

Scallop Plan Development Team

2-DAY SURVEY DATA REVIEW MEETING

AUGUST 26-27

BUZZARDS BAY, MA

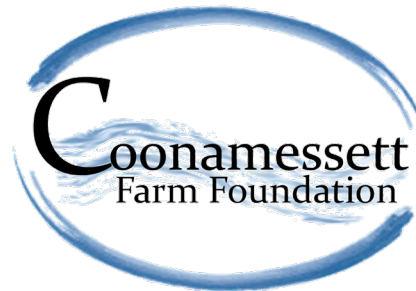
Version 1



New England Fishery
Management Council

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you to Survey groups and presenters!
- Working, technical meeting of PDT & AP on September 9th and Committee meeting on September 10th
 - PDT/AP & CTE, hybrid meeting at HGI Boston Logan. Survey groups can participate
- WiFi: Hilton Honors
- Promo Code: diamond20



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MEETING GUIDELINES

- Online participants please mute.
- We have multiple omni-mics in the room to capture audio. Meeting participants are not using individual microphones.
- Materials will be posted to the Council's website this morning.



AGENDA DAY 1

9:00 AM	Welcome, summary of agenda, and housekeeping
9:15	Review 2026 scallop survey results (VIMS, SMAST, ME DMR, CFF, and NEFSC)
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:30	Discuss survey results and data treatment • Review SAMS areas – review and make recommendations • SH/MW assumptions and curves ○ Review SH/MW equations ○ Georges Bank and Mid-Atlantic ▪ NLS-South and sensitivities ▪ Mid-Atlantic sensitivity ○ Gulf of Maine equation and curves • Dredge efficiency • Review 2025-2026 VMS information • Data agreement and combining survey estimates • Initial PDT Impressions of outlook for 2026
4:30	Identify next steps for Day 2, including any homework assignments
4:45	Adjourn



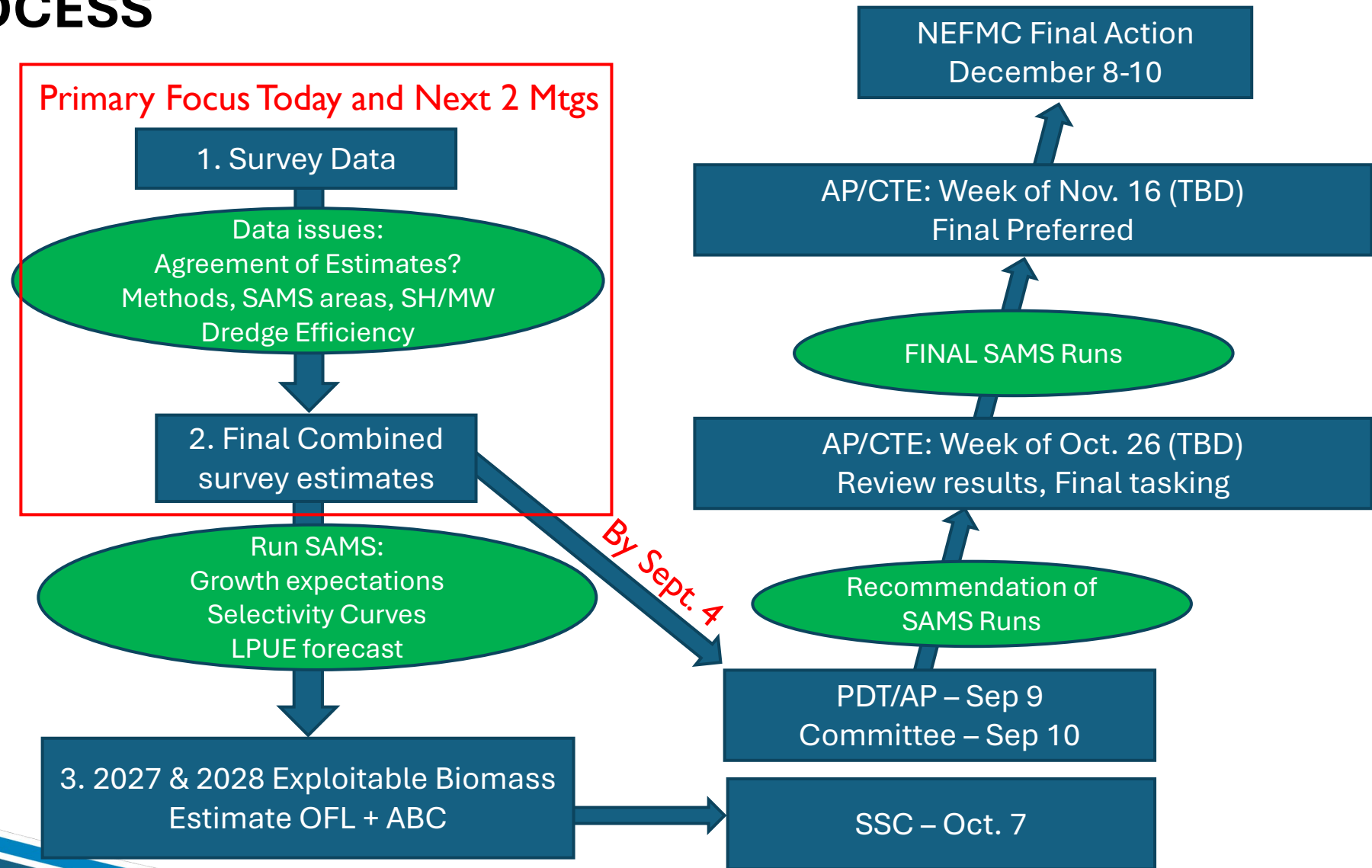
AGENDA DAY 2

9:00 AM	Review any follow-up analyses/homework/continue with Aug. 26 agenda (if needed)
9:30	Continue reviewing 2026 data and outlook for 2027 • Update on nematode and shell disease prevalence in Mid-Atlantic • Develop PDT input for 2027/2028 specifications (BASE run)
10:45	Recap: Additional analyses & modeling decisions; plan for next PDT meeting
11:00	Framework 42: Discuss the development of measures to allocate regional DAS and sub-management areas in the NGOM.
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:15	Scallop PDT Memo to Groundfish PDT re: GB Yellowtail
2:00	Review Draft 3-Year Work Plan
3:00	Adjourn



2027 SPECS PROCESS

- Compressed timeline won't allow for projections by September 9 & 10 meetings.
- Need OFL/ABC projections by **Sep 18**



GOALS

Part 1: Agreement on survey data treatment to initialize the SAMS model

- Confirm SAMS areas, SHMW equations, dredge efficiency, combining survey estimates

Part 2: Modifications to SAMS model parameters

- Growth, selectivity, LPUE

Part 3: Develop initial input around biological considerations in particular resource areas.

- Areas of recruitment, potential access areas



SURVEY DATA TREATMENT ISSUES

Starting points for discussion

- **SAMS areas:** Start with no changes from FW40
- **GOM:** AOIs, confirm parts that will be part of SAMS
- **SHMW equations:** 2025 Research Track equations amended for FW40
 - Consider other SHMW equations on an area-by-area basis
- **Survey estimates:**
 - Agreement by SAMS area for dredge, HabCam, Drop Camera
 - Combining data using simple average of available surveys for each SAMS area to initialize the model.
 - Note potential impact of dredge efficiency and survey timing issues.
 - Factor of 3 (SARC 65, recent FWs)

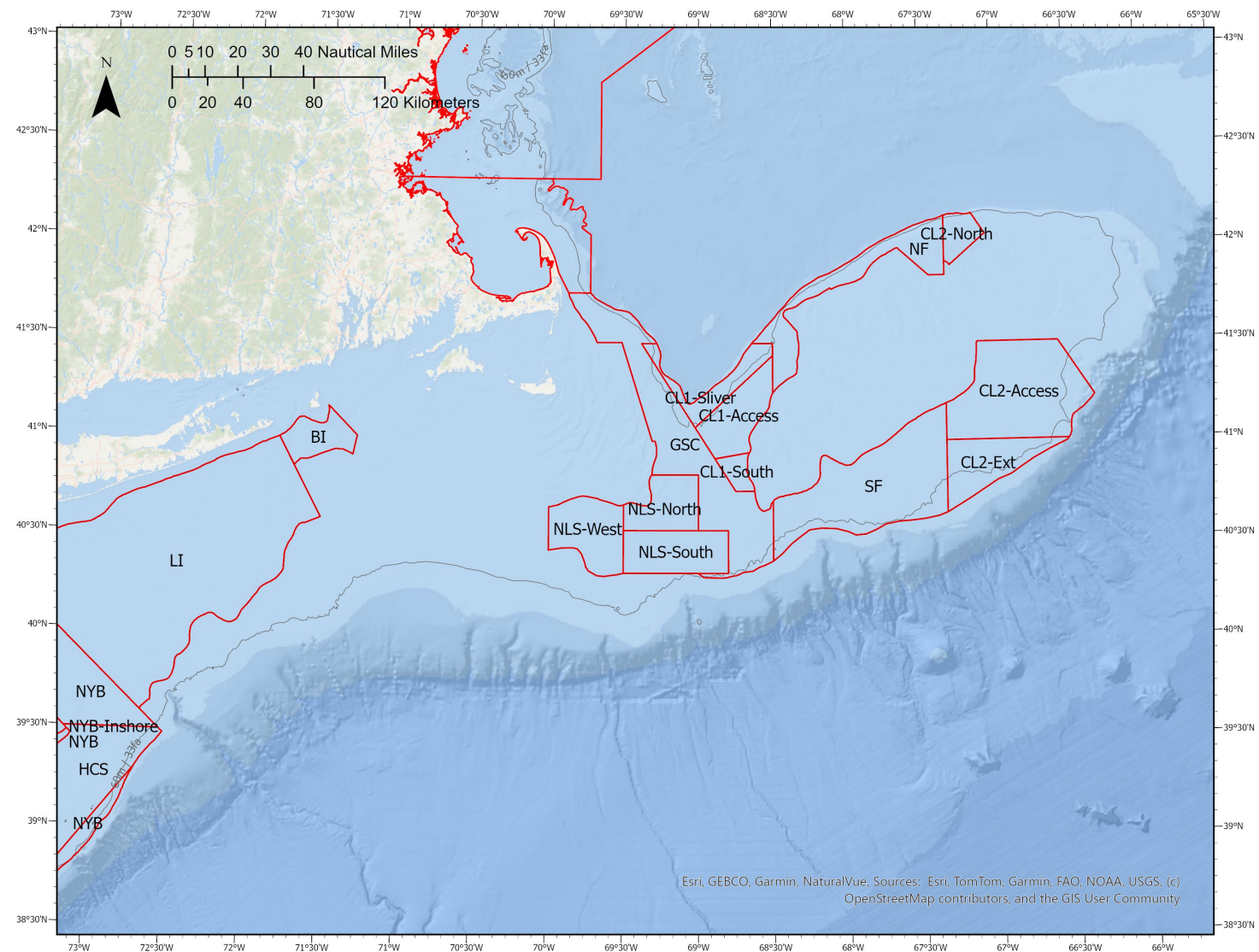
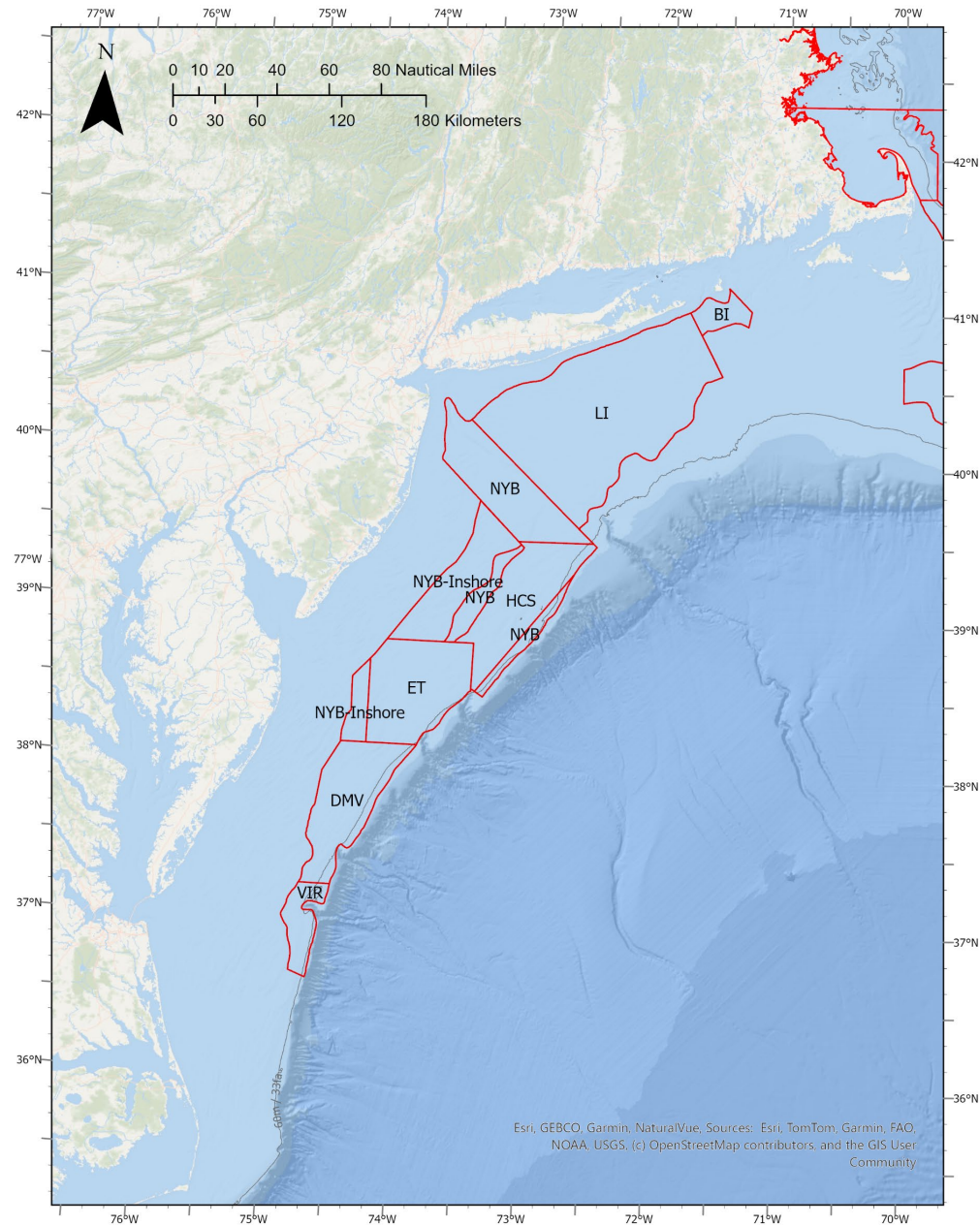


PROJECTION TOPICS

Focus of tomorrow's discussion

- Growth assumptions:
 - Slow growth in any areas, such as NLS-S?
 - Review against projected growth
- Selectivity curves: Discuss whether modifying selectivity curves for scallops in high density areas might be appropriate
 - [Scallop Performance Report \(B. Galuardi\)](#)
- LPUE (*when available*): Consider if projected LPUE is overly optimistic/pessimistic



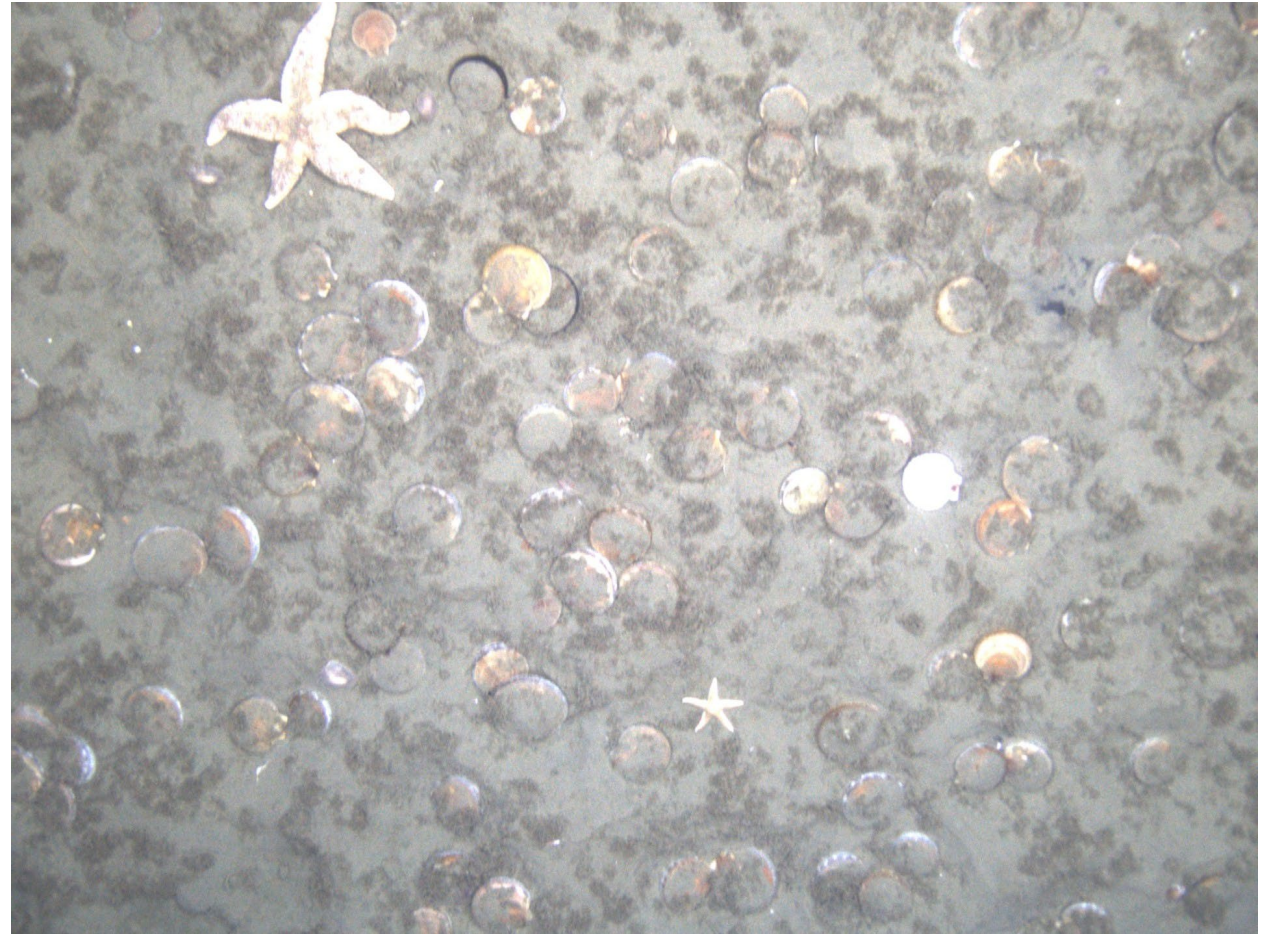


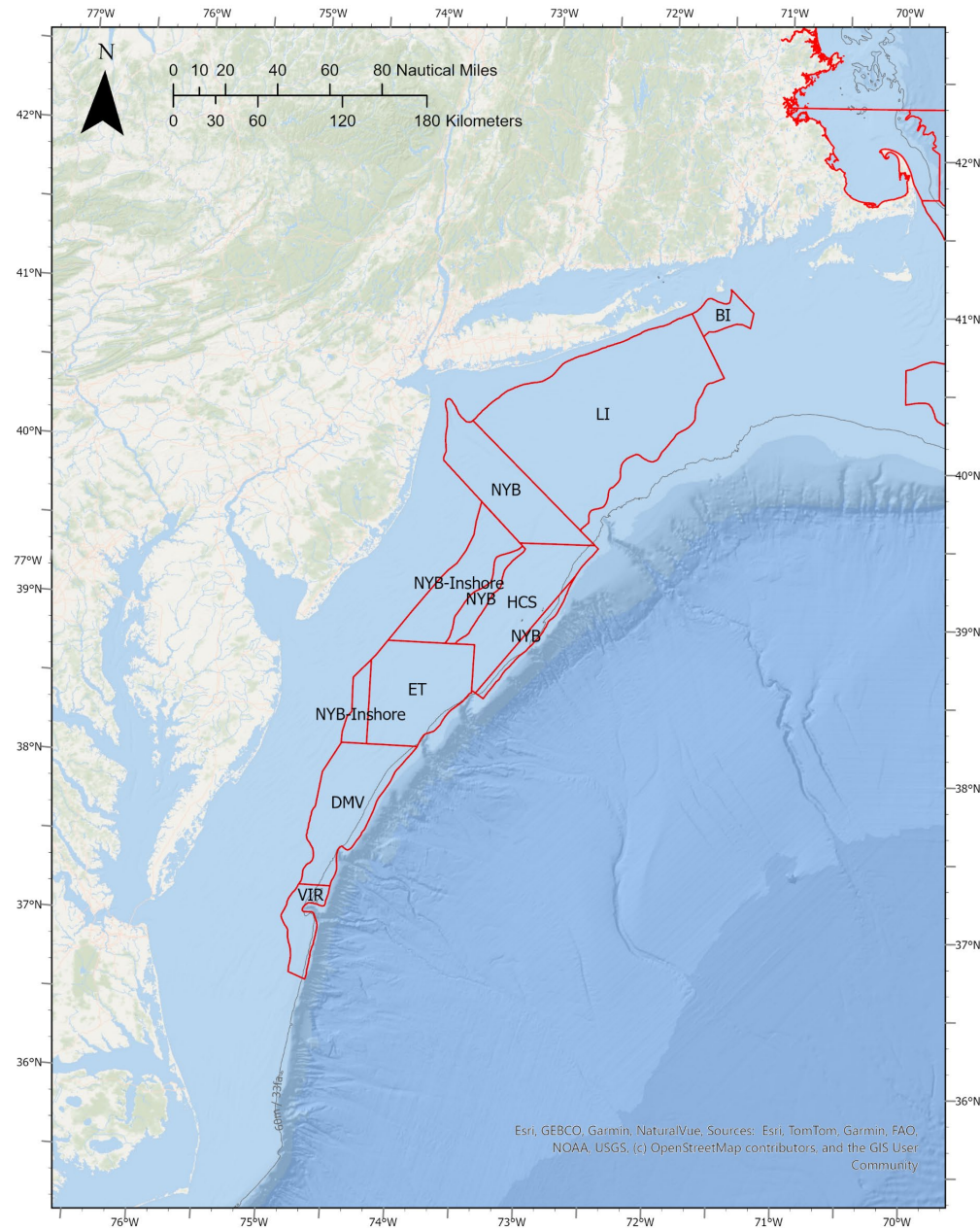
SURVEY PRESENTATIONS

Presentation order

- Sally Roman (VIMS)
- Adam Delargy (SMAST, GB)
- Tasha O'Hara (CFF)
- Dvora Hart (NEFSC)
- Carl Huntsberger (ME DMR)
- Adam Delargy (SMAST, GOM)

Nantucket Lightship South – CFF HabCam 2026

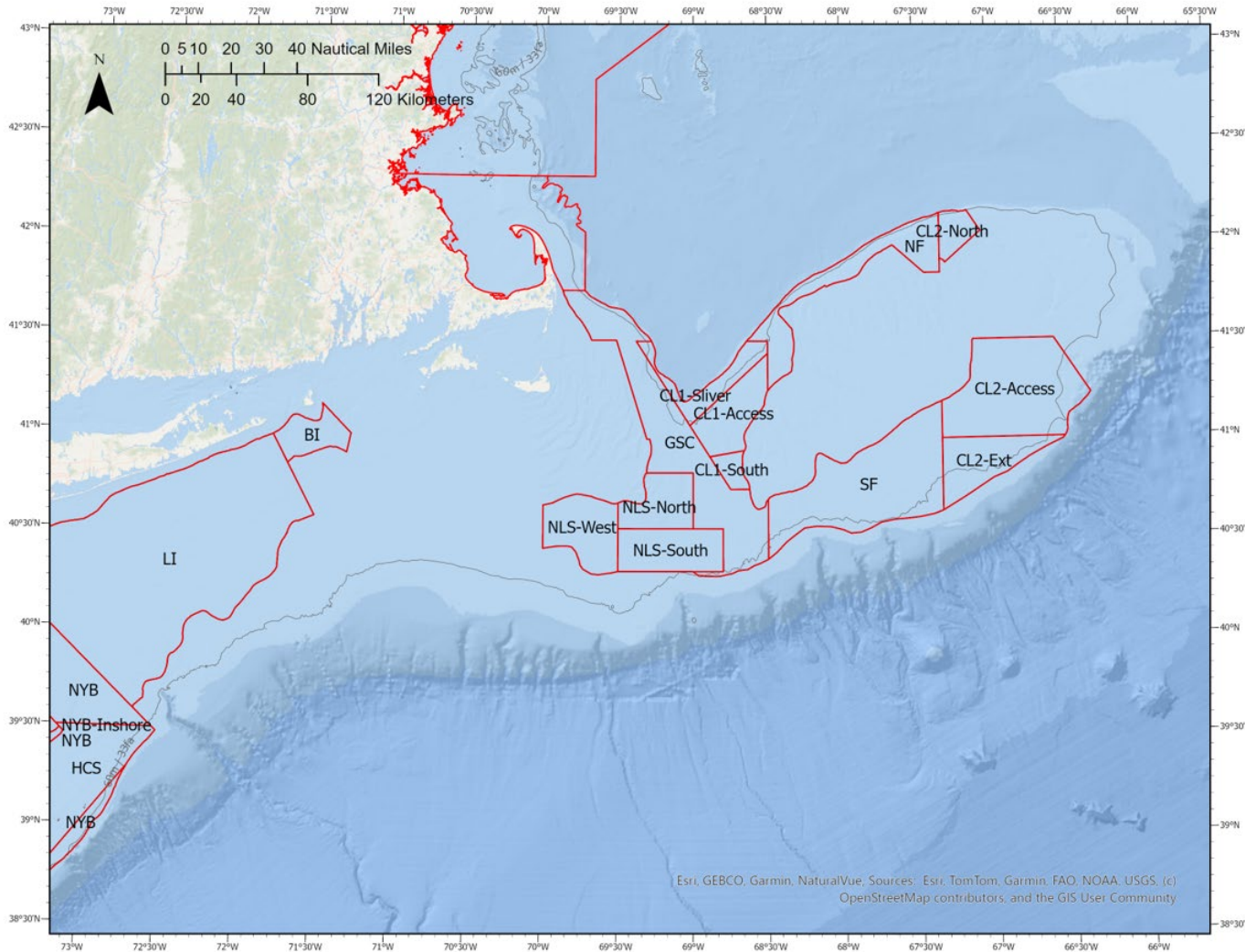




SAMS AREA CONSIDERATIONS

- Signs of recruitment to consider potential closures?

