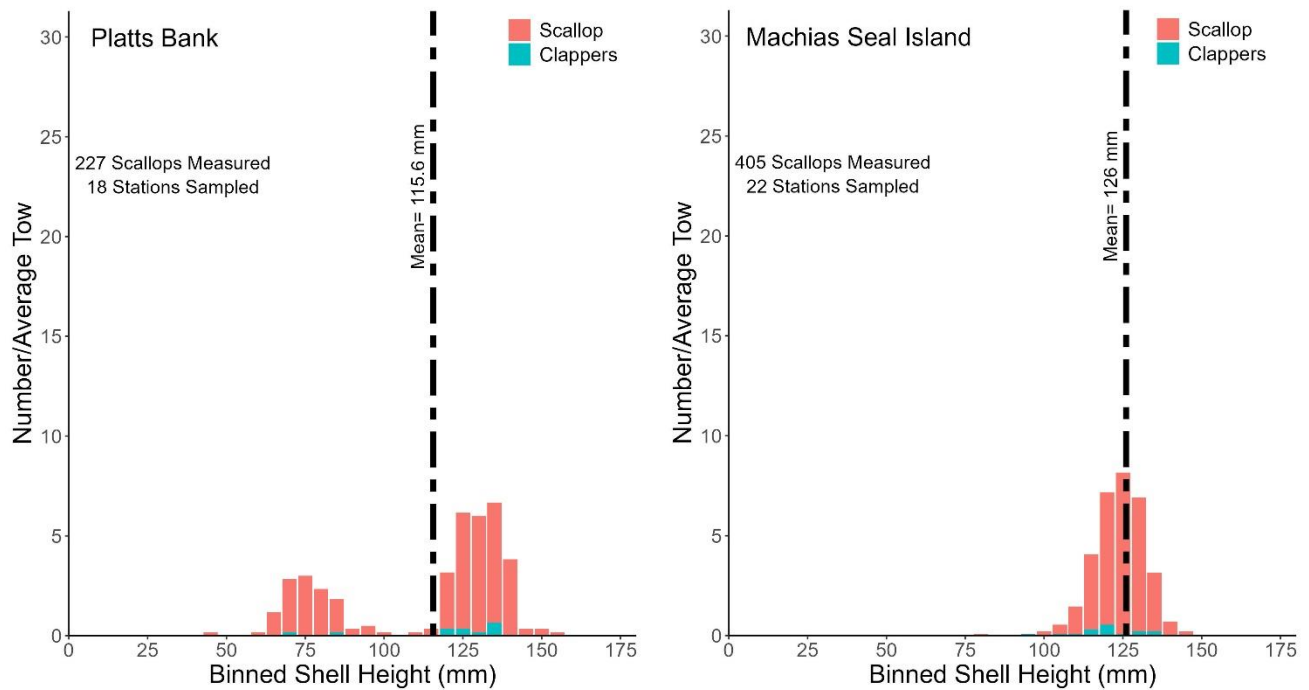


Figure 3. Abundance of recruit (<75mm) scallops from the 2025 ME DMR dredge survey. The shaded areas represent the survey areas within the domain, where the darker shaded areas represent overlap with the SMAST drop camera survey. Tows with no scallops are shown as blue circles, sites not towable due to fixed gear or bottom type are indicated by red squares where the size of the other circles is representative of the density of scallops at each site.

3.0 LENGTH FREQUENCY PLOTS BY AREA







Size Frequency Plots. Scallops and clappers were measured to the nearest 0.1 mm using Zebra Tech® shellfish measuring boards then binned into 5mm increments. The total number of scallops in each survey area for each size bin were divided by the number of valid tows to calculate the number of scallops/average tow. Black dashed lines represent the mean size for each survey area. The AOI's are the areas which overlapped with the SMAST survey domain and have the same y-axis scale for each area.

4.0 SPECIAL COMMENTS

Each scallop processed for meat weights was also graded on the following visual quality scale and examined for shell blisters and notable parasites. The majority of scallops in Machias Seal Island and the surrounding exploratory area (Area 1) were poor/fair quality. Scallops in the other survey areas were mostly normal quality. One shell blister was observed on Stellwagen Bank, this scallop also had fair quality meat.



Quality	Good	Fair	Poor
Color	White/Orange	Brown	Gray
Texture	Firm	Starting to become soft/squishy	Soft and flacid muscle degraded

Table 1. Number of scallops for each meat category grouped by survey area.

Area	Count of Observations			
	Normal	Fair Quality	Poor Quality	Shell Blister
Exploratory Area 1	2	19		
Exploratory Area 3	0			
Exploratory Area 5	0			
Exploratory Area 7	14	1	1	
Machias Seal Island	35	51	1	
Platts Bank	37			
Ipswich Bay	89			
Jefferys Ledge	105			
Northern Stellwagen	270	3		1
Southern Stellwagen	162			

5.0 EXPLOITABLE BIOMASS ESTIMATES FOR 2025 (CURRENT FY)

ME DMR Survey Dredge. Size cutoff for estimates is 40 mm.

Area	Sub-Area		Exp. Abundance (mil.)	Exp. Biomass (mt)	SE	Avg Weight (g)
NGOM	Machias Seal Island		10.6	187.4	67.9	17.5
	Platts Bank		1.3	35.6	27.0	24.2
	Ipswich Bank	SMAST domain	4.1	119.6	37.0	22.4
		Other	0.1	3.7	3.7	31.7
	Jeffreys Ledge	SMAST domain	8.9	278.9	72.6	27.4
		Other	0.9	35.8	35.6	43.0
	Stellwagen Bank (AOI from 2024)	SMAST domain	12.4	408.3	135.2	29.3
		Other	2.3	85.6	49.0	36.8
	NGOM Total		40.6	1154.9	428.0	29.0
Non-NGOM	Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)	SMAST domain	7.9	190.8	68.4	17.2
		Other	0.7	26.3	10.8	32.2
	Non-NGOM Total		8.6	217.1	79.2	24.7

Estimated Biomass (MT) of exploitable scallops by survey area