SAMS AREA CONSIDERATIONS

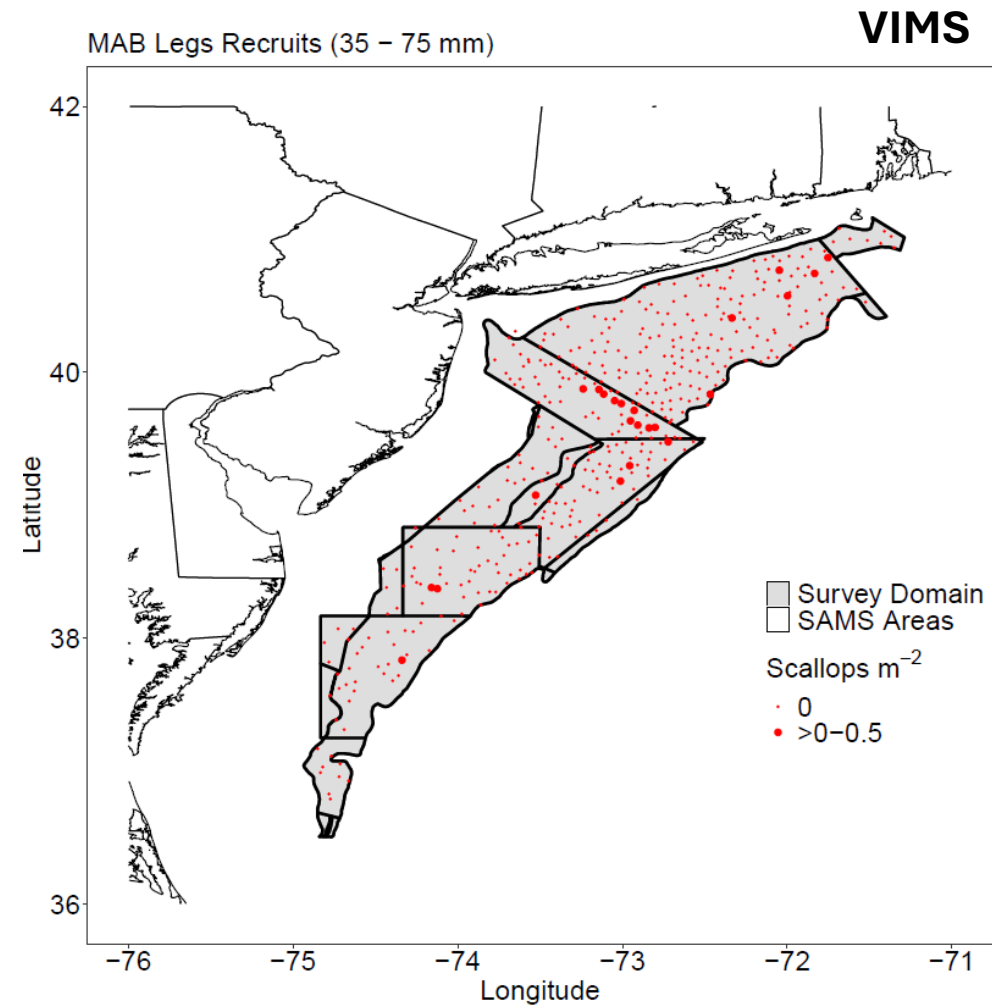
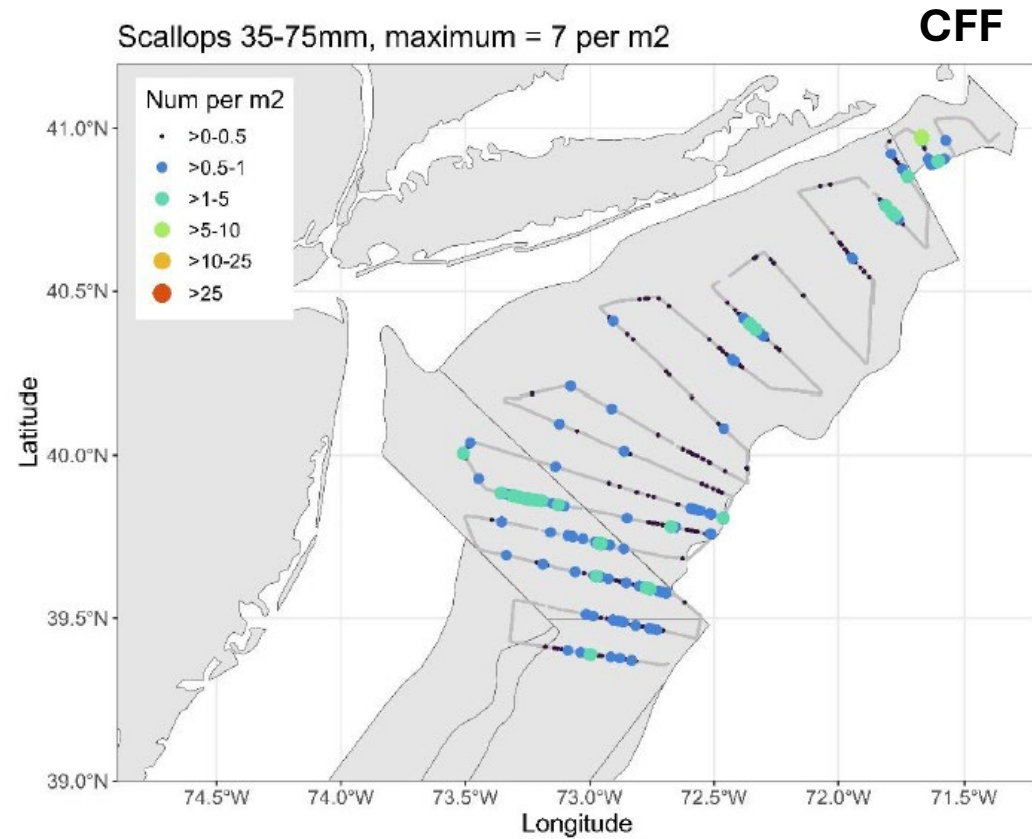


- Signs of recruitment to consider potential closure?
 - Northern portion of Great South Channel?
 - Area II recruitment fully contained within current closure



RECRUIT SCALLOP DENSITY

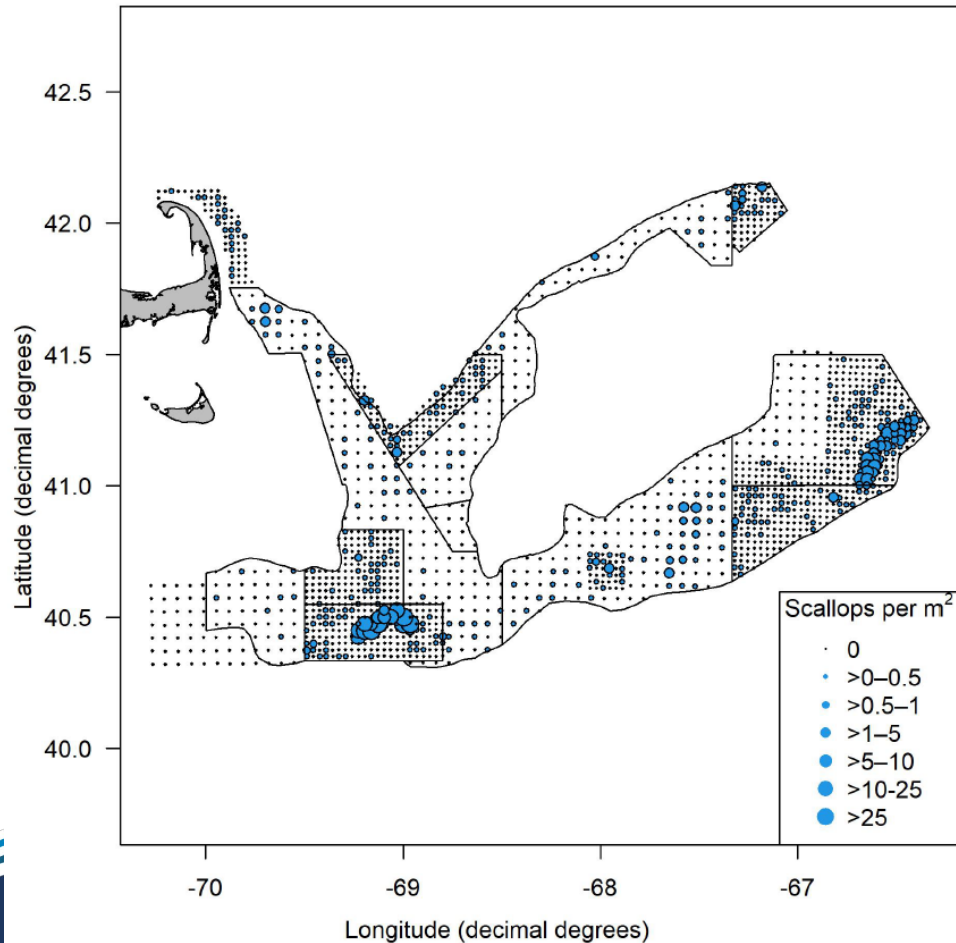
35-75 MM



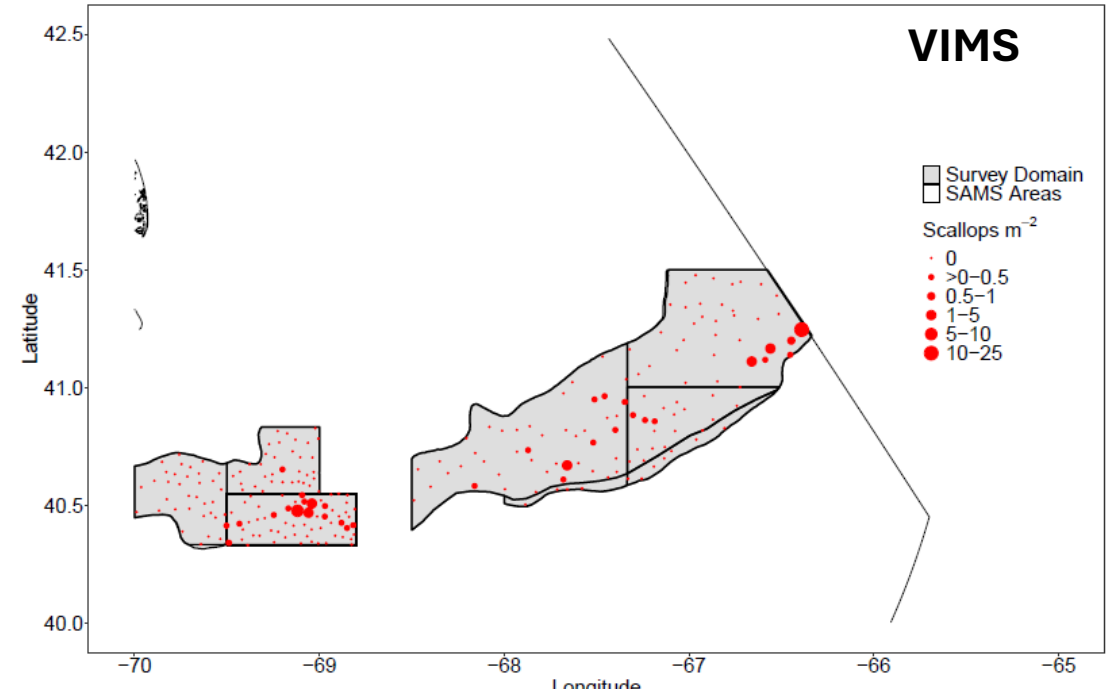
RECRUIT SCALLOP DENSITY

35-75 MM

SMAST

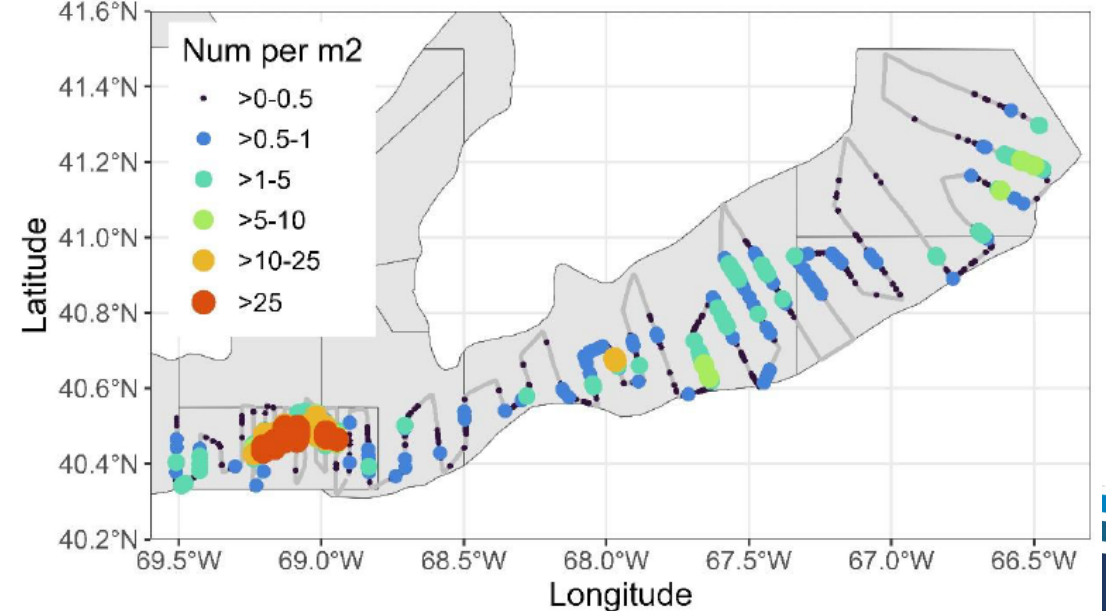


GB Leg Recruits (35 - 75 mm)



Scallops 35-75mm, maximum = 74 per m2

CFF



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SHELL-HEIGHT MEAT-WEIGHT

- **Goal:** Recommend appropriate SH/MW relationships for estimating survey biomass
- **Starting Point:** 2025 Scallop RTA equations, revised under FW40
 - Do these hold up for incoming year classes?
 - For MAB, D. Hart equation presented on 7/29 as sensitivity
- **Nantucket Lightship South:** Used VIMS 2025 for FW40
 - VIMS 2025-2026 as sensitivity
- **GOM:** ME/DMR combined data (2016-2026) for AOI, ME DMR only for Platts, MSI

PDT: Other areas to consider?



SHELL-HEIGHT MEAT-WEIGHT

Georges Bank	SHMW	Model	SAMS Effect	Sensitivity
CL1-Access	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.121458158	
CL1-Sliver	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.046931192	
CL1-South	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.121458158	
CL2-North	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.081885499	
CL2-South	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.085550466	
CL2-Ext	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	-0.068389355	
NLS-North	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.047471179	
NLS-South	VIMS 2025	$W = \exp(-11.57360 + 3.10913 \ln(\text{SH}))$		VIMS 2025-2026
NLS-West	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	-0.049308796	
NF	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.136347178	
GSC	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	-0.024325556	
SF	2025 Scallop RT - GB (mean year effect, SAMS effect)	$W = \exp(-4.4662 + 2.8935 \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.007067 * \text{Depth} - 0.1325 * \text{Latitude} + \text{SamsEffect})$	0.028214974	
Mid Atlantic				
BI	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
LI	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
NYB	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
MAB-Nearshore	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
HCS	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
ET	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
DMV	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
VIR	2025 Scallop RT - MA (2023 year effect)	$W = \exp(-12.7766 + 3.2834 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.0181 * \text{Latitude} + [0.03895 - 0.00933 \ln(\text{SH})] * \text{Depth})$		$W = \exp(-10.5641 + 2.7896 \ln(\text{SH}) + 0.01257 * \text{Latitude} + 0.0103 * \text{depth} - 0.000132 * \text{depth}^2)$
Gulf of Maine				
Machias Seal Island - NGOM	DMR (2016-2026)	$W = \exp(-4.09802 + 2.65455 * \ln(\text{SH}) - 0.13945 * \text{LatDD} + 0.06916 * \ln(\text{DepthM}))$		DMR 2016-2025
N. Stellwagen - NGOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Ipswich - NGOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Jeffreys - NGOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Platts - NGOM	DMR (2016-2026)	$W = \exp(189.9926 + 2.1389 * \ln(\text{SH}) - 4.5429 * \text{LatDD} - 0.2476 * \ln(\text{DepthM}))$		DMR 2016-2025
S. Stellwagen - South 42 20'	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Ipswich - MA State	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Jeffreys - WGOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Fippennies - GOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
Cashes - GOM	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025
WGOM Closure	DMR & SMAST (2016-2026)			DMR & SMAST 2016-2025



SHMW SENSITIVITIES – NLS-S, MAB

Comparison of NLS-South biomass estimates using the VIMS 2025 SHMW and the VIMS 2025/2026 SHMW equations.

Area	VIMS 2025	VIMS 2025_2026
NLS-South	6,425.11	6,269.78

Comparison of MAB SAMS Area biomass estimates using the updated 2025 research track SHMW and the 2026 SHMW equation.

Area	VIMS 2025	VIMS 2025_2026
VIR	3.75	4.15
DMV	274.64	292.11
ET	8,875.92	9,845.52
HCS	6,949.07	7,616.60
MAB_Nearshore	6.18	7.04
NYB	3,682.47	4,049.72
LI	4,116.72	4,547.84
BI	45.62	50.24

	Biomass estimate using: VIMS 2025 equation.	Biomass estimate using: VIMS 2025-2026 equation.
	NLS South	
Average meat weight (g)	6.77	6.62
Biomass (mt)	32550	31826
Standard error	5774	5646
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	8.10	7.93
Exploitable biomass (mt)	7000	6851
Exploitable standard error	1242	1215

SHMW SENSITIVITIES – STELLWAGEN, IPSWICH BAY

	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2025 equation.	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2026 equation.
	Ipswich Bank	
Average meat weight (g)	20.36	17.91
Biomass (mt)	138	121
Standard error	15	13
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	29.44	25.90
Exploitable biomass (mt)	76	67
Exploitable standard error	8	7
Non-NGOM Ipswich Bay		
Average meat weight (g)	10.72	9.37
Biomass (mt)	17	15
Standard error	3	3
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	16.16	14.13
Exploitable biomass (mt)	6	5
Exploitable standard error	1	1

	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2025 equation.	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2026 equation.
	NGOM Stellwagen Bank	
Average meat weight (g)	19.10	20.45
Biomass (mt)	237	253
Standard error	19	20
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	29.67	31.77
Exploitable biomass (mt)	130	140
Exploitable standard error	10	11
Non-NGOM Stellwagen Bank (Stellwagen South)		
Average meat weight (g)	5.56	5.96
Biomass (mt)	399	428
Standard error	17	18
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	13.99	15.01
Exploitable biomass (mt)	133	143
Exploitable standard error	6	6

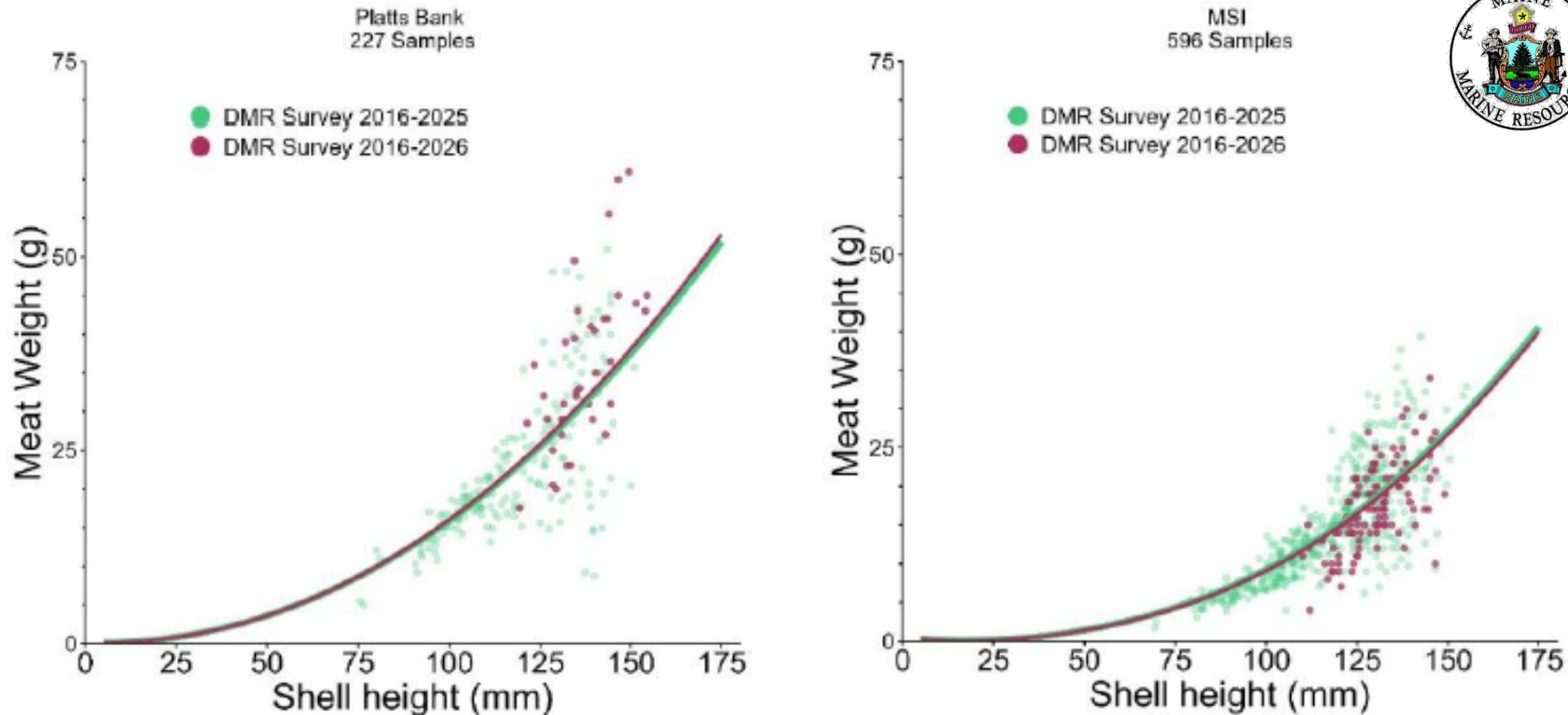
SHMW SENSITIVITIES – JEFFREYS, PLATTS, STELLWAGEN

	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2025 equation.	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2026 equation.
Jeffreys Ledge (outside WGOM)		
Average meat weight (g)	18.98	19.15
Biomass (mt)	109	110
Standard error	10	10
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	28.87	29.15
Exploitable biomass (mt)	62	62
Exploitable standard error	6	6
Jeffreys Ledge (inside WGOM)		
Average meat weight (g)	25.32	25.67
Biomass (mt)	766	776
Standard error	51	52
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	35.80	36.30
Exploitable biomass (mt)	511	518
Exploitable standard error	34	35

	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2025 equation.	Biomass estimate using: DMR & SMAST combined 2016 to 2026 equation.
Stellwagen Bank (outside WGOM)		
Average meat weight (g)	45.30	48.67
Biomass (mt)	2234	2401
Standard error	197	212
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	52.34	56.24
Exploitable biomass (mt)	1744	1874
Exploitable standard error	154	166
Platts Bank (using Platts specific equations)		
Average meat weight (g)	14.13	13.83
Biomass (mt)	68	66
Standard error	13	13
Exploitable average meat weight (g)	21.77	21.34
Exploitable biomass (mt)	38	37
Exploitable standard error	7	7



SHMW SENSITIVITIES - PLATTS BANK, MACHIAS SEAL ISLAND



Shell Height to Meat Weight Relationship Plots. Recorded shell height and meat weight of all scallops sampled on ME DMR scallop surveys from 2019-2026 for Platts Bank and Machias Seal Island. Data from this current year is dark red. The fitted curves represent the predicted meat weight using each years relationship for average conditions.



COMBINING ESTIMATES

- **Starting point:** Use the mean of available surveys in each SAMS area
 - SMAST, VIMS, & NEFSC estimates for GB and MA
 - CFF estimates provided as a sensitivity
 - In GOM, SMAST and ME DMR
- **Considerations:**
 - SHMW Sensitivities: NLS-S, MAB, GOM
 - How well do the surveys agree in each SAMS area?
 - Several slides with data from each short report
 - Review by region, survey stations in GIS
 - Areas to focus on: CL2-Access, NLS-South, Block Island, Long Island

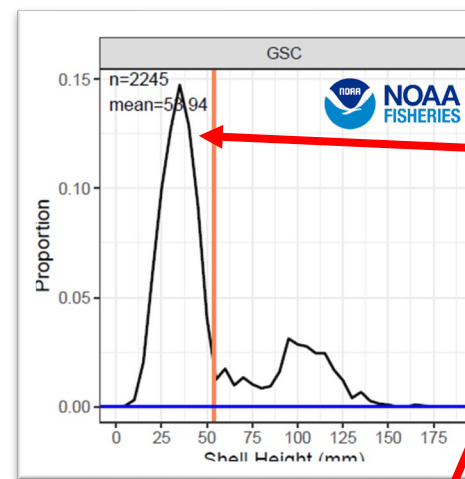
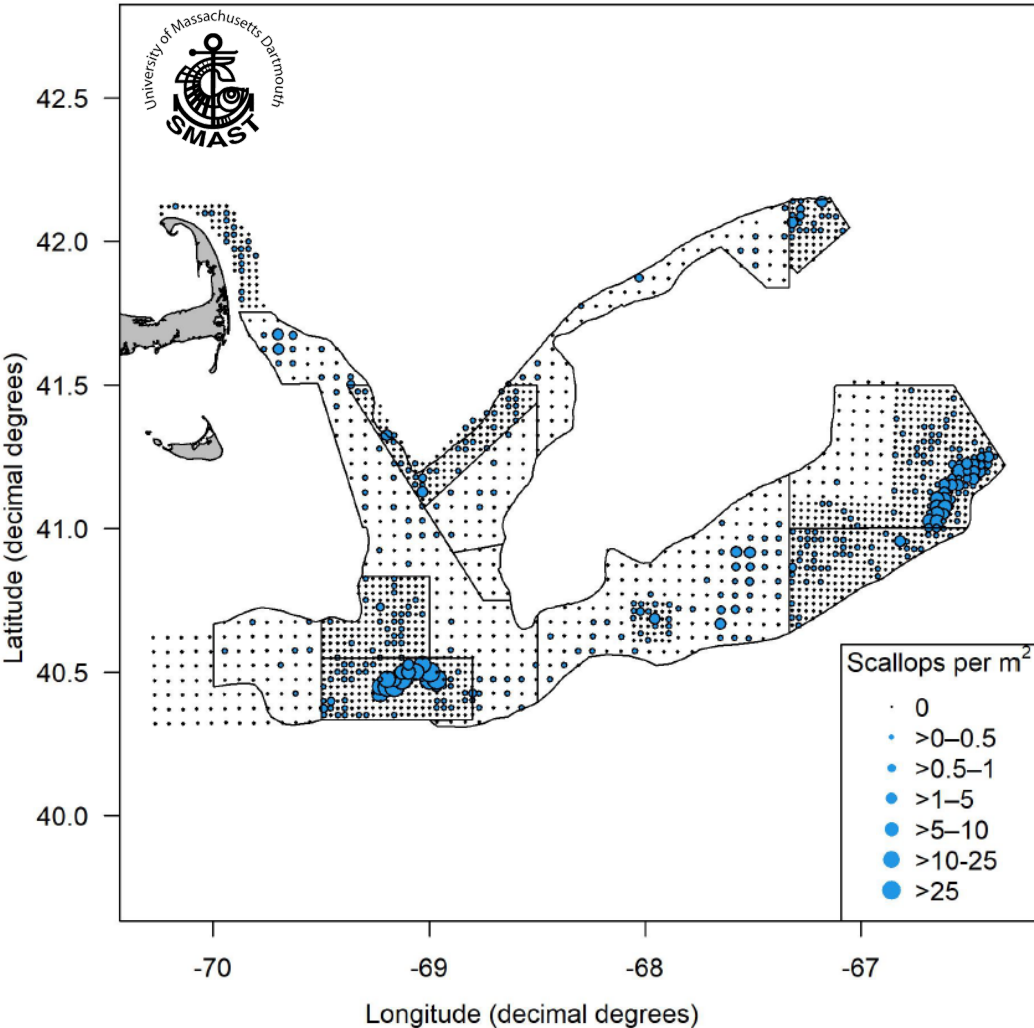


DATA AGREEMENT

- Mean size in survey biomass estimates continues to exclude scallops less than 40mm – Need to look at the L-F plots to see all sizes.
- Consider how to handle survey data that is outside of SAMS areas:
 - GOM – Stellwagen South, South Cape Cod
 - GB in deep water, and in Area 2
 - West of NLS-W (no scallops detected)
 - Area I – Sliver extension (deep water)
 - Eastern GB

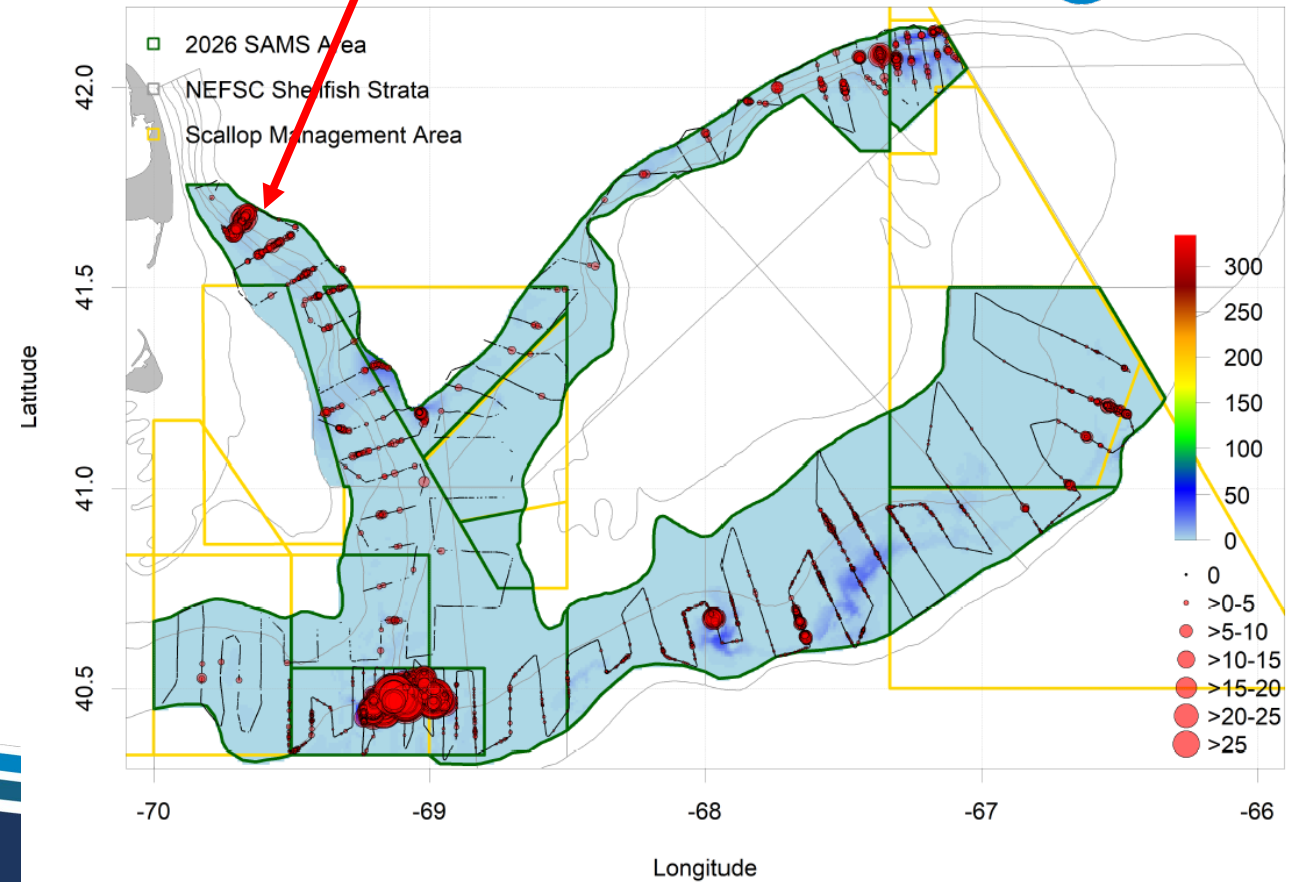


GREAT SOUTH CHANNEL

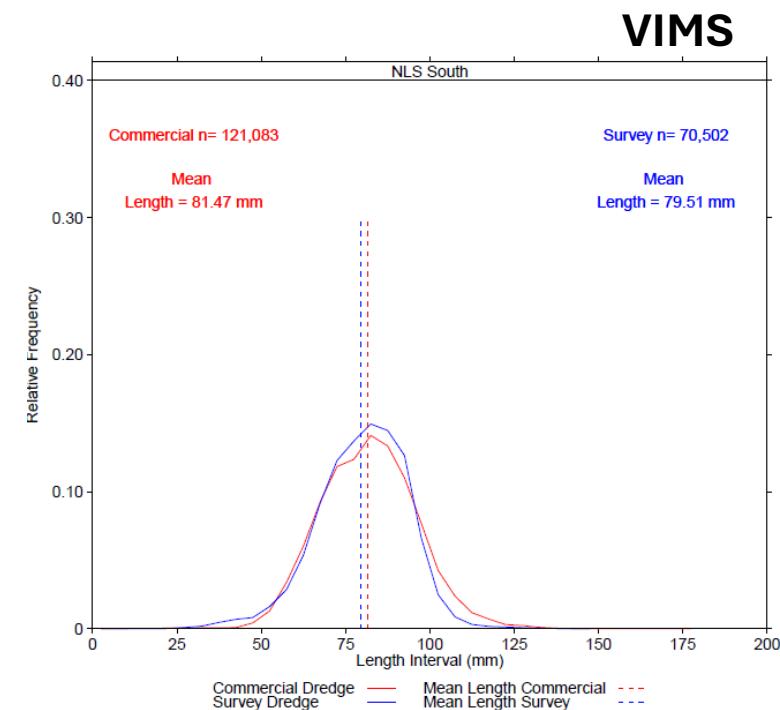
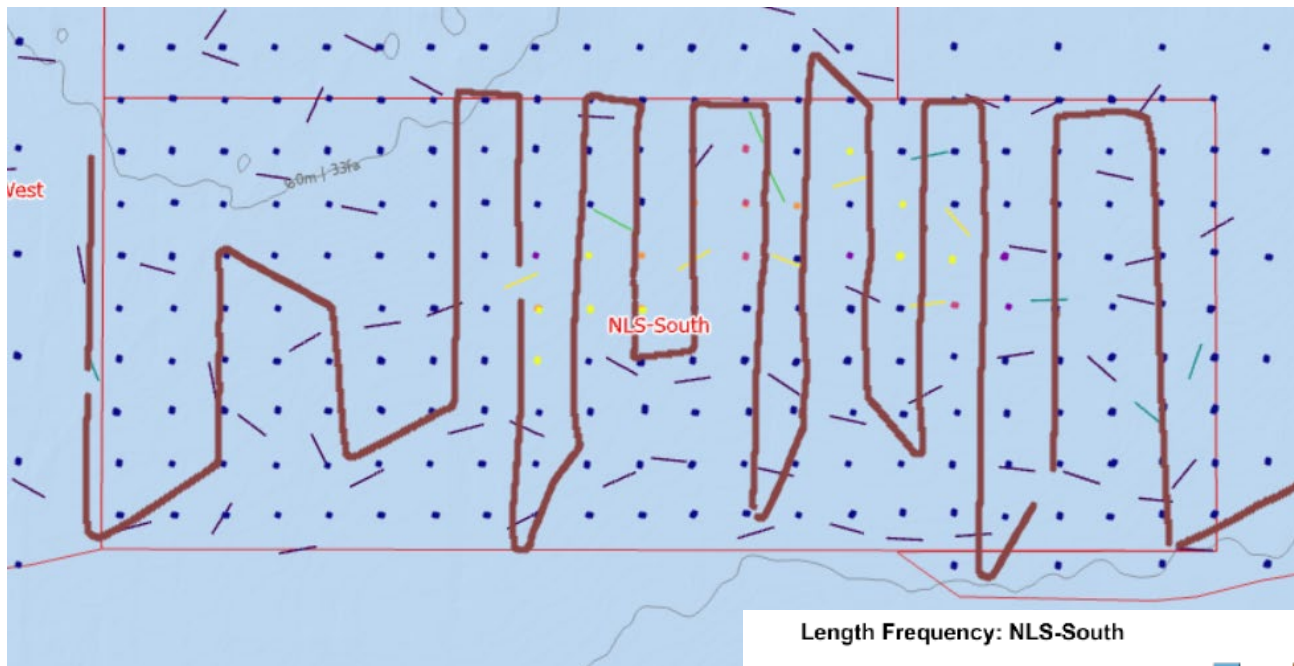


Incoming year class in the northern portion of the GSC

Prediction: g per m² for 40+ mm scallops
Observation: # per m² for 35-75 mm scallops

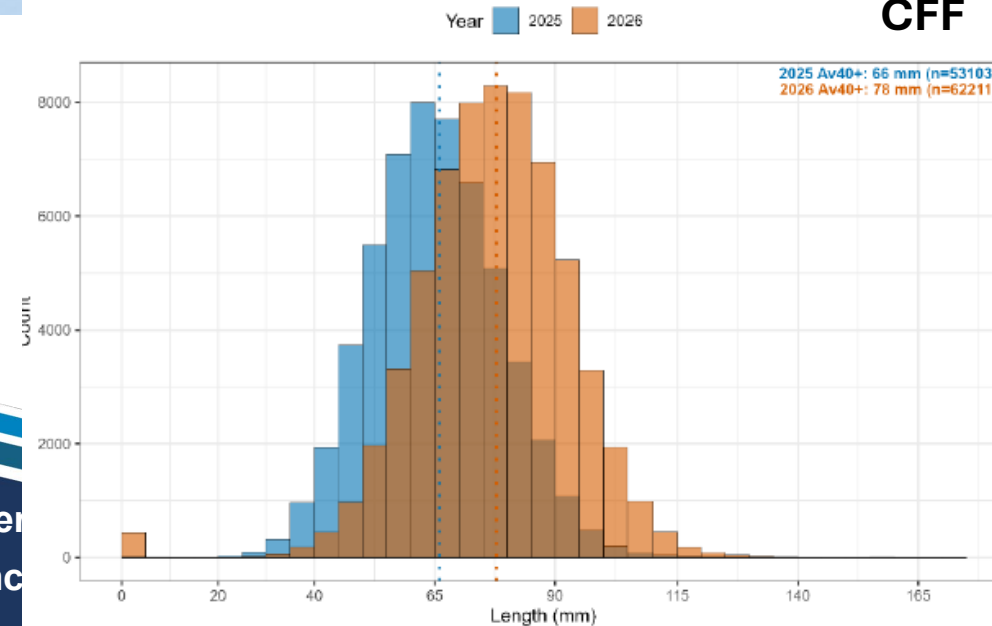


NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP SOUTH



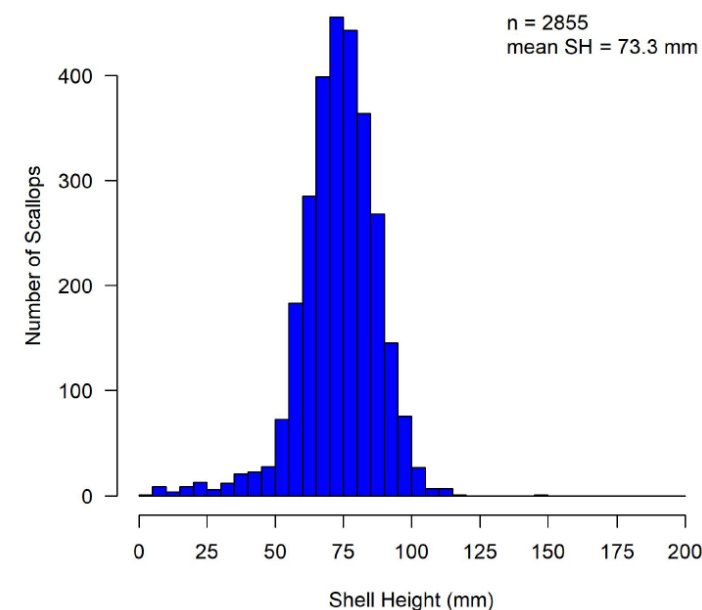
SAMS_Area	Length	Commercial	Survey
NLS_South	22.5	0	12
NLS_South	27.5	0	66
NLS_South	32.5	0	137
NLS_South	37.5	0	327
NLS_South	42.5	100	483
NLS_South	47.5	516	575
NLS_South	52.5	1,569	1,141
NLS_South	57.5	4,095	2,014
NLS_South	62.5	7,296	3,782
NLS_South	67.5	11,207	6,474
NLS_South	72.5	14,333	8,657
NLS_South	77.5	14,972	9,657
NLS_South	82.5	17,081	10,533
NLS_South	87.5	16,150	10,199
NLS_South	92.5	13,332	8,910
NLS_South	97.5	9,296	4,653
NLS_South	102.5	5,136	1,745
NLS_South	107.5	2,877	607
NLS_South	112.5	1,416	220
NLS_South	117.5	856	122
NLS_South	122.5	365	87
NLS_South	127.5	282	54
NLS_South	132.5	125	31
NLS_South	137.5	49	12
NLS_South	142.5	16	1
NLS_South	147.5	9	2
NLS_South	152.5	2	0
NLS_South	157.5	1	0
NLS_South	167.5	1	0
NLS_South	177.5	1	0

Length Frequency: NLS-South



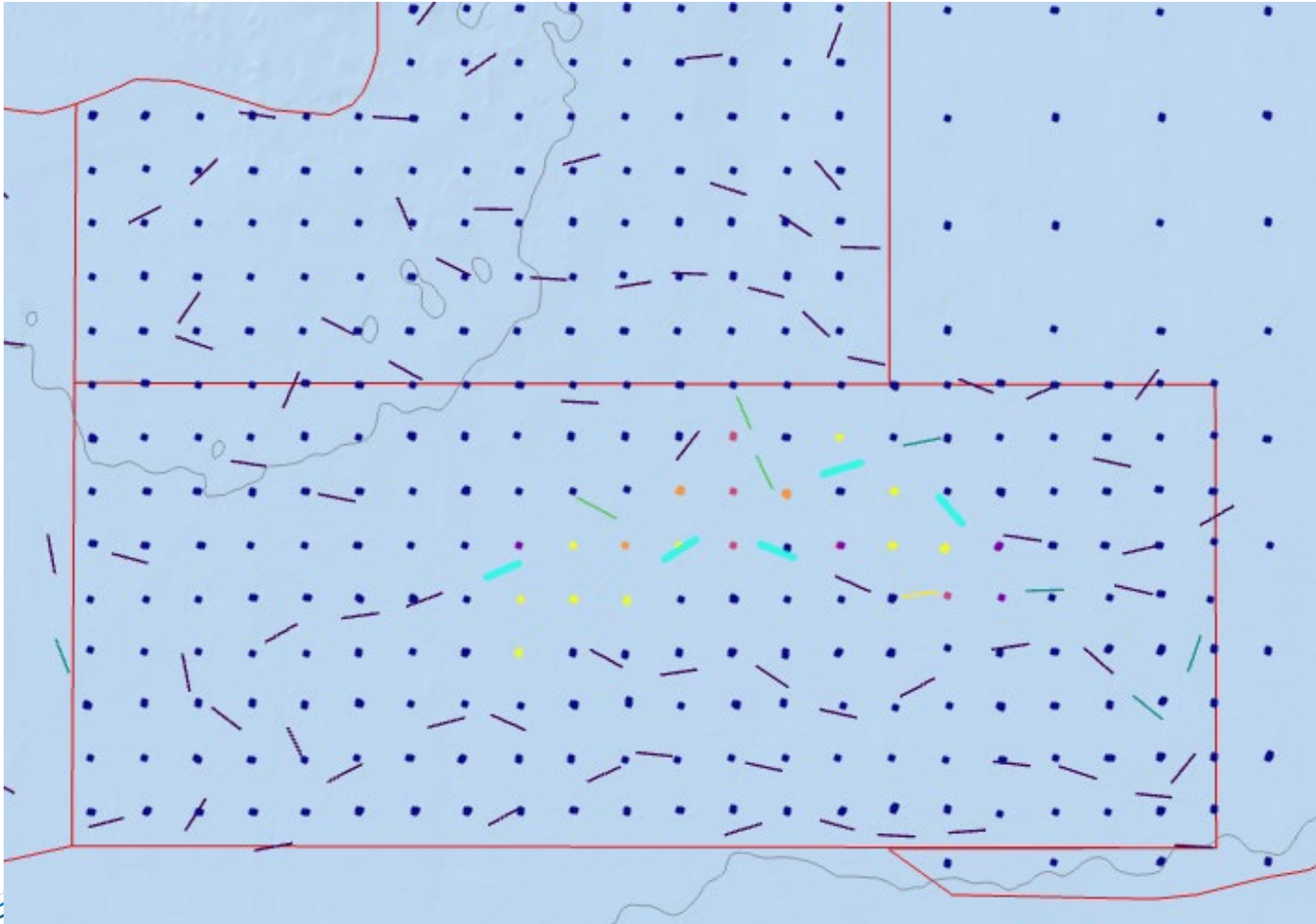
NLS-South

SMAST



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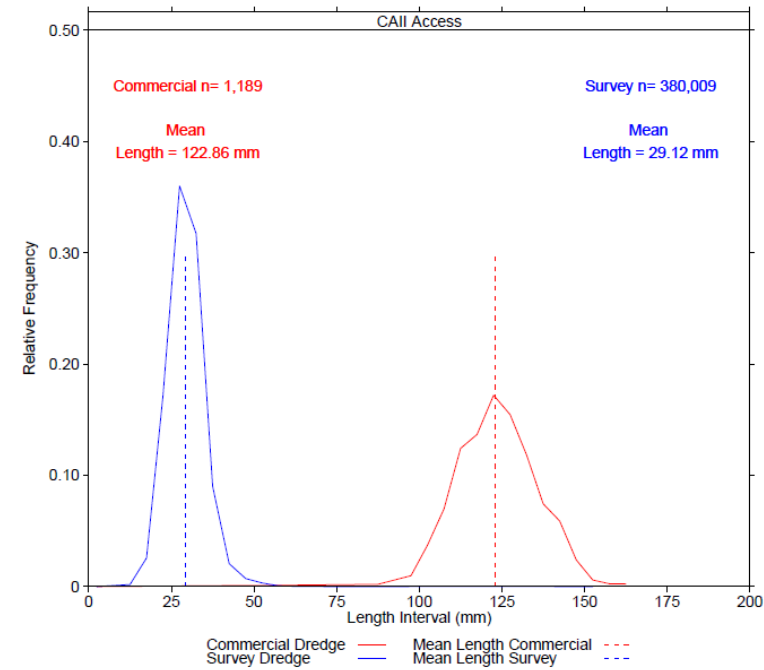
DREDGE EFFICIENCY



- Concerns about dredge efficiency in NLS-South?
 - [Prior adjustments](#) reduced efficiency of 0.4 by 33% (0.13) (SARC 65).
 - Consider applying to high density stations?
 - Rillahan et al. 2026 used a lower value of 0.09
- Dredge stations missed many of the highest density drop camera stations.
 - Restratify and take mean optical survey densities (2025 approach to SF hotspot)?



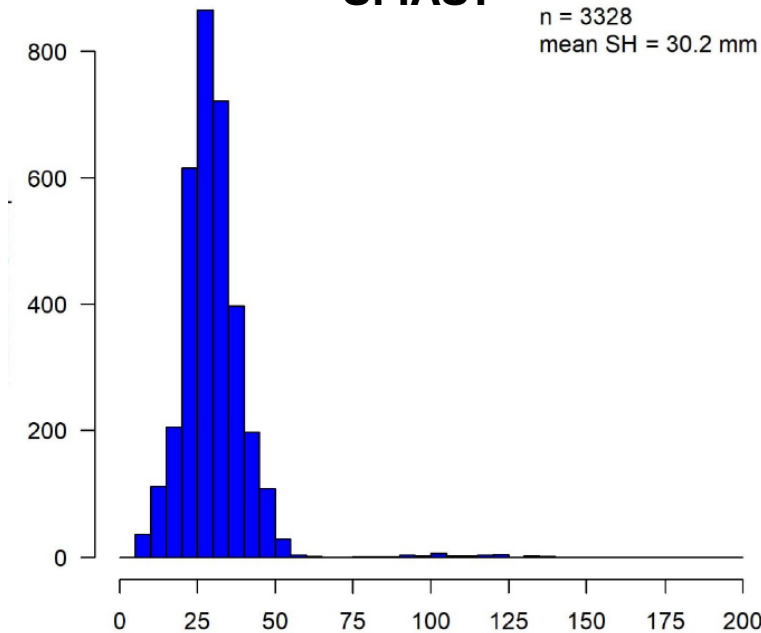
VIMS



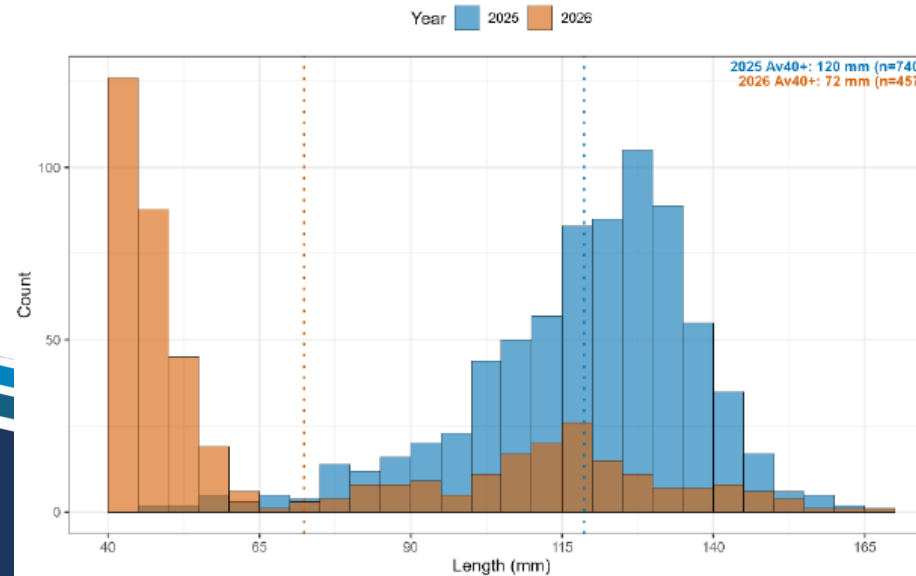
SAMS_Area	Length	Commercial	Survey
CAII_Access	12.5	0	686
CAII_Access	17.5	0	9,765
CAII_Access	22.5	0	65,467
CAII_Access	27.5	0	136,805
CAII_Access	32.5	0	120,589
CAII_Access	37.5	0	34,247
CAII_Access	42.5	1	7,815
CAII_Access	47.5	1	2,726
CAII_Access	52.5	0	1,220
CAII_Access	57.5	0	232
CAII_Access	62.5	0	79
CAII_Access	67.5	0	30
CAII_Access	72.5	0	6
CAII_Access	77.5	0	1
CAII_Access	82.5	0	1
CAII_Access	87.5	2	6
CAII_Access	92.5	7	5
CAII_Access	97.5	12	12
CAII_Access	102.5	44	15
CAII_Access	107.5	83	38
CAII_Access	112.5	148	52
CAII_Access	117.5	163	56
CAII_Access	122.5	204	48
CAII_Access	127.5	184	42
CAII_Access	132.5	140	34
CAII_Access	137.5	88	16
CAII_Access	142.5	70	11
CAII_Access	147.5	28	2
CAII_Access	152.5	7	2
CAII_Access	157.5	3	0
CAII_Access	162.5	3	0

SMAST

n = 3328
mean SH = 30.2 mm



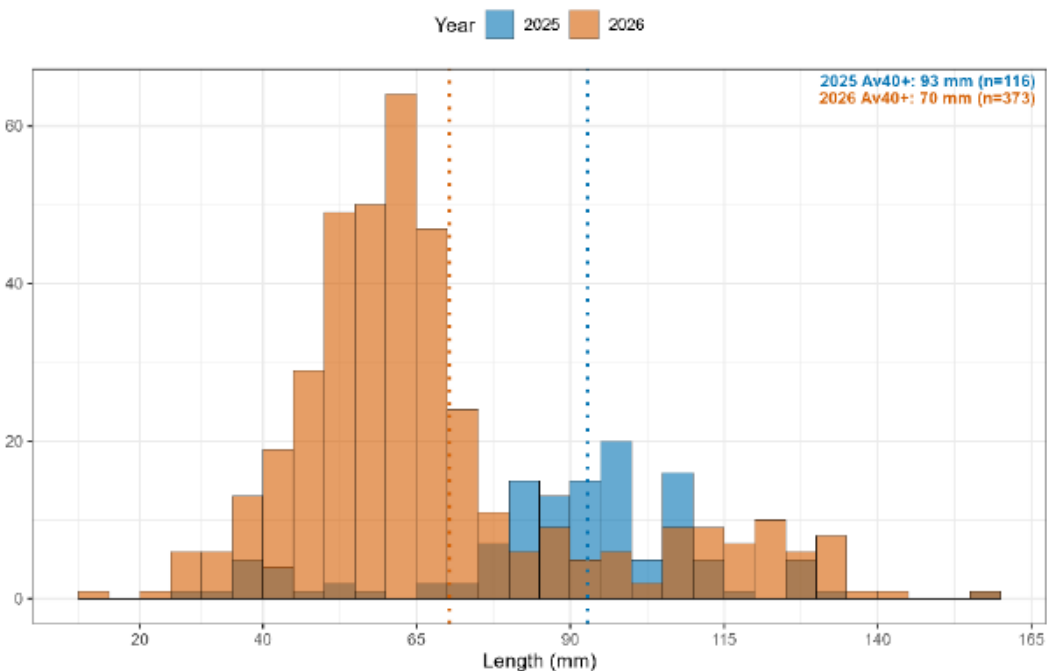
Length Frequency: CL2-Access (40 mm+)



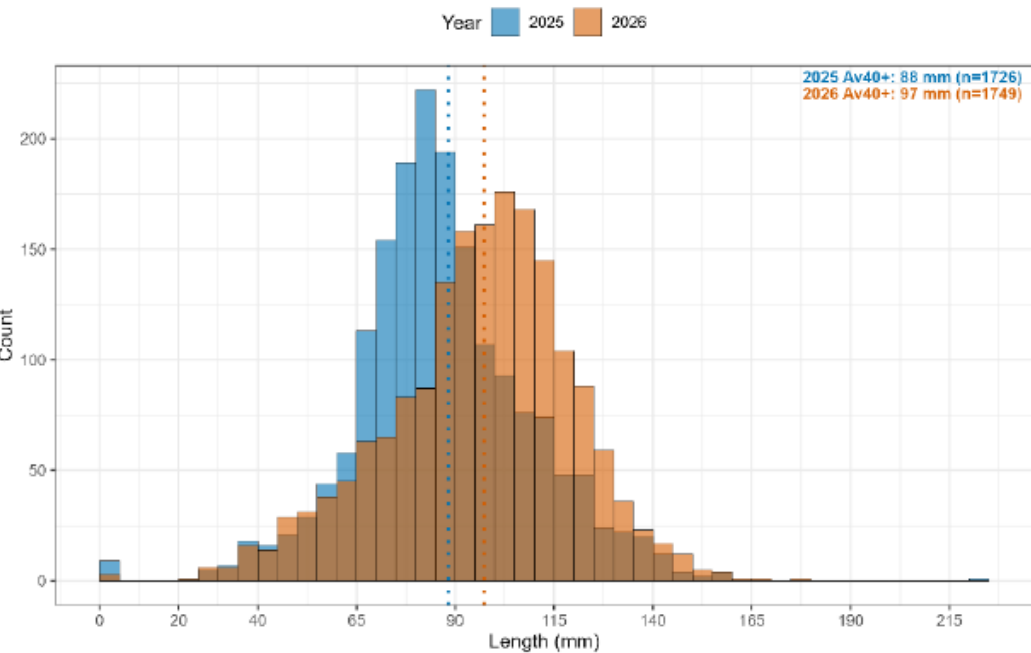
CL2 - ACCESS



Length Frequency: BI



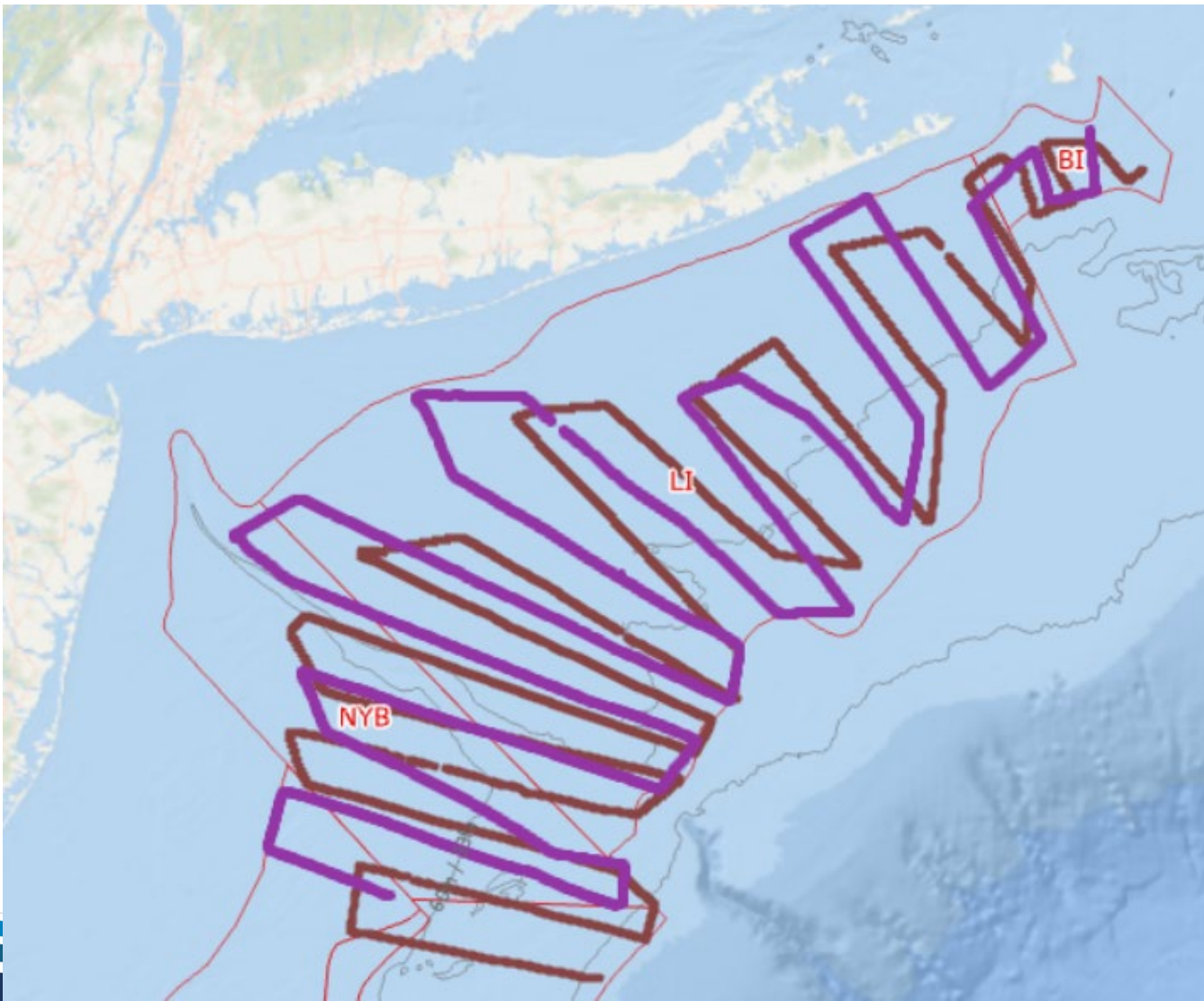
Length Frequency: LI



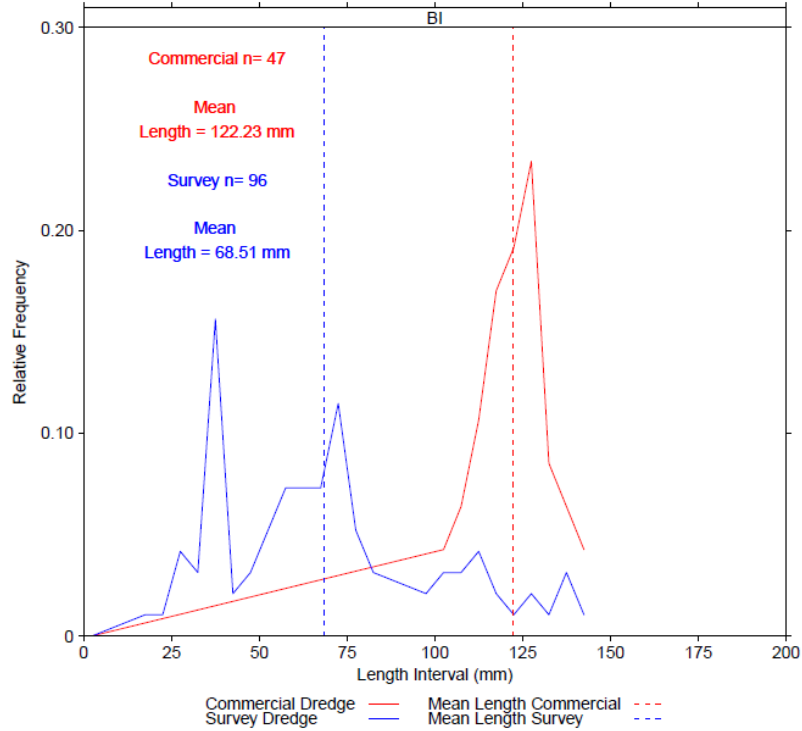
BLOCK ISLAND & LONG ISLAND

2025 CFF HabCam

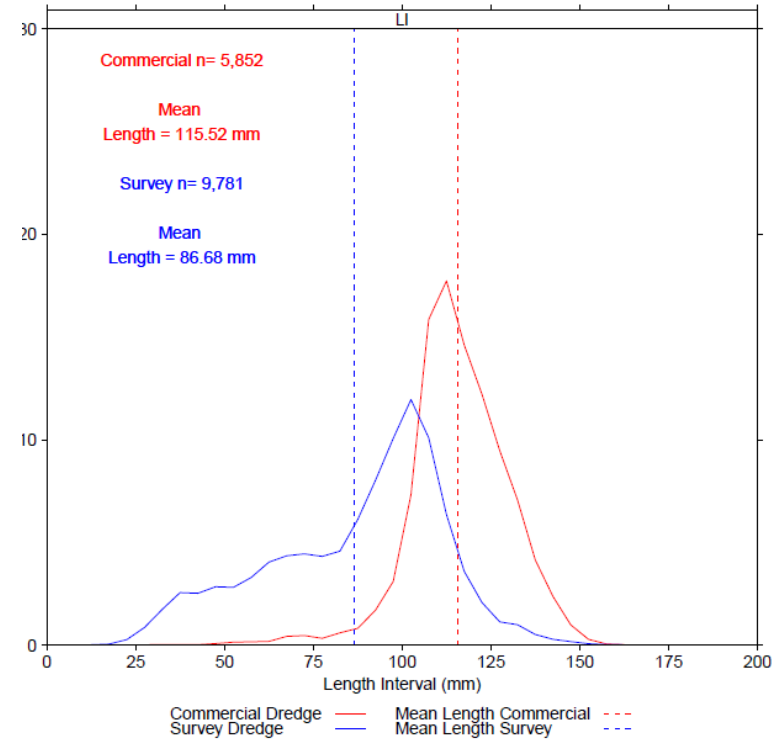
2026 CFF HabCam



BLOCK ISLAND & LONG ISLAND



SAMS_Area	Length	Commercial	Survey
BI	17.5	0	1
BI	22.5	0	1
BI	27.5	0	4
BI	32.5	0	3
BI	37.5	0	15
BI	42.5	0	2
BI	47.5	0	3
BI	52.5	0	5
BI	57.5	0	7
BI	62.5	0	7
BI	67.5	0	7
BI	72.5	0	11
BI	77.5	0	5
BI	82.5	0	3
BI	97.5	0	2
BI	102.5	2	3
BI	107.5	3	3
BI	112.5	5	4
BI	117.5	8	2
BI	122.5	9	1
BI	127.5	11	2
BI	132.5	4	1
BI	137.5	3	3
BI	142.5	2	1



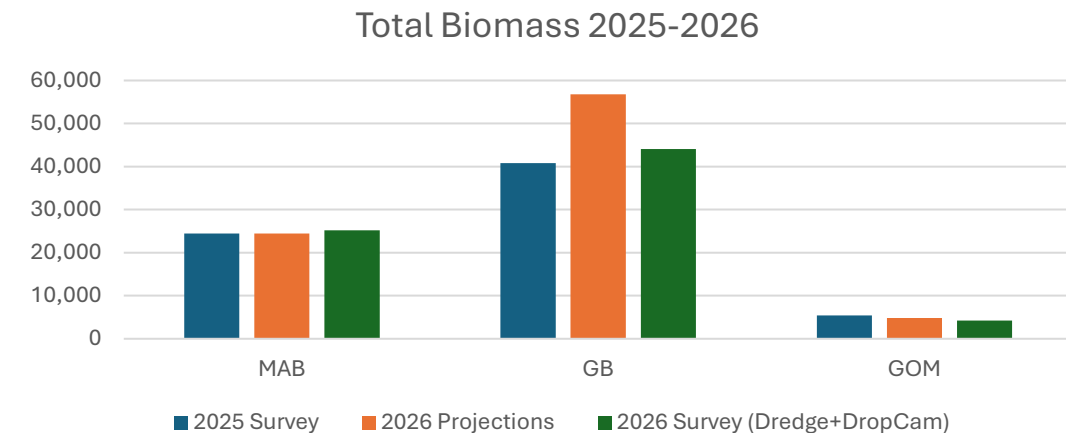
SAMS_Area	Length	Commercial	Survey
LI	12.5	0	1
LI	17.5	0	4
LI	22.5	0	26
LI	27.5	0	84
LI	32.5	0	170
LI	37.5	0	250
LI	42.5	1	246
LI	47.5	4	277
LI	52.5	8	274
LI	57.5	9	321
LI	62.5	10	395
LI	67.5	24	425
LI	72.5	27	434
LI	77.5	19	422
LI	82.5	35	447
LI	87.5	47	597
LI	92.5	99	784
LI	97.5	181	984
LI	102.5	428	1,169
LI	107.5	928	987
LI	112.5	1,038	621
LI	117.5	855	351
LI	122.5	714	202
LI	127.5	554	110
LI	132.5	413	96
LI	137.5	242	50
LI	142.5	138	27
LI	147.5	57	16
LI	152.5	16	6
LI	157.5	3	2
LI	162.5	1	1
LI	172.5	0	1



DISCUSSION

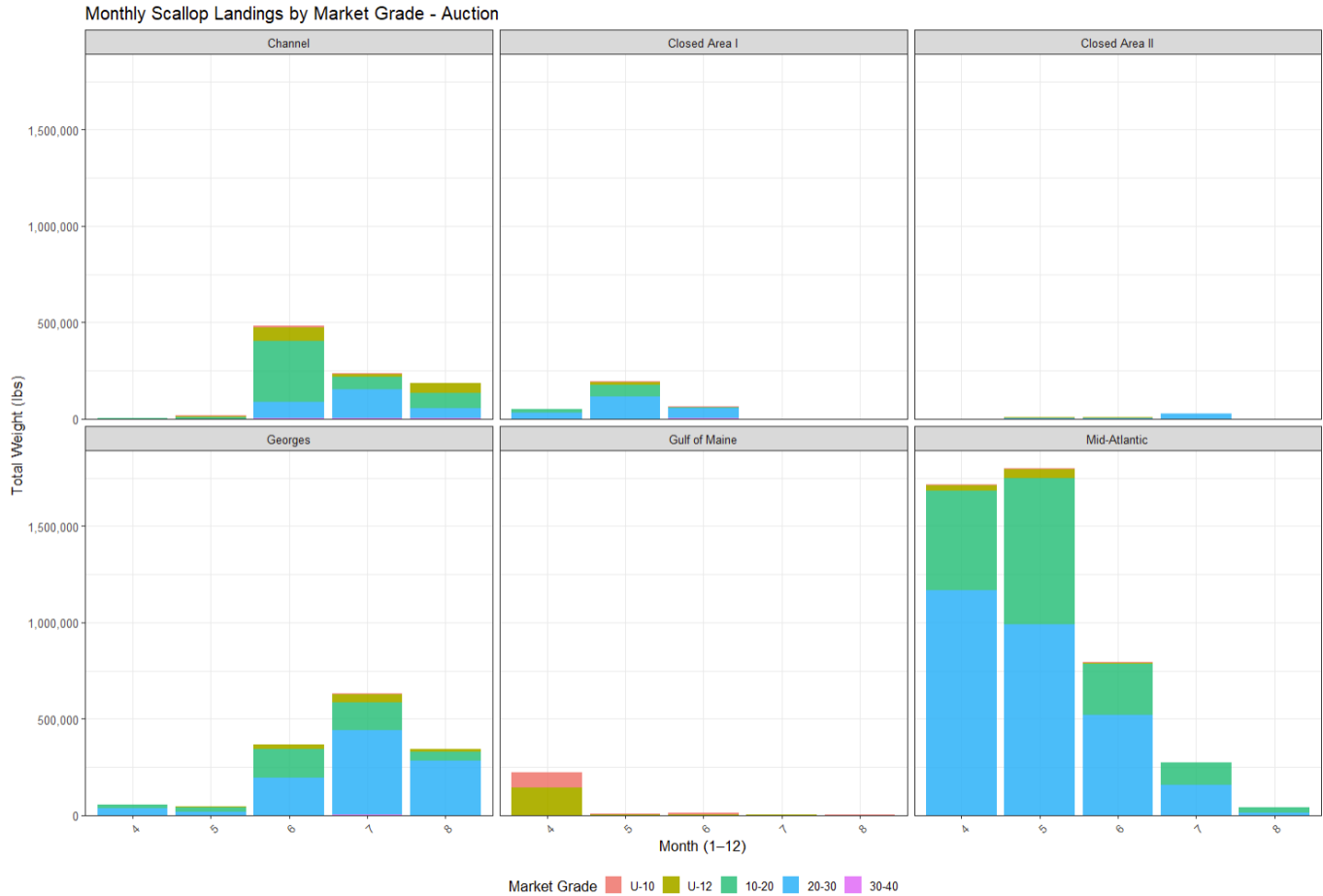
- Nantucket Lightship South
- Area I
- Area II
- Open Bottom Georges Bank
- Open Bottom Mid-Atlantic
- ***Where are we relative to last year?***
- **Any special considerations for 2026?**
 - Timing of the surveys is better aligned this year

Survey	Possible dates	Areas Covered	May	June
NEFSC Dredge	June 19-28	Georges Bank		X
NEFSC - HabCam Leg 1	May 11-19	Southern MAB	X	
NEFSC - HabCam Leg 2	May 19-29	Northern GB	X	
VIMS Leg 1	May 11-22	Southern MAB	X	
VIMS Leg 2	May 27-June 7	Northern MAB	X	
VIMS Leg 3	June 16 - June 27	Southern GB		X
SMAST Leg 1	May 1-8	Southern GB	X	
SMAST Leg 2	May 12-19	Southern GB	X	
SMAST Leg 3	May 22-29	Southern GB + HAPC	X	
SMAST Leg 4	June 2-9	Northern GB		X
SMAST Leg 5	June 12-19	Nantucket Lightship		X
SMAST Leg 6	June 23-30	Gulf of Maine		X
SMAST Dredge	June 22-25	Gulf of Maine		X
CFF Leg 1	May 18-26	GB/NLSS	X	
CFF Leg 2	May 28-June 6th	Northern MAB	X	X
ME DMR	May	Gulf of Maine	X	



DISCUSSION

- During survey season, active fishing effort throughout the Mid-Atlantic.
- Landings from Georges and the Channel after surveys were completed
 - Consider impact on FY 2027 outlook.



Limited Access sub-ACL

	OPEN	CA I	CA II	MONTHLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL	% OF SUB-ACL (25,059,945 lb)	% OF APL (16,140,042 lb)	Observer Set Aside
April	3,683,643	133,149	0	3,816,792	3,816,792	15.23%	23.65%	26,000
May	3,918,812	375,577	128,283	4,422,672	8,239,464	32.88%	51.05%	23,140
June	3,186,246	79,970	254,329	3,520,545	11,760,009	46.93%	72.86%	23,920
July	2,292,736	0	115,041	2,407,777	14,167,786	56.54%	87.78%	14,300
August	850,497	0	0	850,497	15,018,283	59.93%	93.05%	8,840
TOTAL	13,931,934	588,696	497,653	15,018,283				96,200

Limited Access General Category sub-ACL

	OPEN	NGOM	MONTHLY TOTAL (ACL)	CUMULATIVE TOTAL (ACL)	% OF SUB-ACL (1,324,978 lb)	CUMULATIVE TOTAL (APL)	% APL (853,923 lb)	Observer Set Aside
April	39,770	165,532	39,770	39,770	3%	205,302	24.04%	6,400
May	102,159	0	102,159	141,929	10.71%	307,461	36.01%	2,000
June	117,642	0	117,642	259,571	19.59%	425,103	49.78%	3,500
July	85,243	0	85,243	344,814	26.02%	510,346	59.76%	4,700
August	44,031	0	44,031	388,845	29.35%	554,377	64.92%	2,100
TOTAL	388,845	165,532	388,845					18,700

* ACL/APL does not include 64,835 Carryover pounds

SCALLOP VMS FISHERY EFFORT

FY2025-2026



New England Fishery
Management Council

OVERVIEW

- FY2025 and FY2026 (April – July) VMS hours fished for LA and LAGC by region and SAMS area.
- 2025 effort focused in Long Island, CAll, Southern Flank
- 2026 effort focused in Hudson Canyon South, Long Island, Elephant Trunk, Southern Flank



OVERVIEW

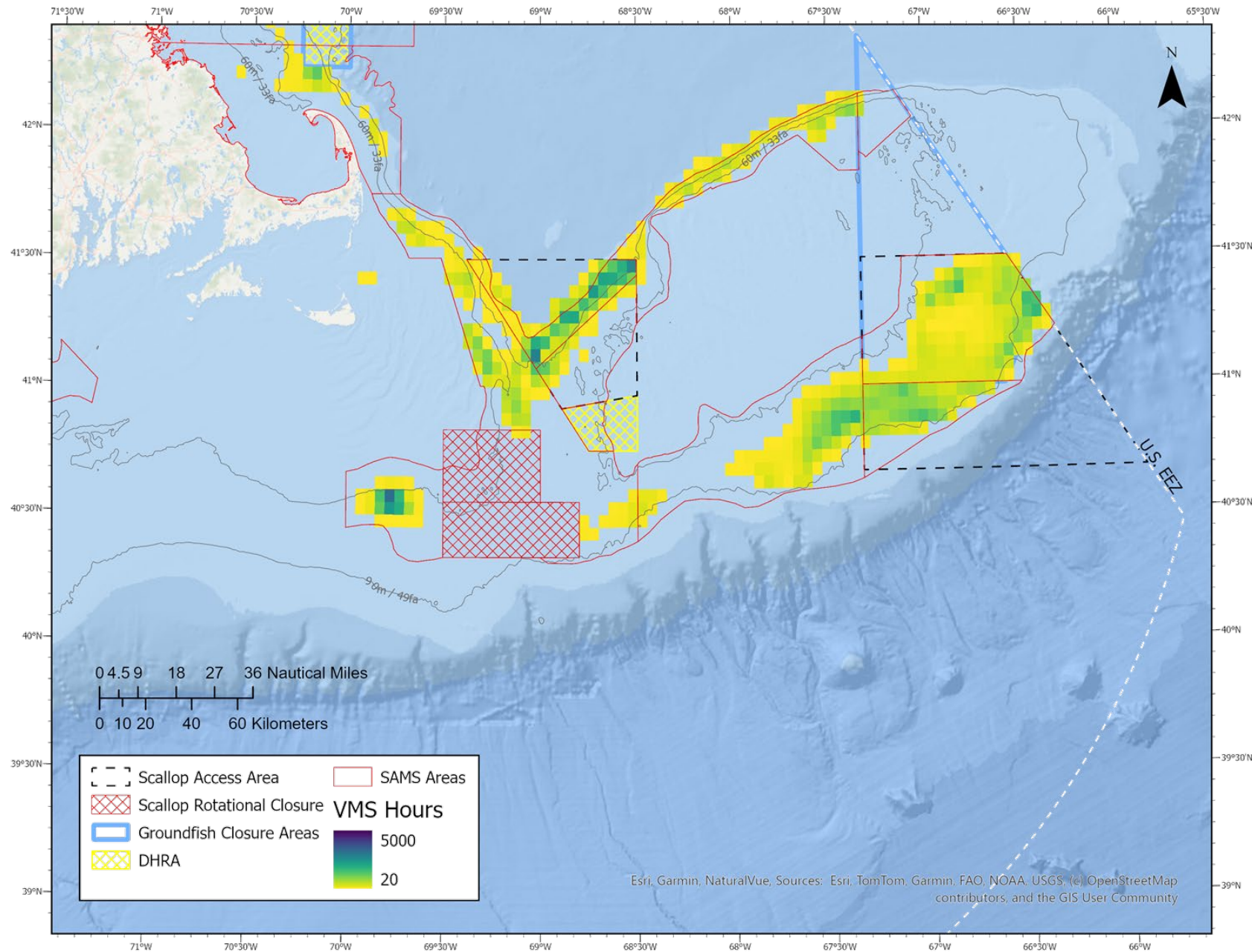
- **Source: Dr. Ben Galuardi (GARFO APSD)**
- Data combined scallop fishery VMS pings for FY2025 and FY2026 (April – July)
- Sum of polls x time (5 min/poll) = total hours
- Maps aggregated at 3 nm squares. Minimum 20 hours in each square.
- 2-5.5 kt speed filter applied.
- All data within state waters were masked (not pertinent to Council management).
- VMS hours were summed by SAMS area using ‘Zonal statistics’ tool (ArcGIS Pro).



FY 2025 Limited Access Georges Bank

Framework 39 Specifications

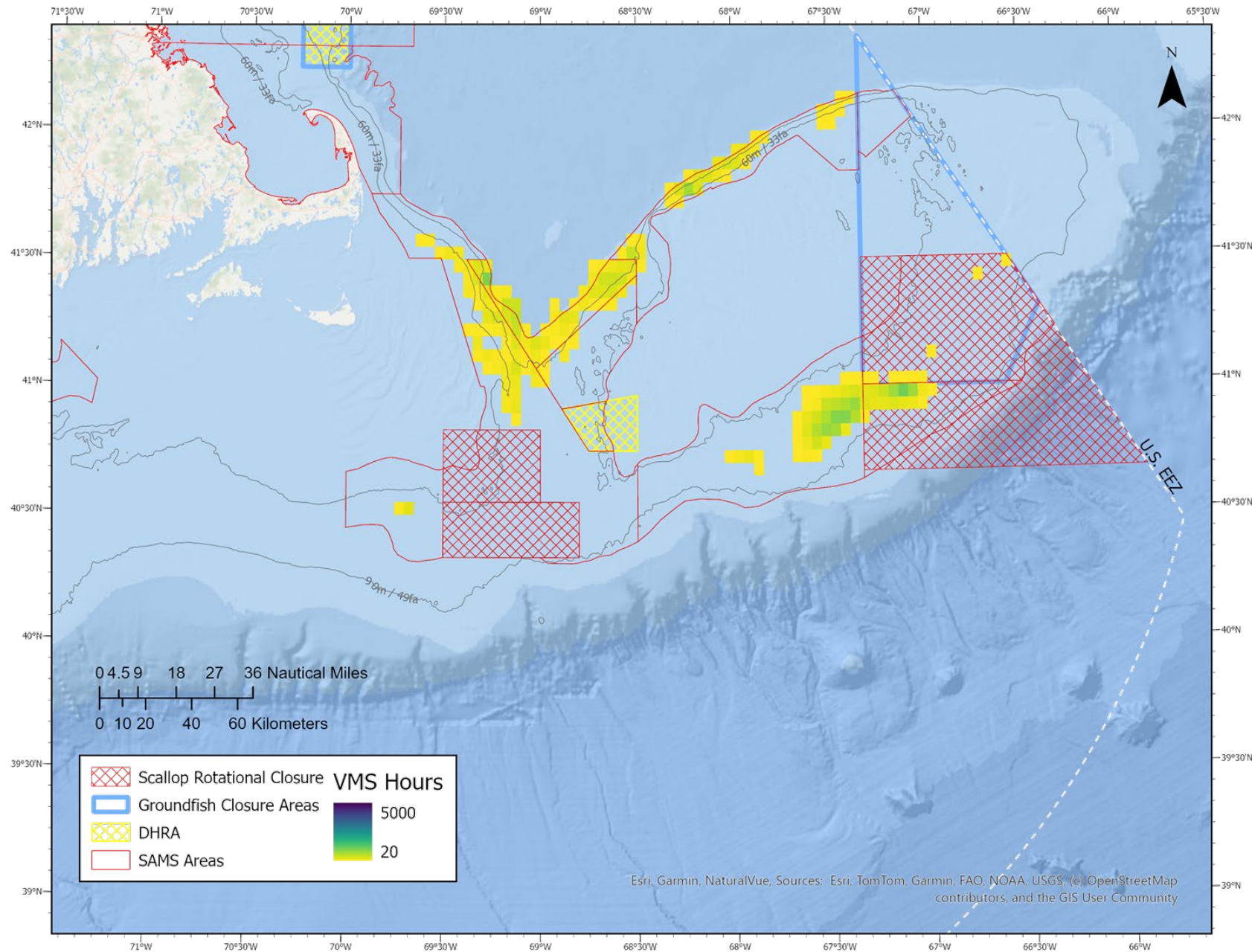
- 24 DAS
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 1
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 2
- Closures of Elephant Trunk, Nantucket Lightship North, South, Platts Bank



FY 2026 (April – July) Limited Access Georges Bank

Framework 40 Specifications

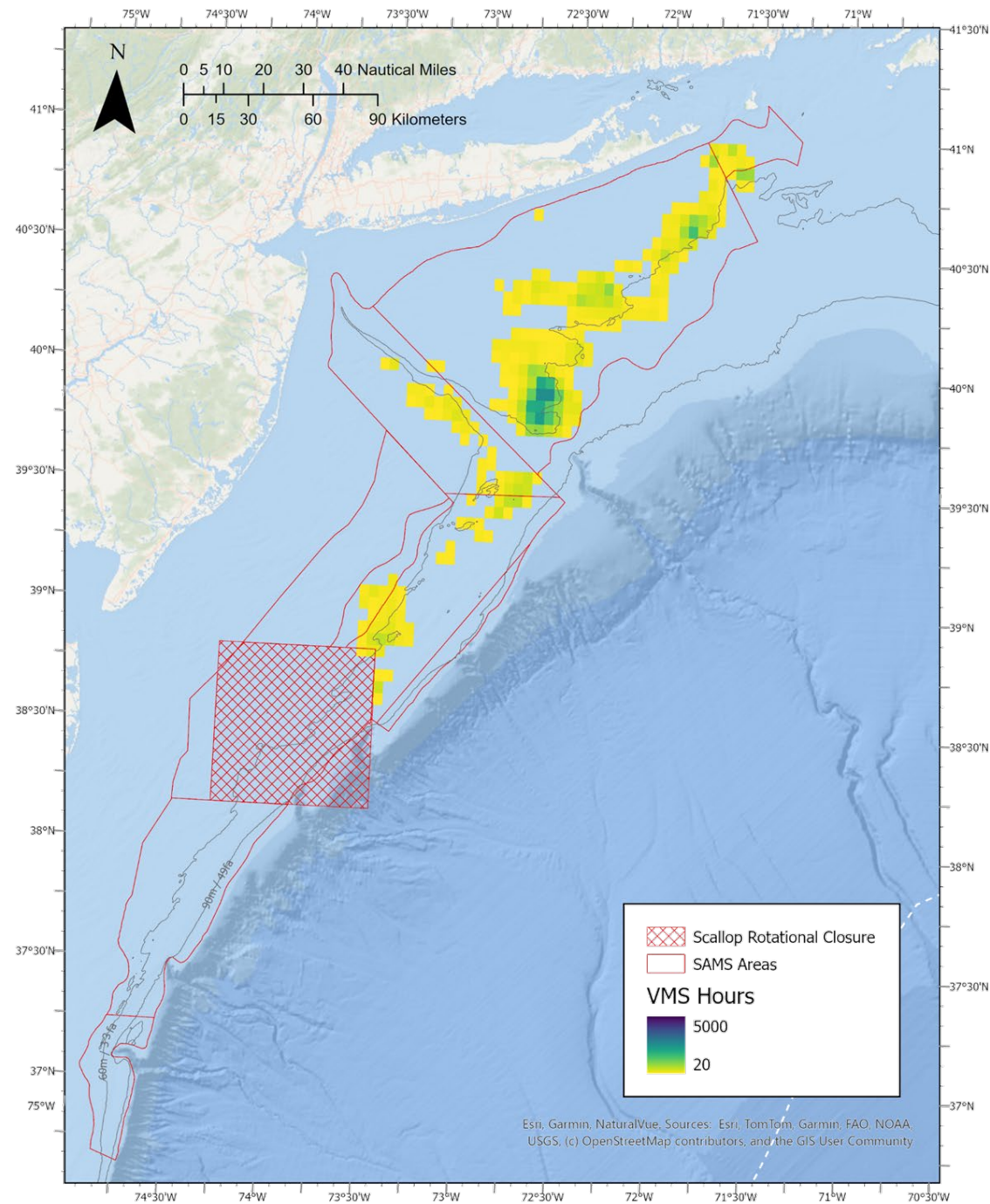
- 36 DAS
- No Access Area trips
- Closure of Nantucket Lightship North, South, and Area II



FY 2025 Limited Access Mid-Atlantic

Framework 39 Specifications

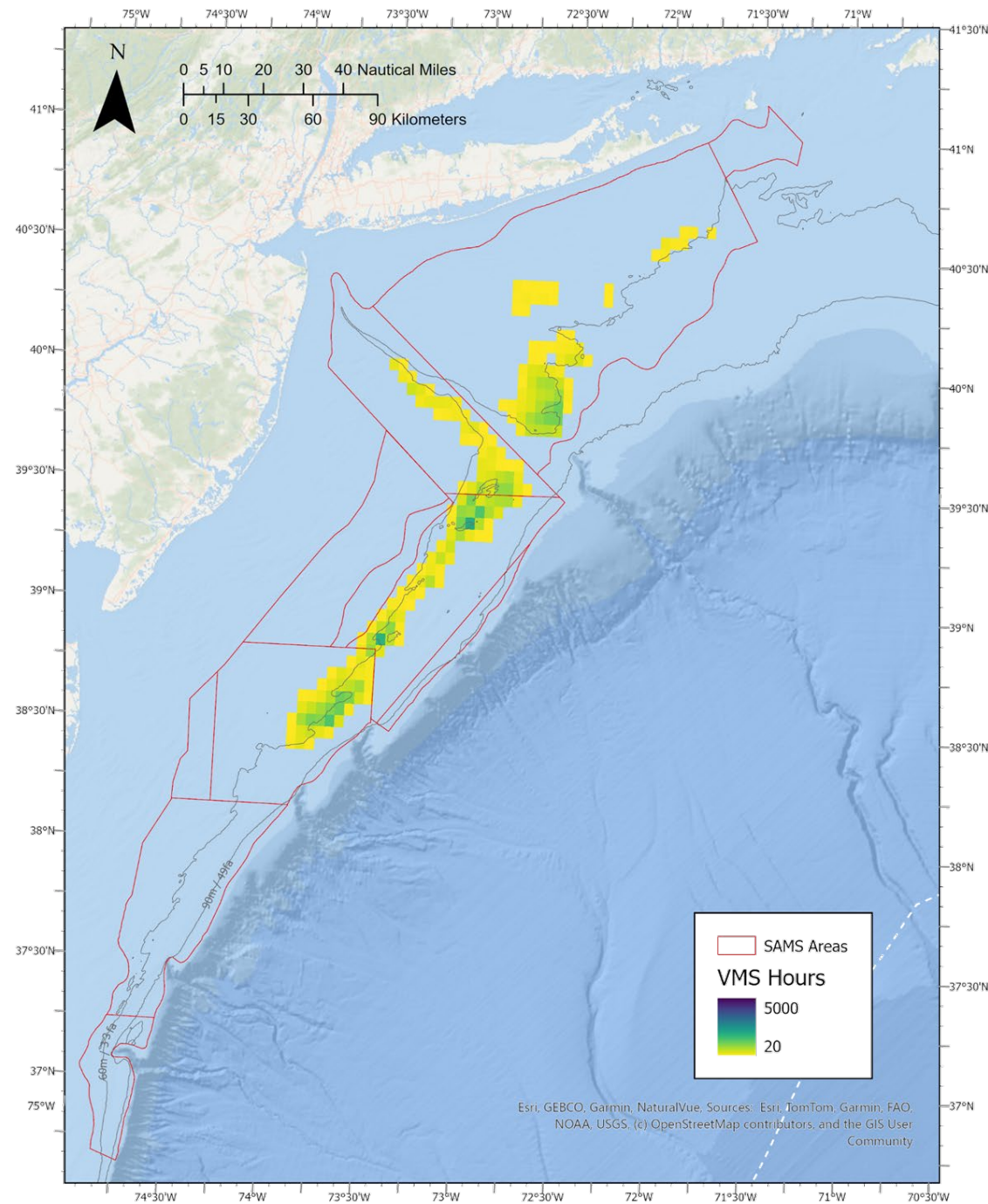
- 24 DAS
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 1
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 2
- Closures of Elephant Trunk, Nantucket Lightship North, South, Platts Bank



FY 2026 (April – July) Limited Access Mid-Atlantic

Framework 40 Specifications

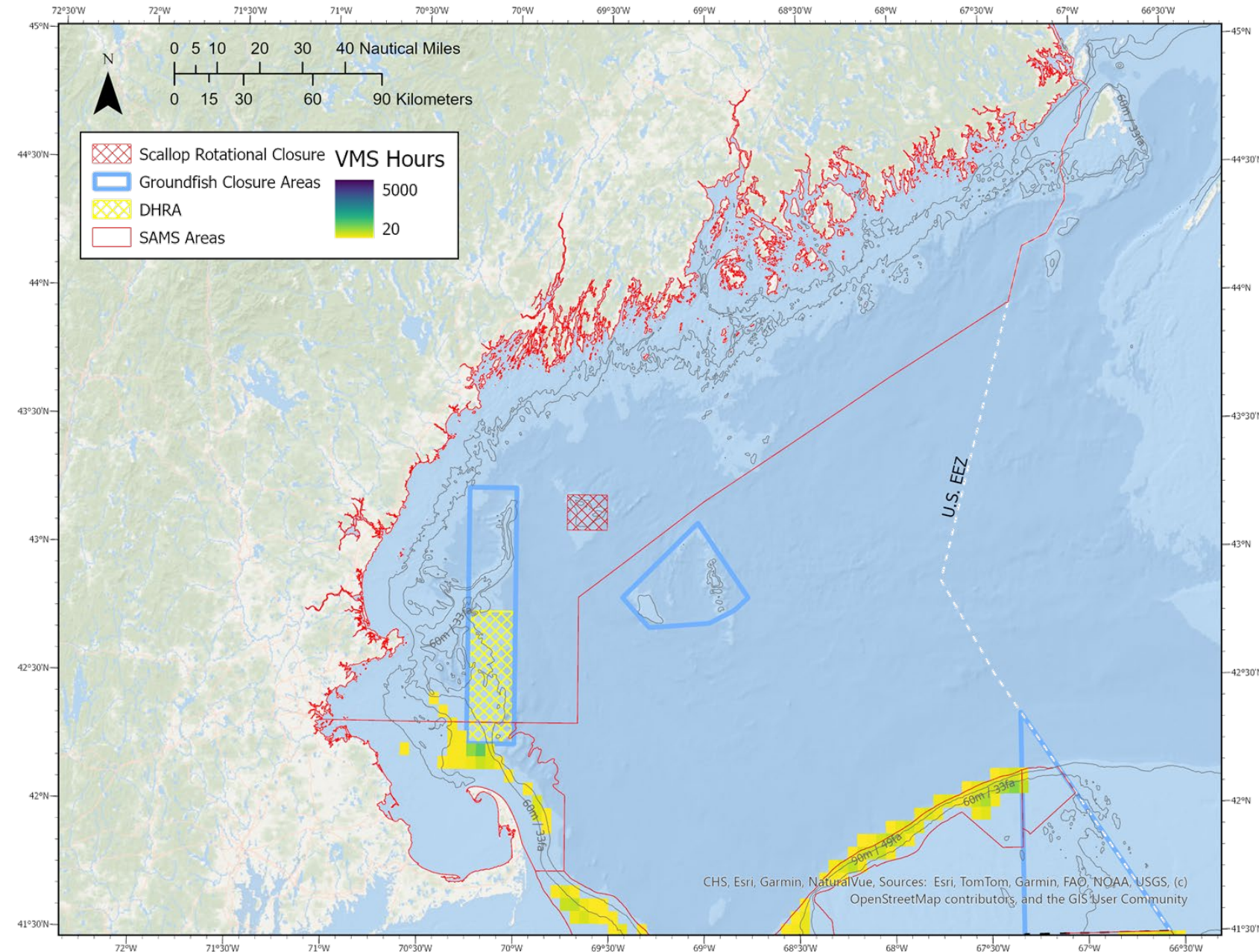
- 36 DAS
- No Access Area trips
- Closure of Nantucket Lightship North, South, and Area II



FY 2025 Limited Access Gulf of Maine

Framework 39 Specifications

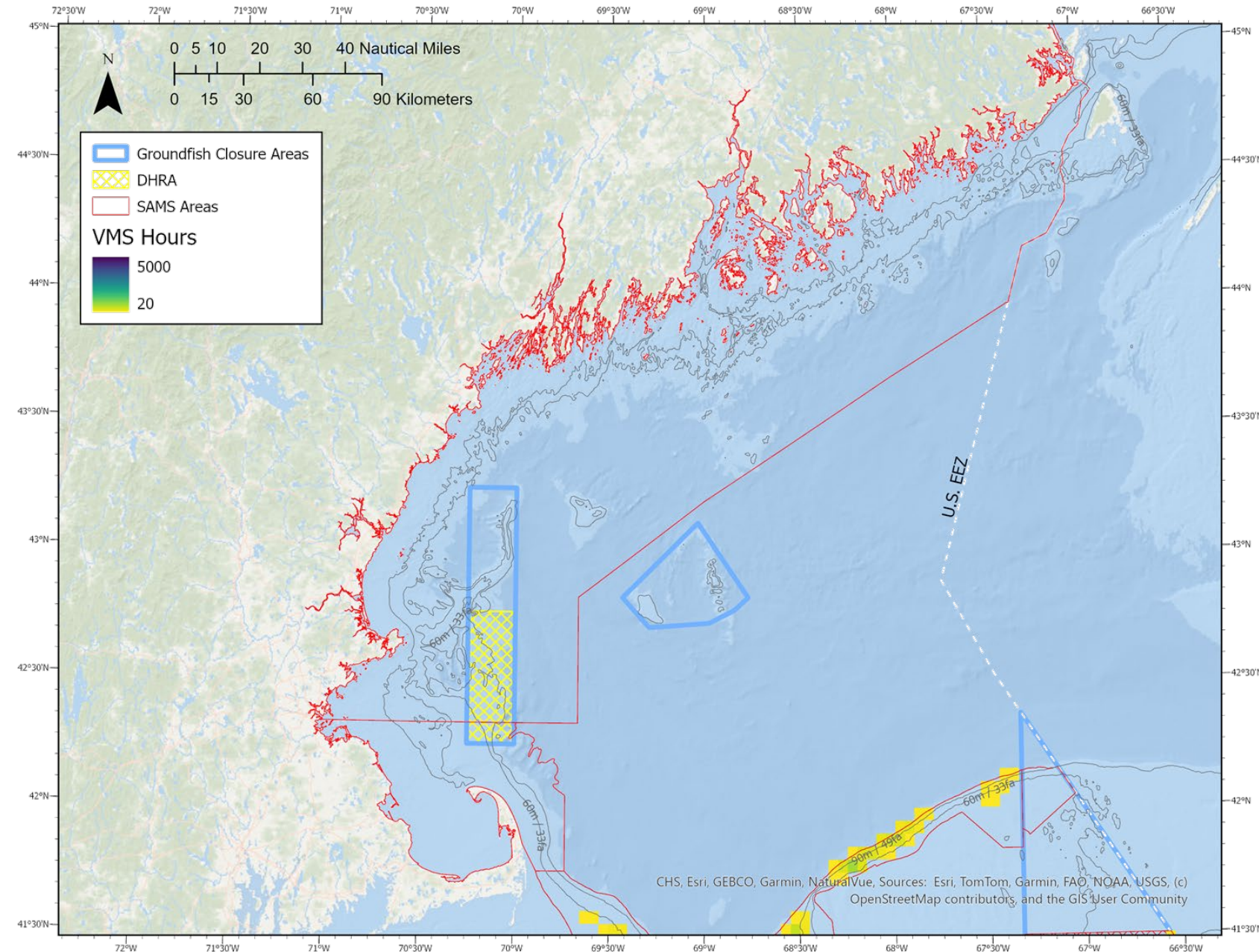
- 24 DAS
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 1
- 1x 12,000 lb trip to Area 2
- Closures of Elephant Trunk, Nantucket Lightship North, South, Platts Bank



FY 2026 (April – July) Limited Access Gulf of Maine

Framework 40 Specifications

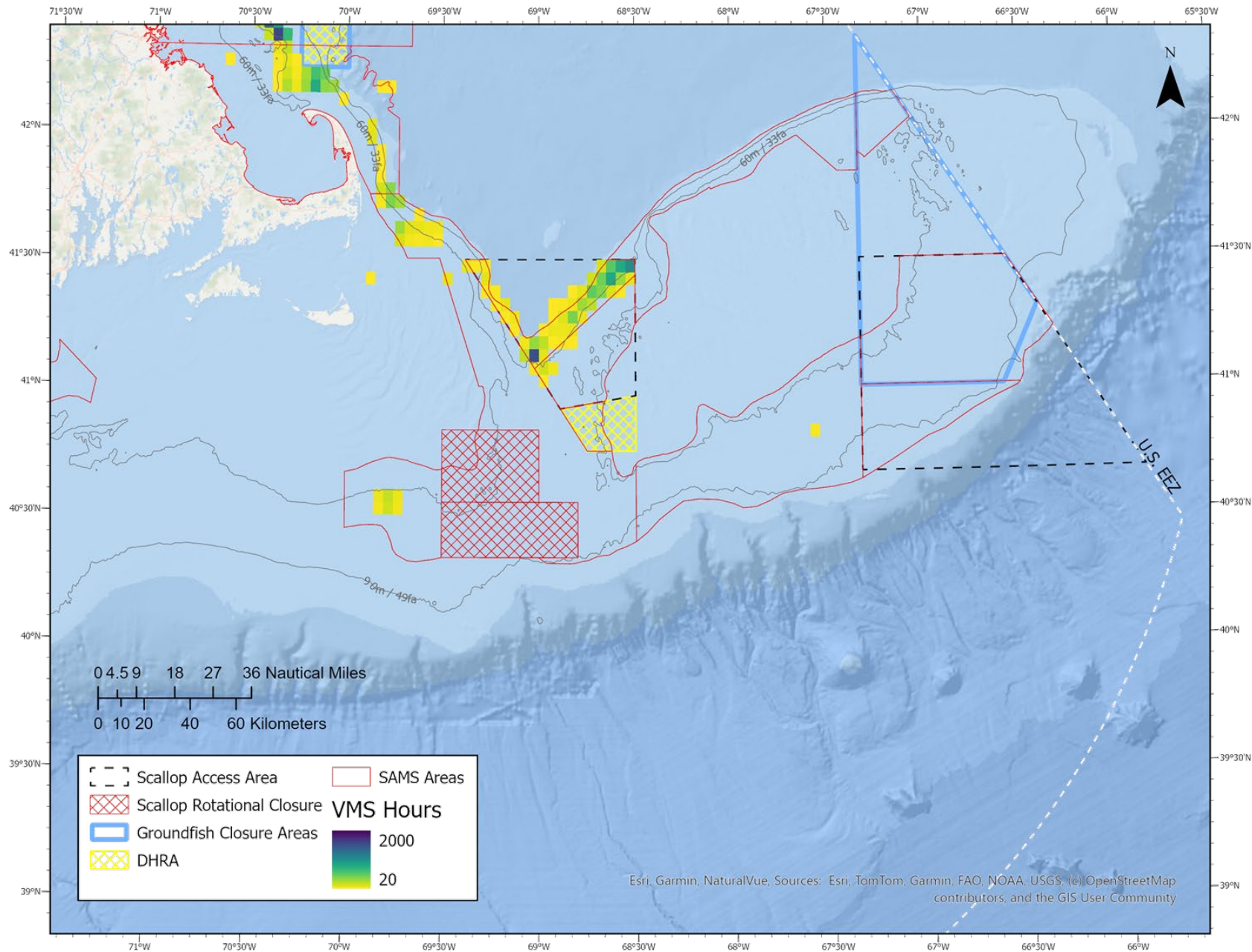
- 36 DAS
- No Access Area trips
- Closure of Nantucket Lightship North, South, and Area II



FY 2025 LAGC Georges Bank

Framework 39 Specifications

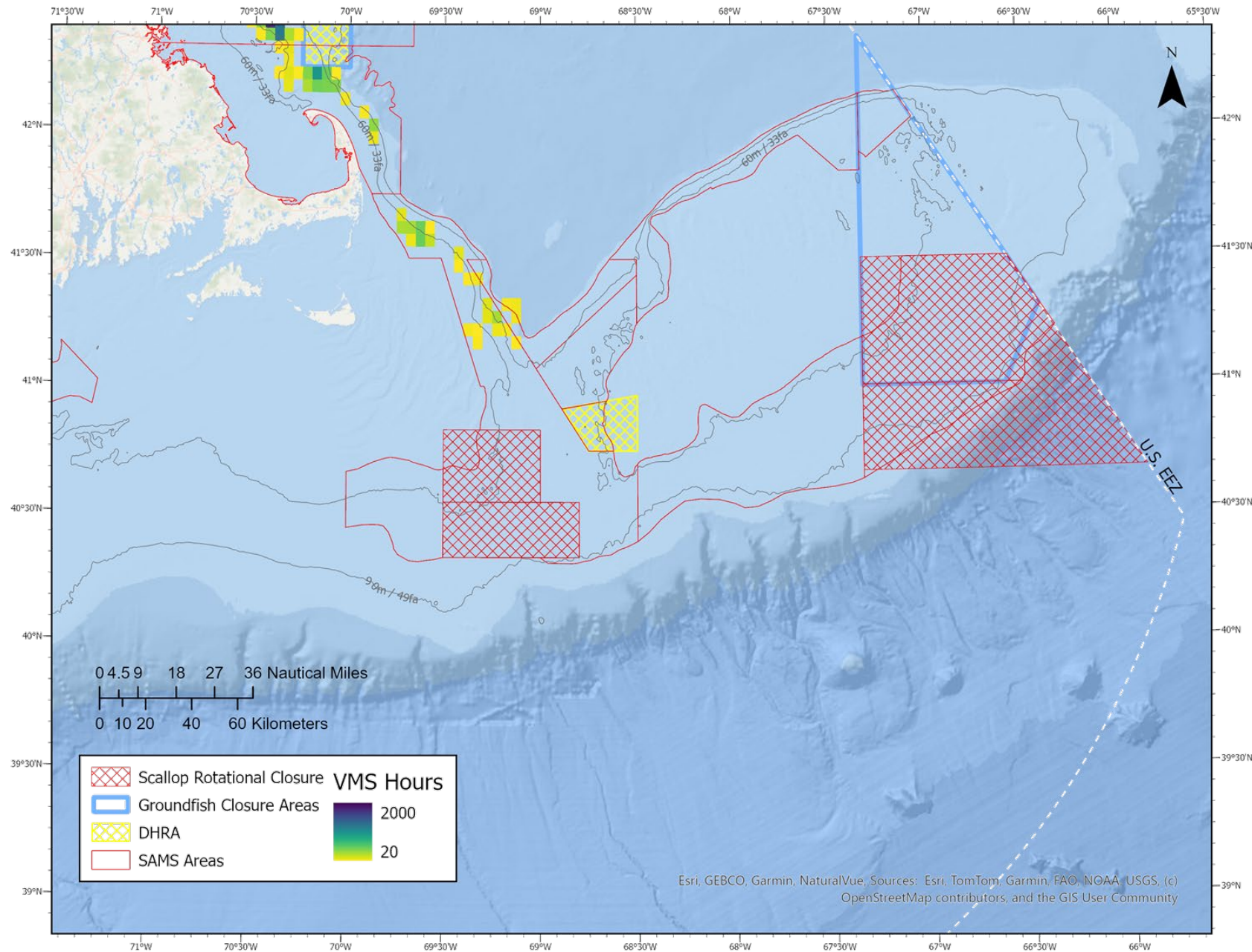
- 675,563 lb NGOM Set-Aside
- 991,799 lb LAGC IFQ APL (5.5%)
 - 571 trips to Area 1/Area 2



FY 2026 (April – July) LAGC Georges Bank

Framework 40 Specifications

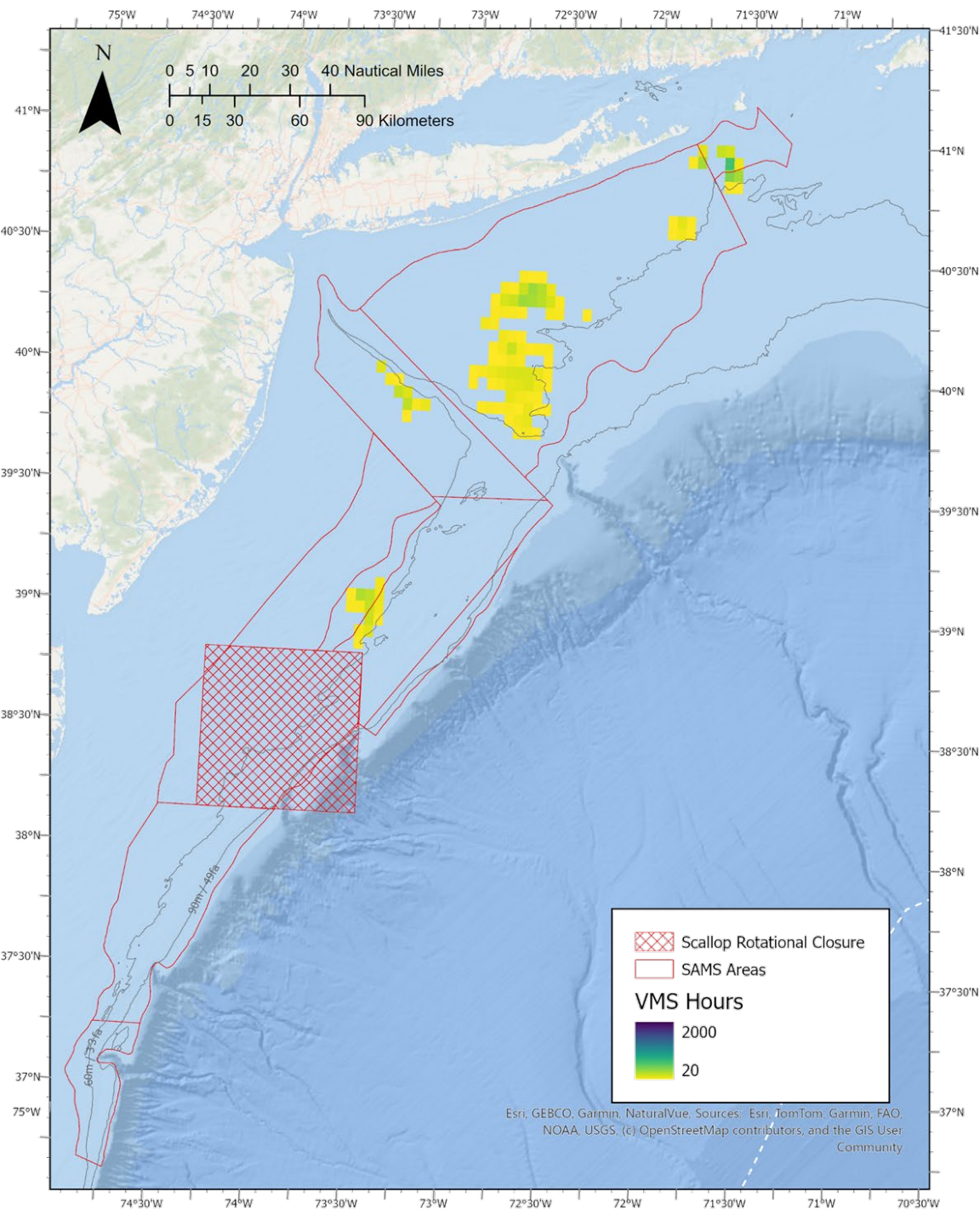
- 482,753 lb NGOM Set-Aside
- 939,315 lb LAGC IFQ APL (5.5%)
 - No Access Area trips

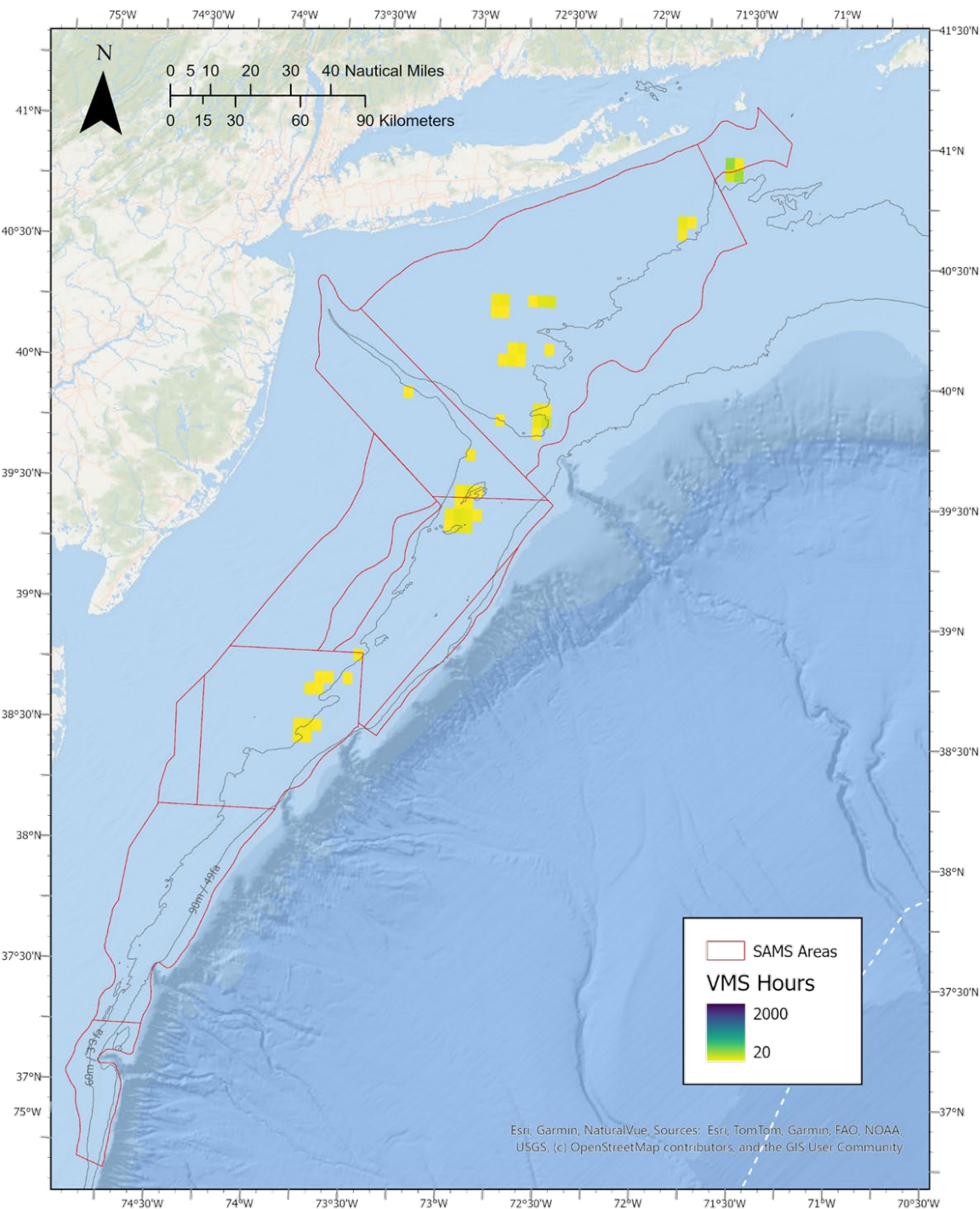


FY 2025 LAGC Mid-Atlantic

Framework 39 Specifications

- 675,563 lb NGOM Set-Aside
- 991,799 lb LAGC IFQ APL (5.5%)
 - 571 trips to Area 1/Area 2





FY 2026 (April – July)

LAGC

Mid-Atlantic

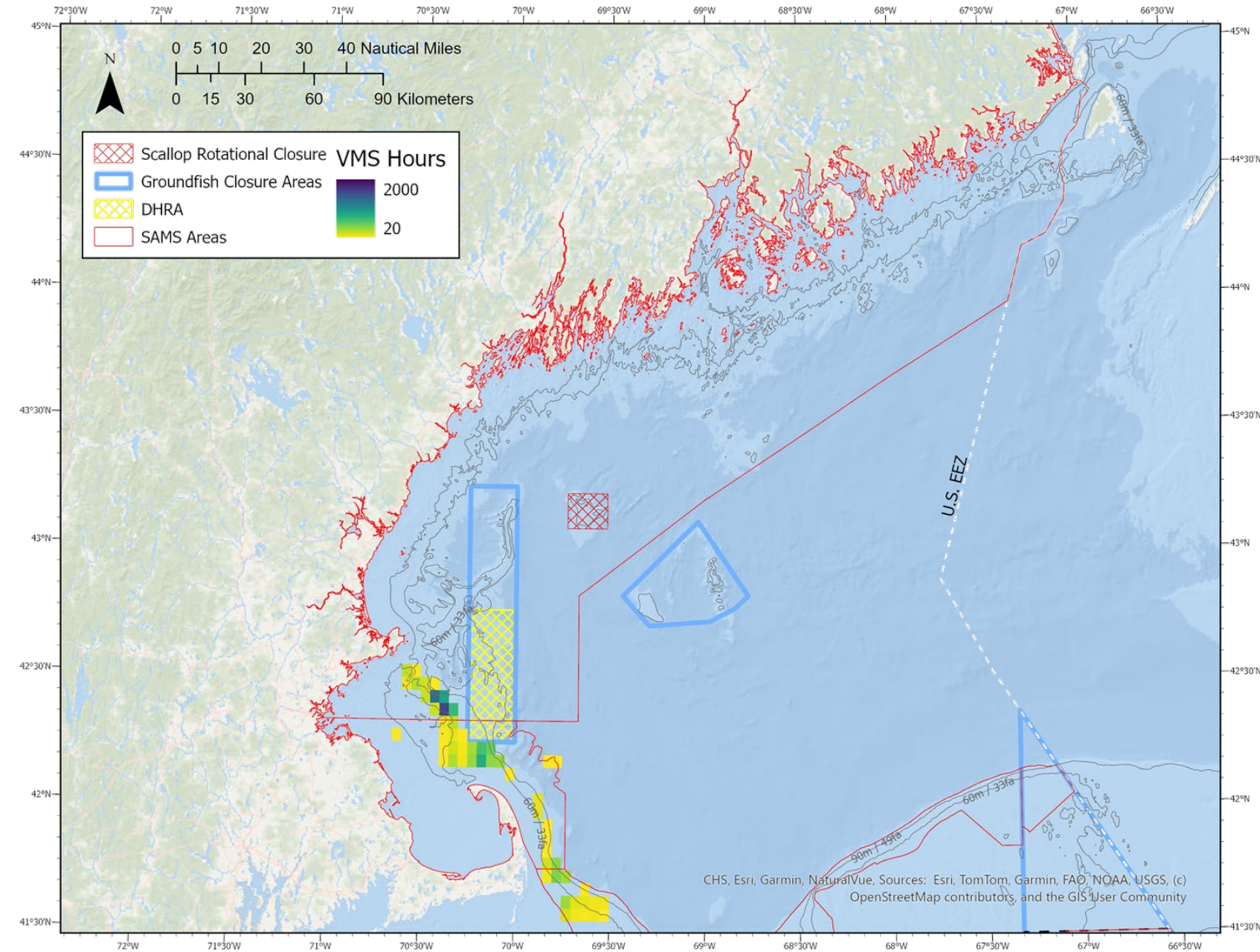
Framework 40 Specifications

- 482,753 lb NGOM Set-Aside
- 939,315 lb LAGC IFQ APL (5.5%)
 - No Access Area trips

FY 2025 LAGC Gulf of Maine

Framework 39 Specifications

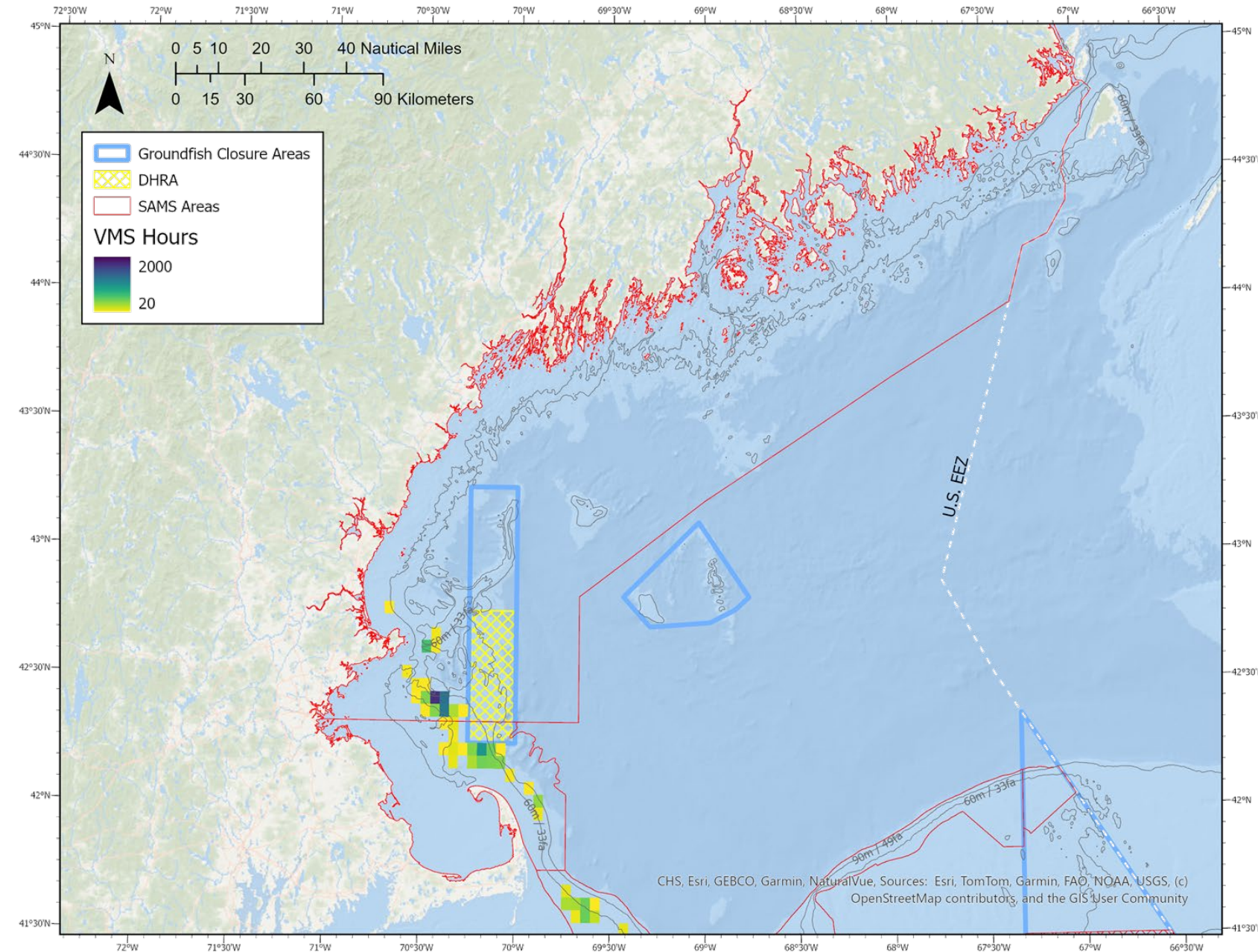
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 - 571 trips to Area 1/Area 2

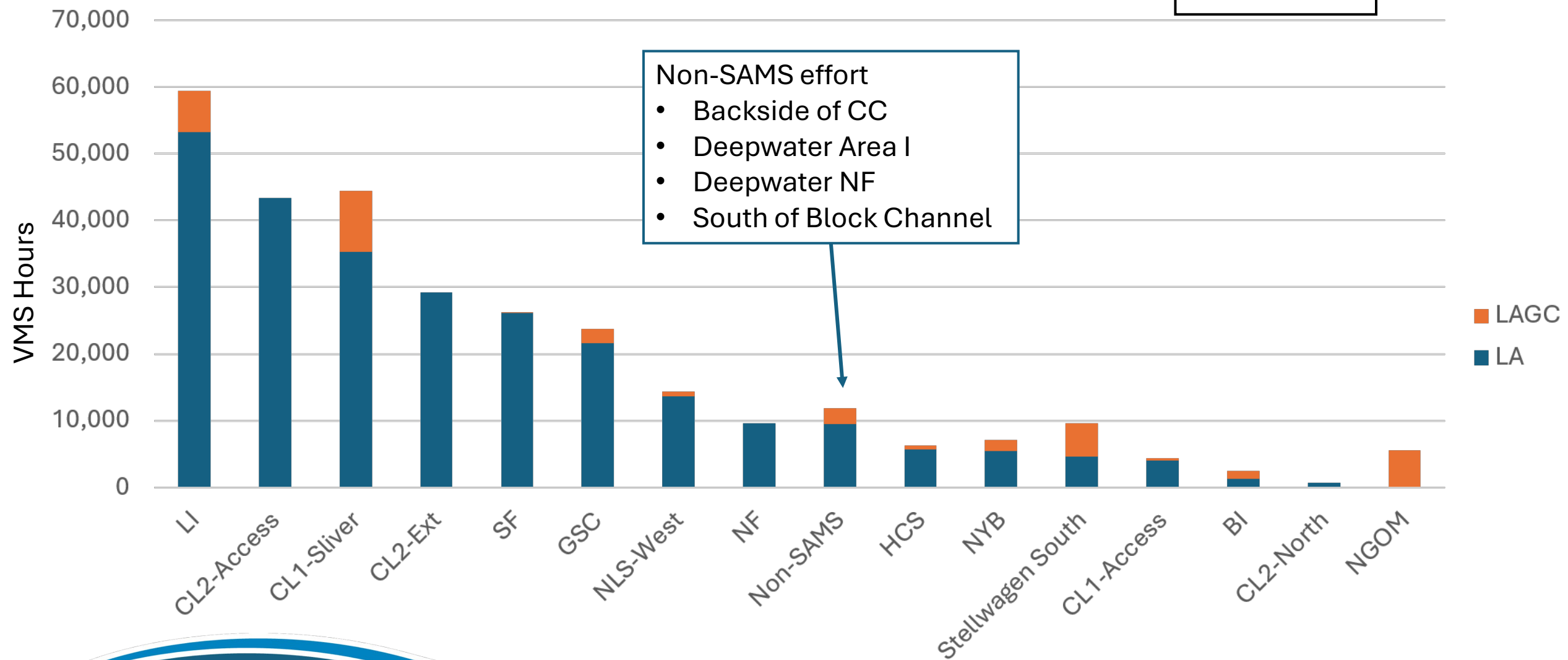


FY 2026 (April – July) LAGC Gulf of Maine

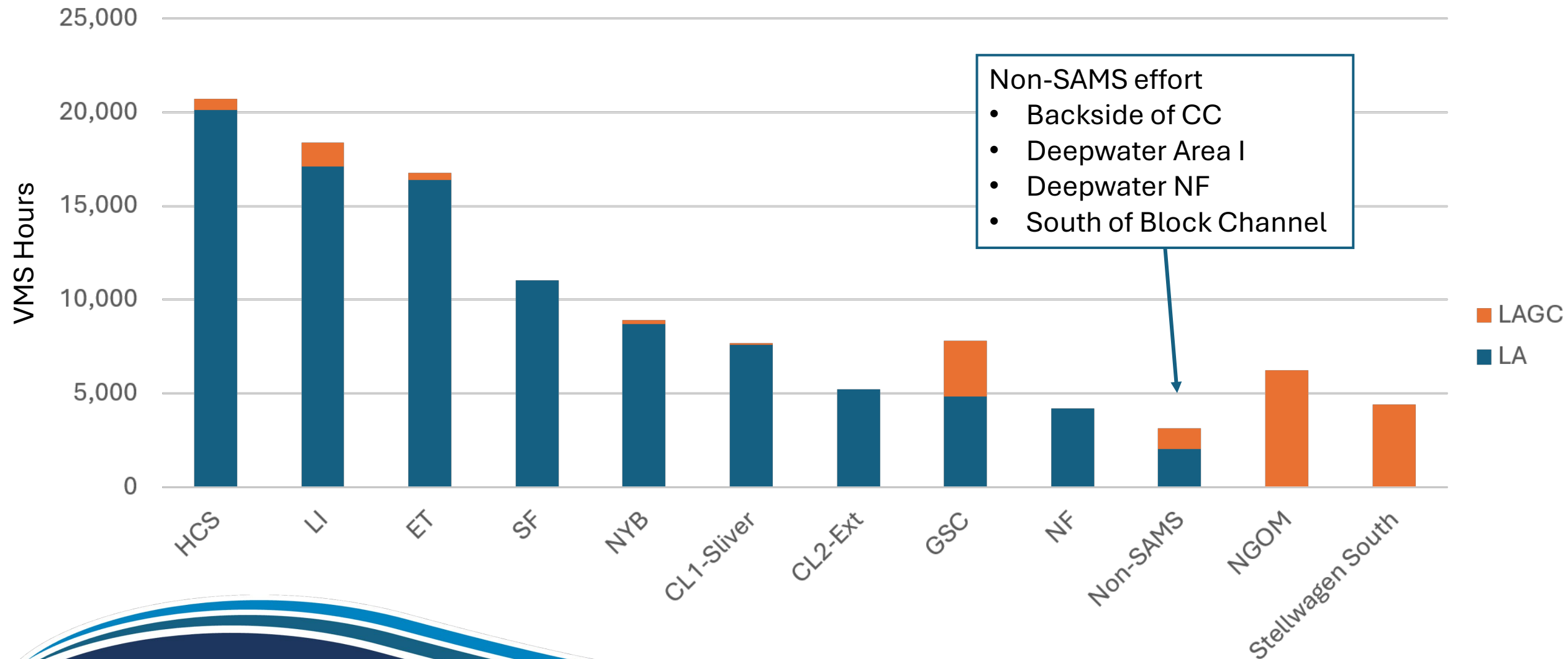
Framework 40 Specifications

- 482,753 lb NGOM Set-Aside
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 - No Access Area trips

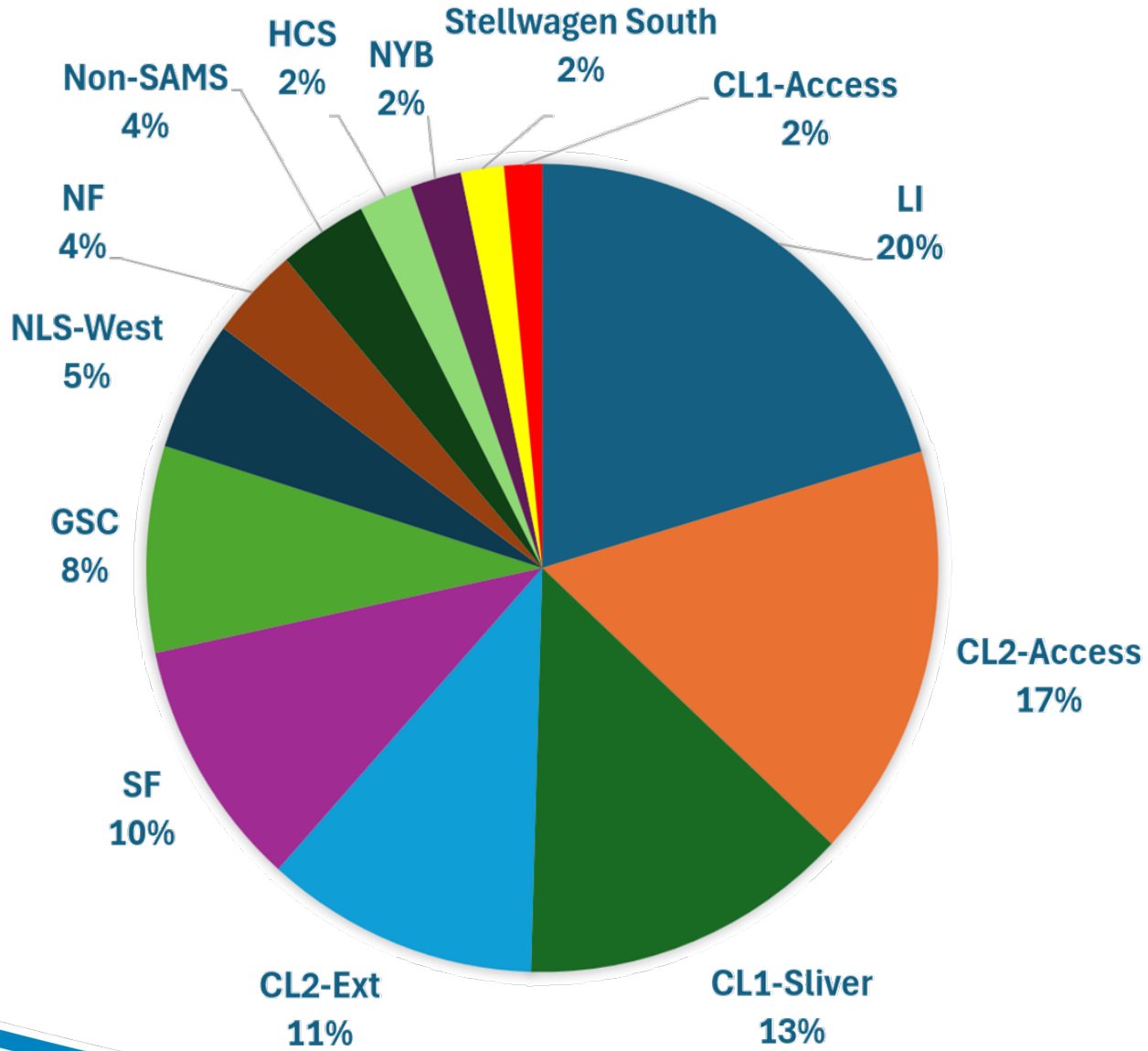




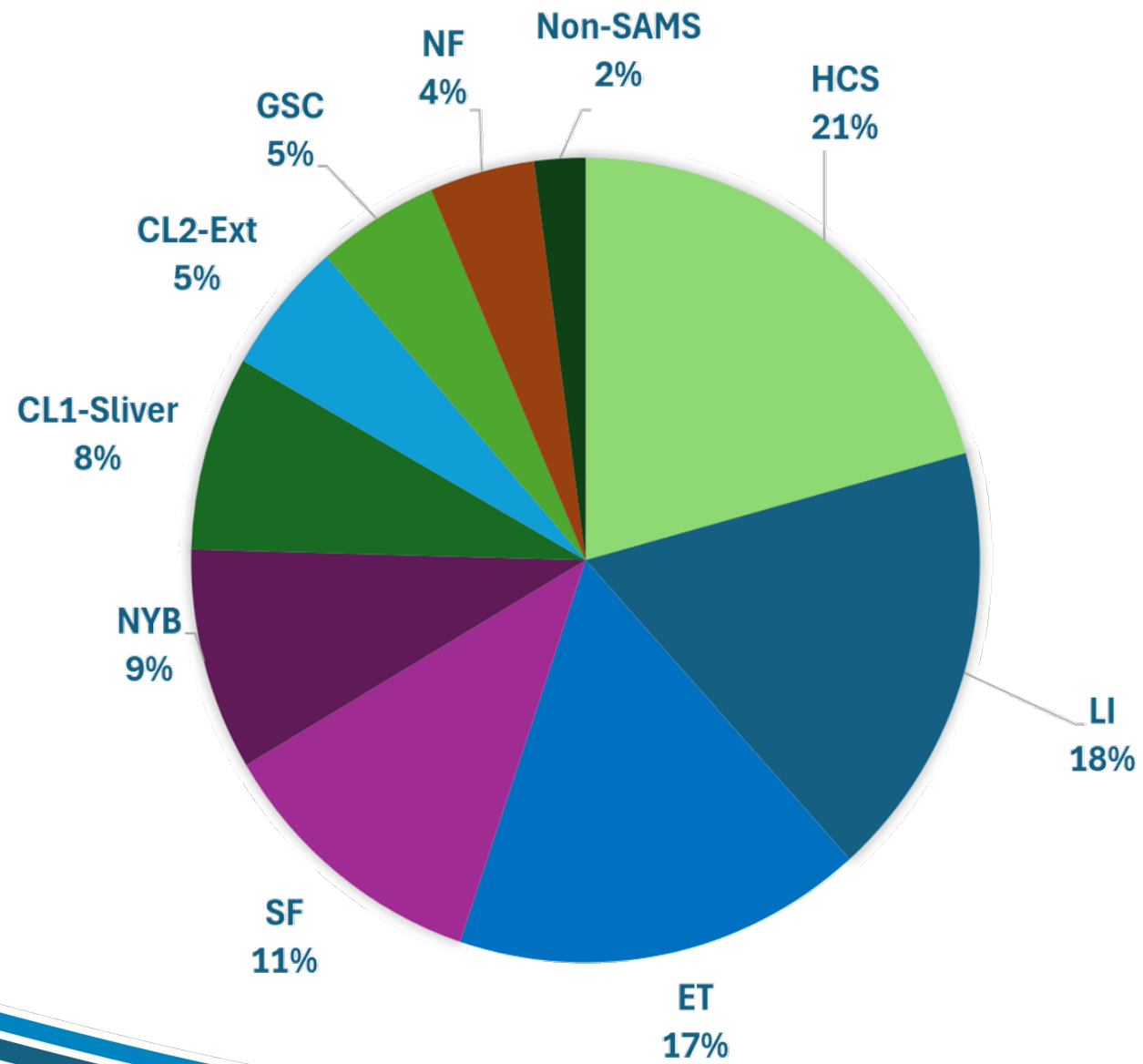
FY 2026 (April – July)



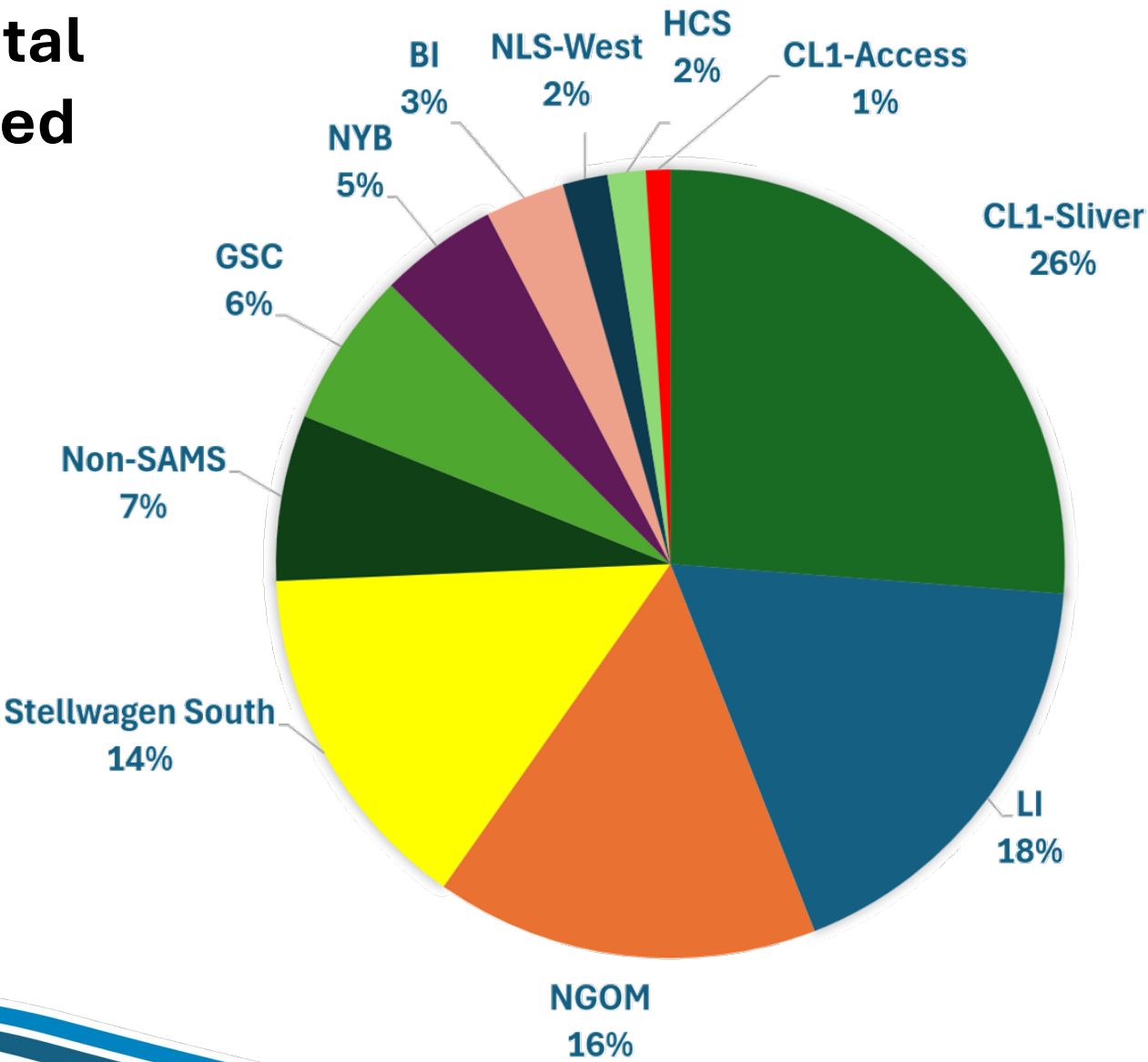
Proportion of Total VMS Hours Fished Limited Access 2025



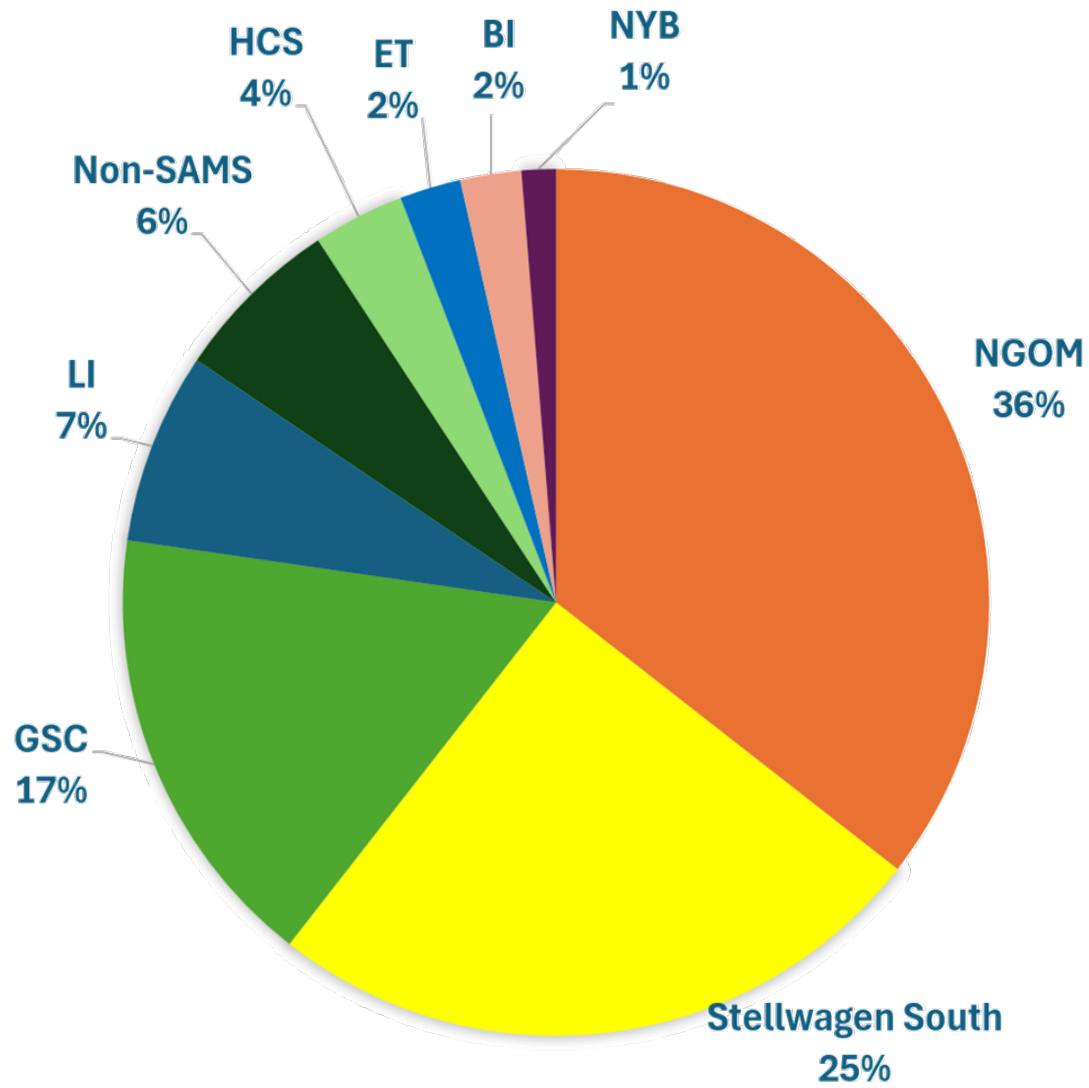
Proportion of Total VMS Hours Fished Limited Access 2026



Proportion of Total VMS Hours Fished LAGC 2025



Proportion of Total VMS Hours Fished LAGC 2026



Effort by region (LA only) 2023-26

Region	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026 (Apr – Jul)
GB – Open	73,079 hours (70%)	112,464 hours (78%)	84,285 hours (62%)	30,415 hours (33%)
MA – Open	7,069 hours (30%)	31,240 hours (22%)	77,900 hours (38%)	62,324 hours (67%)
Total - Open	80,148 hours	143,704 hours	162,185 hours	92,739 hours
GB – AA	37,544 hours	59,963 hours (55%)	111,935 hours	13,594 hours
MA - AA	0 hours	49,813 hours (45%)	0 hours	0 hours
Total - AA	37,544 hours	109,776 hours	111,935 hours	13,594 hours
Georges Bank	110,633 hours (77%)	172,427 hours (68%)	191,696 hours (74%)	35,946 hours (37%)
Mid-Atlantic	7,069 hours (23%)	81,053 hours (32%)	67,575 hours (25%)	62,324 hours (63%)
Grand Total	117,702 hours	253,480 hours	259,271 hours	98,270 hours

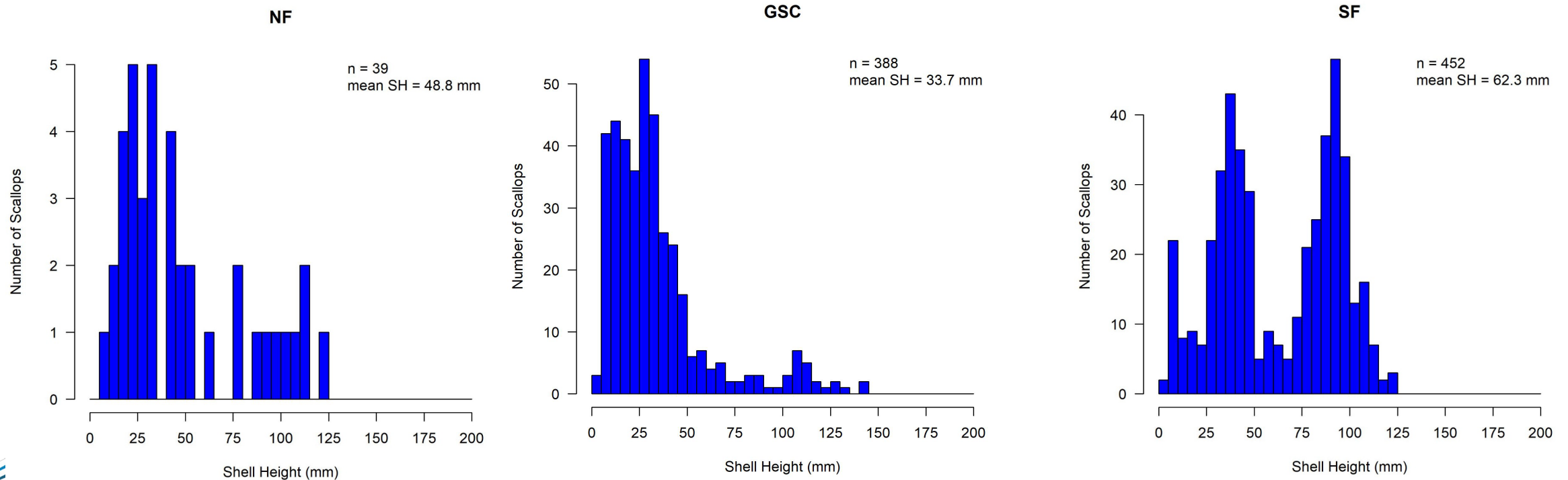
INITIAL PDT IMPRESSION OF 2027 OUTLOOK?

- Nantucket Lightship South
- Area I
- Area II
- Northern Edge
- Georges Bank Open
- Long Island & New York Bight
- Hudson Canyon South & Elephant Trunk
- NGOM



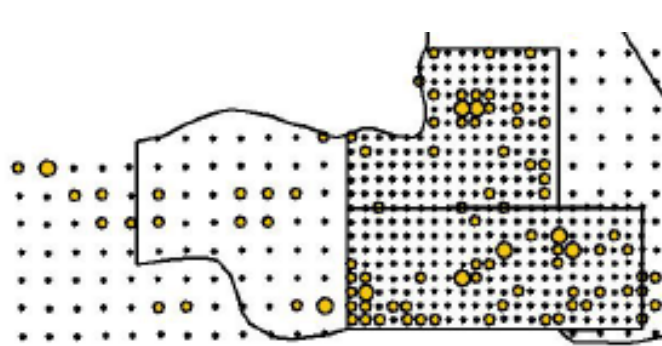
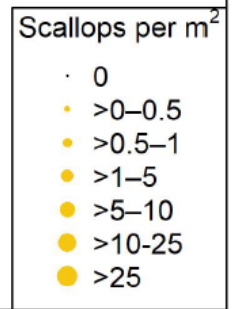
GEORGES BANK OPEN

- Recruitment in northern GSC
- Continued growth of Southern Flank hotspot

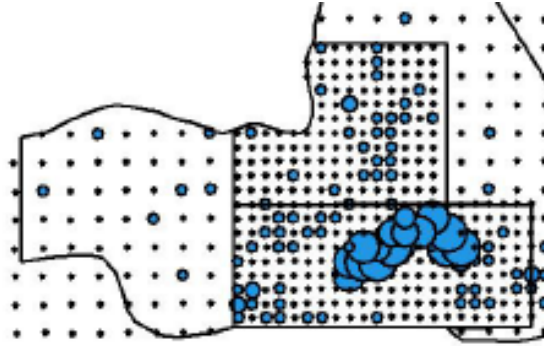


NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP

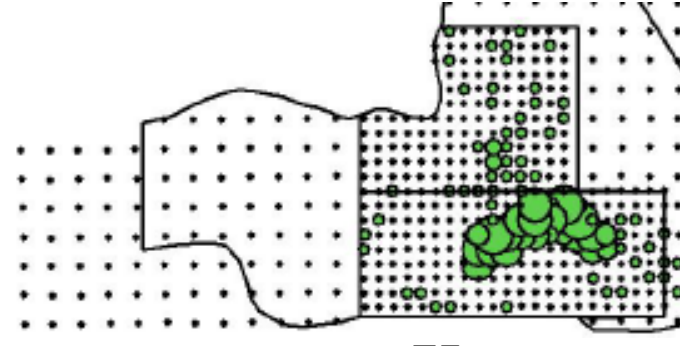
SMAST 2026



< 35mm



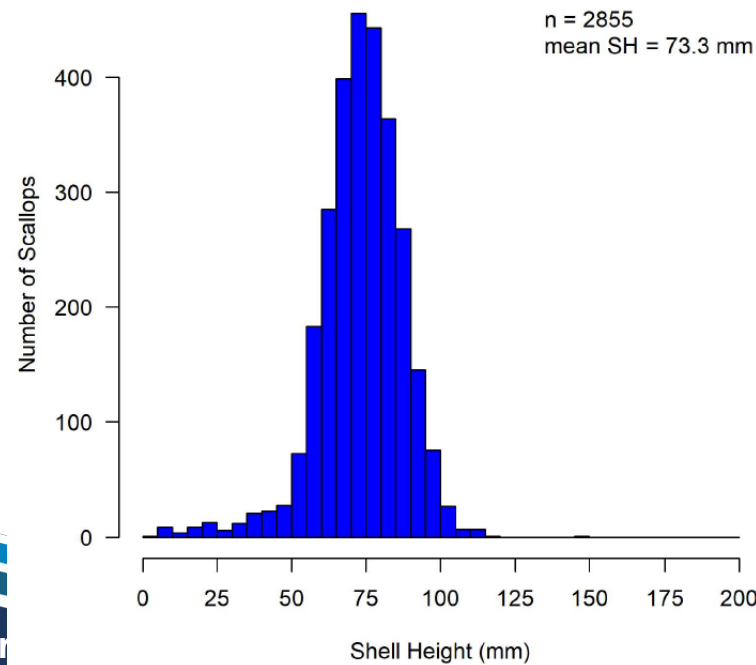
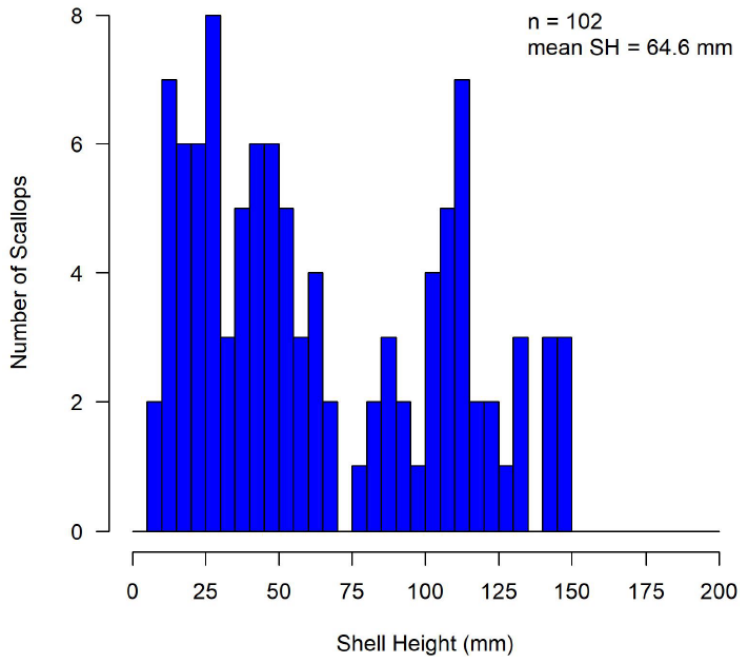
35-75 mm



>75 mm

NLS-North

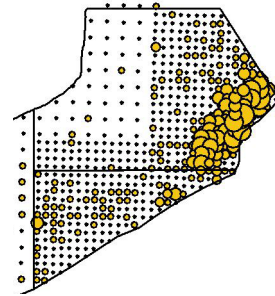
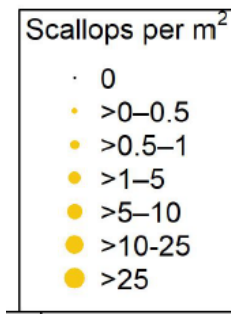
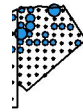
NLS-South



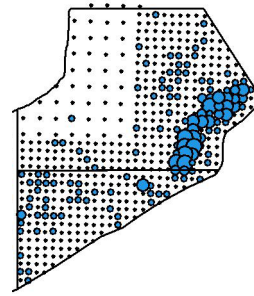
- Potential 2027 access?
- Ideas for minimizing incidental mortality?
 - Delayed opening until May 15
 - Seasonal closure

AREA II

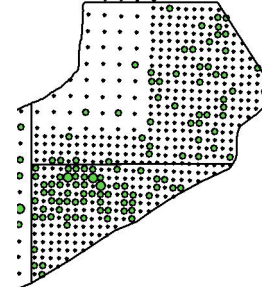
SMAST 2026



< 35mm



35-75 mm



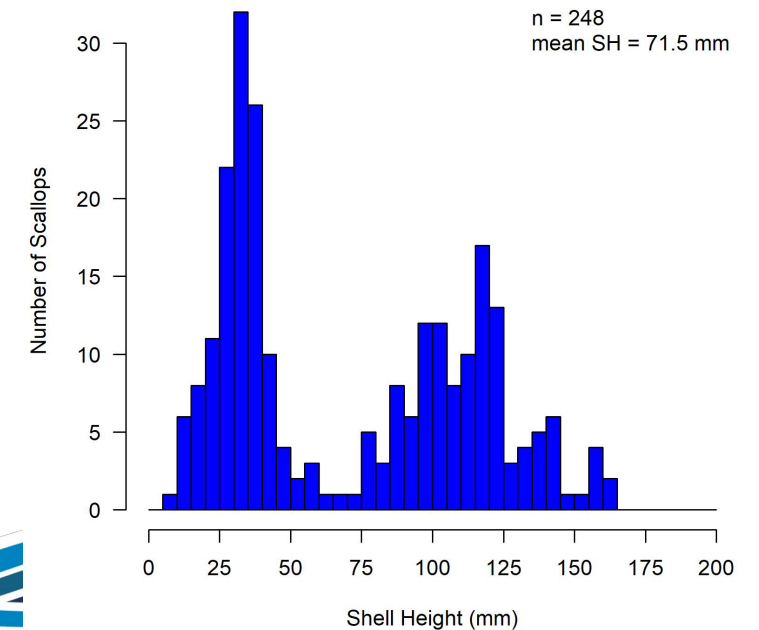
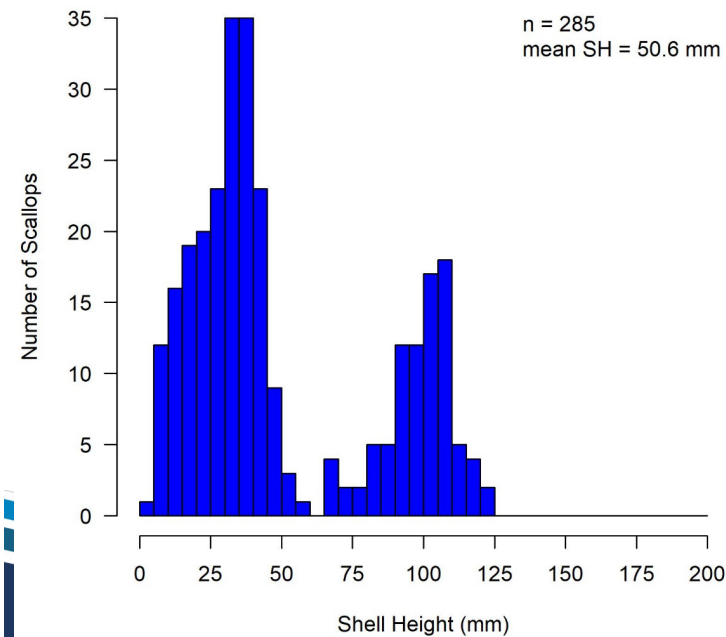
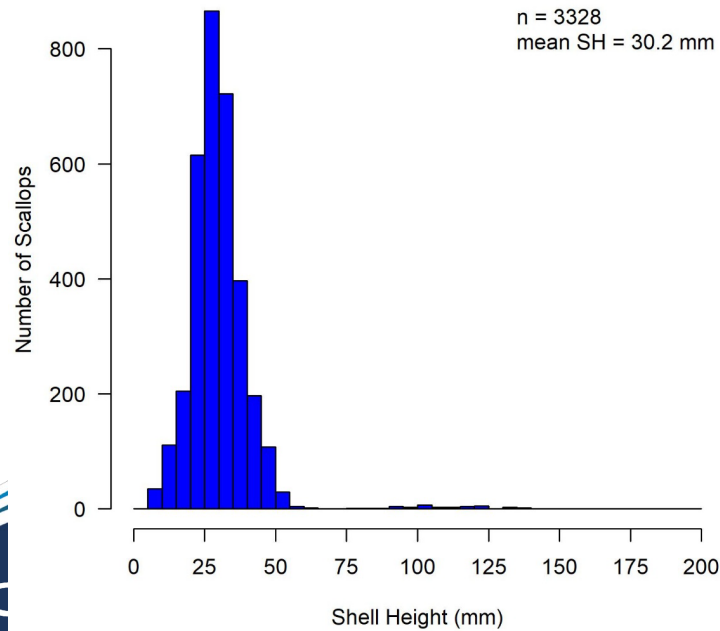
Northern Edge / HAPC

>75 mm

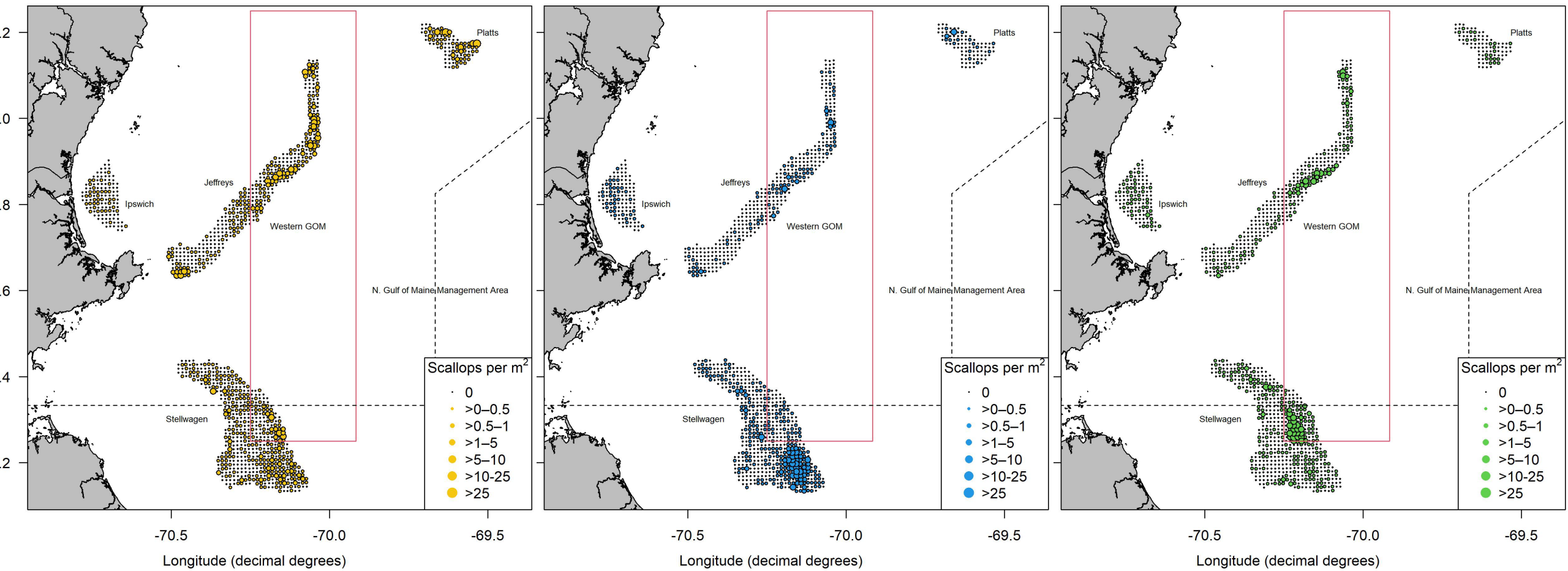
CL2-Access

CL2-Ext

CL2-North



GULF OF MAINE



INITIAL SAMS RUNS

1. OFL + ABC run
 - **Need by September 18 to develop recommendation for SSC**
2. No Action: 27 DAS; Closed: NLS-N, NLS-S, Area II; 218k NGOM Set-Aside
3. Status Quo: 36 DAS; Closed: NLS-N, NLS-S, Area II
4. **PDT Recommendation?**
 - 30 DAS; 12k trip @ NLS-N+S?
 - **Need by October 13**



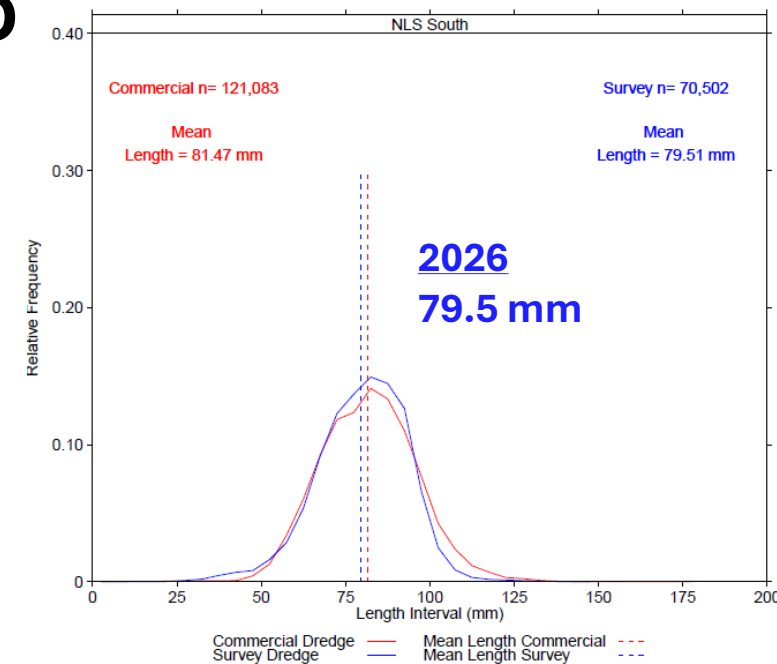
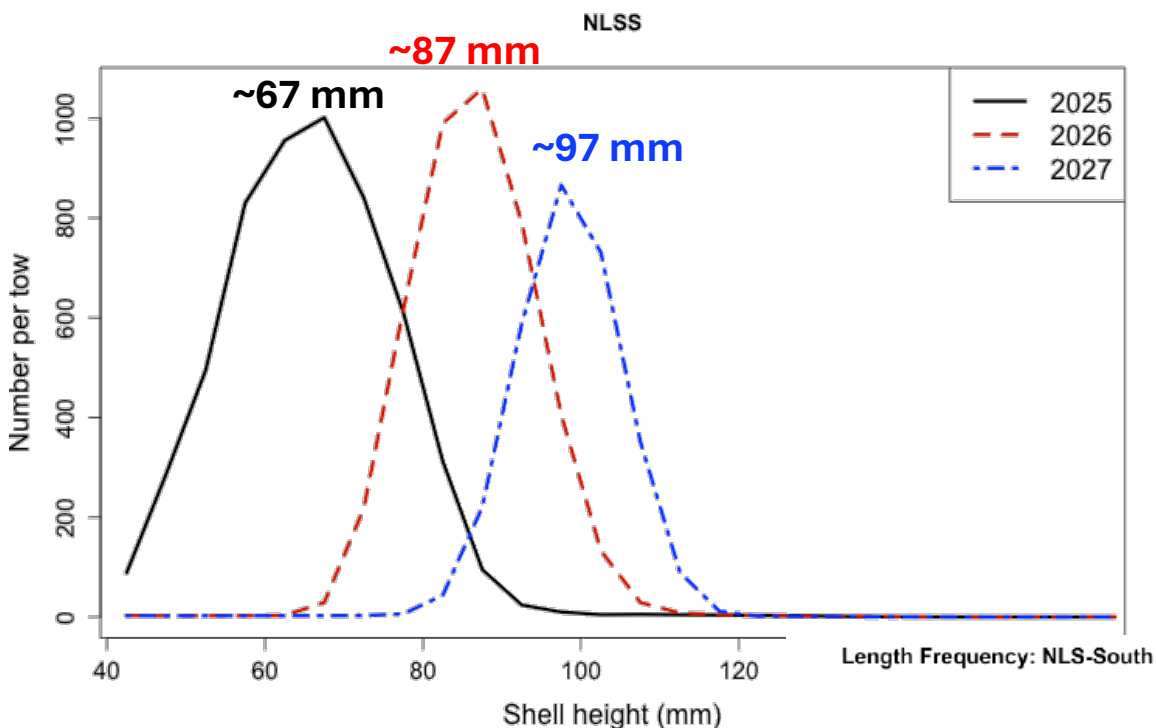
SAMS MODEL PARAMETERS

- **Growth:** SARC 65, scaled to the growth expectations from the 2020 management track assessment for all areas except NLS-South. Georges Bank growth applied to areas of the Gulf of Maine.
 - Continue consideration of growth rate of NLS-South cohort

FW40 (2020 Management Track growth)			
Subarea	Years	L_{∞}	K
GSC	12-16	135.7	0.397
NF	12-16	134.3	0.397
SF	12-16	123.9	0.397
CAI	12-16	134.5	0.397
CAII	12-16	132.3	0.397
CAII-S	12-16	146.9	0.397
NLS-N	12-16	136.1	0.397
NLS-S, NLS-W	15-16	119.1	0.487
DMV	08-12	130.5	0.547
ET	08-12	131.9	0.547
HCS	08-12	123.9	0.547
NYB	08-12	134.6	0.547
LI	08-12	133.5	0.547
MAB-Inshore	08-12	140.8	0.547

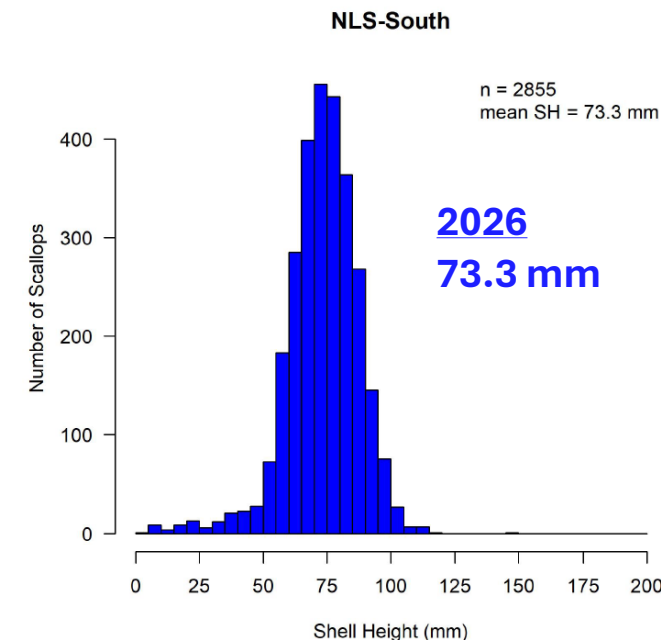
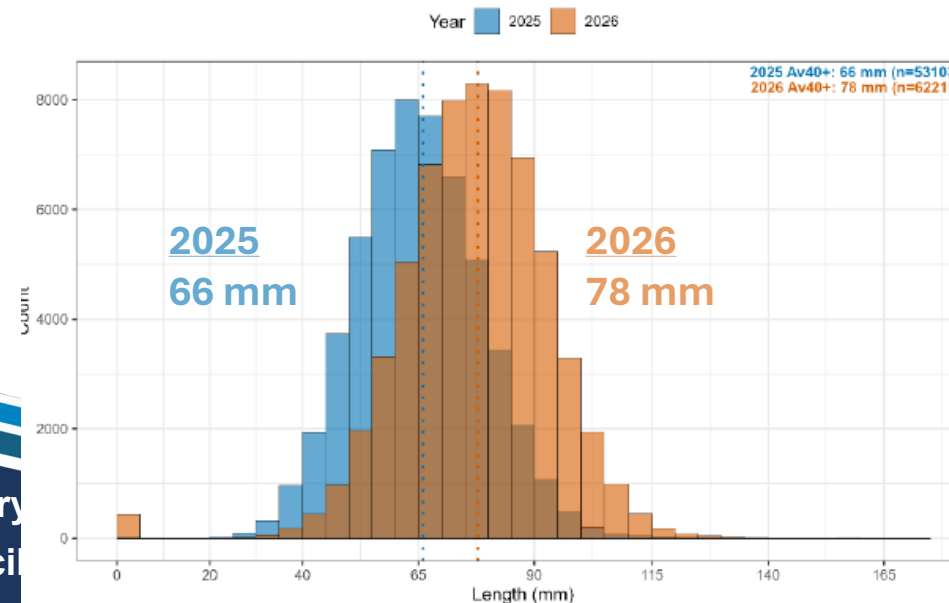


2025 PROJECTED VS 2026 OBSERVED



SAMS_Area	Length	Commercial	Survey
NLS_South	22.5	0	12
NLS_South	27.5	0	66
NLS_South	32.5	0	137
NLS_South	37.5	0	327
NLS_South	42.5	100	483
NLS_South	47.5	516	575
NLS_South	52.5	1,569	1,141
NLS_South	57.5	4,095	2,014
NLS_South	62.5	7,296	3,782
NLS_South	67.5	11,207	6,474
NLS_South	72.5	14,333	8,657
NLS_South	77.5	14,972	9,657
NLS_South	82.5	17,081	10,533
NLS_South	87.5	16,150	10,199
NLS_South	92.5	13,332	8,910
NLS_South	97.5	9,296	4,653
NLS_South	102.5	5,136	1,745
NLS_South	107.5	2,877	607
NLS_South	112.5	1,416	220
NLS_South	117.5	856	122
NLS_South	122.5	365	87
NLS_South	127.5	282	54
NLS_South	132.5	125	31
NLS_South	137.5	49	12
NLS_South	142.5	16	1
NLS_South	147.5	9	2
NLS_South	152.5	2	0
NLS_South	157.5	1	0
NLS_South	167.5	1	0
NLS_South	177.5	1	0

Growth in NLS-South appears slower than projected



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SAMS MODEL PARAMETERS

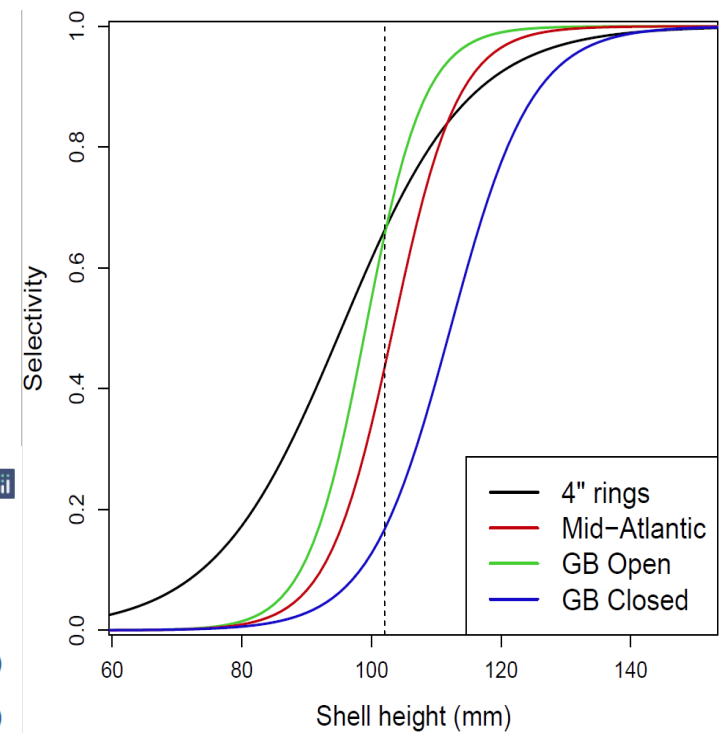
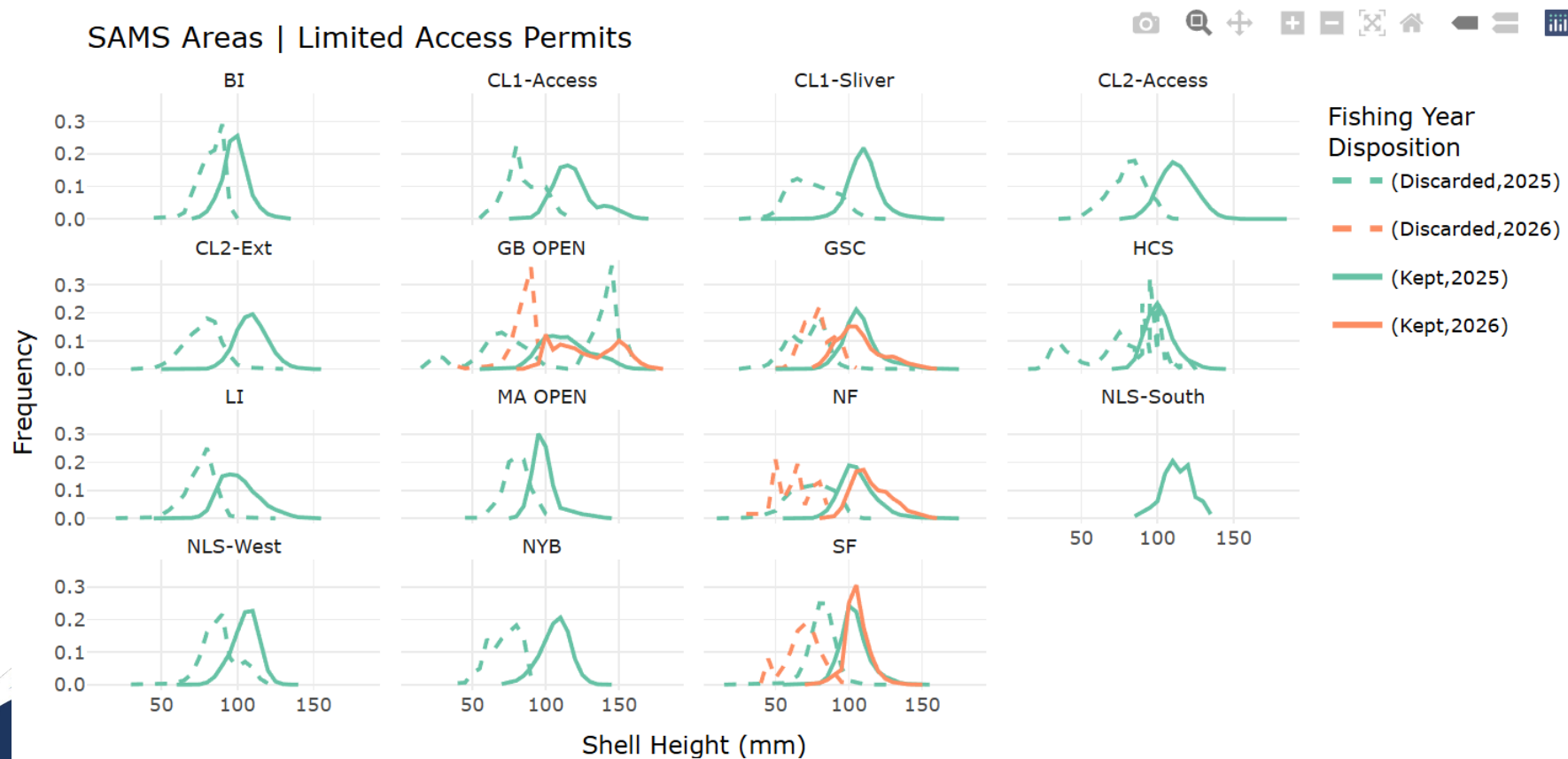
- M=0.27 for GOM, GB areas
- Area-specific M in the Mid-Atlantic areas
 - Updated in 2025 RTA and revised for FW40

Region	Subarea	M
Gulf of Maine	NGOM - Stellwagen	0.27
Gulf of Maine	Ipswich Bay	0.27
Gulf of Maine	NGOM Other	0.27
Gulf of Maine	GOM Closed	0.27
Gulf of Maine	Stellwagen South	0.27
Georges Bank	GSC	0.27
Georges Bank	NF	0.27
Georges Bank	SF	0.27
Georges Bank	CAI-Sliver	0.27
Georges Bank	CAI-Access	0.27
Georges Bank	CAII-Access	0.27
Georges Bank	CAII-Ext	0.27
Georges Bank	NLS-N	0.27
Georges Bank	NLS-W	0.27
Georges Bank	NLS-S	0.27
Mid-Atlantic	ET	0.95
Mid-Atlantic	DMV	5
Mid-Atlantic	VIR	6
Mid-Atlantic	HCS	0.4
Mid-Atlantic	NYB	0.4
Mid-Atlantic	BI	0.4
Mid-Atlantic	LI	0.4
Mid-Atlantic	MAB-Inshore	0.8



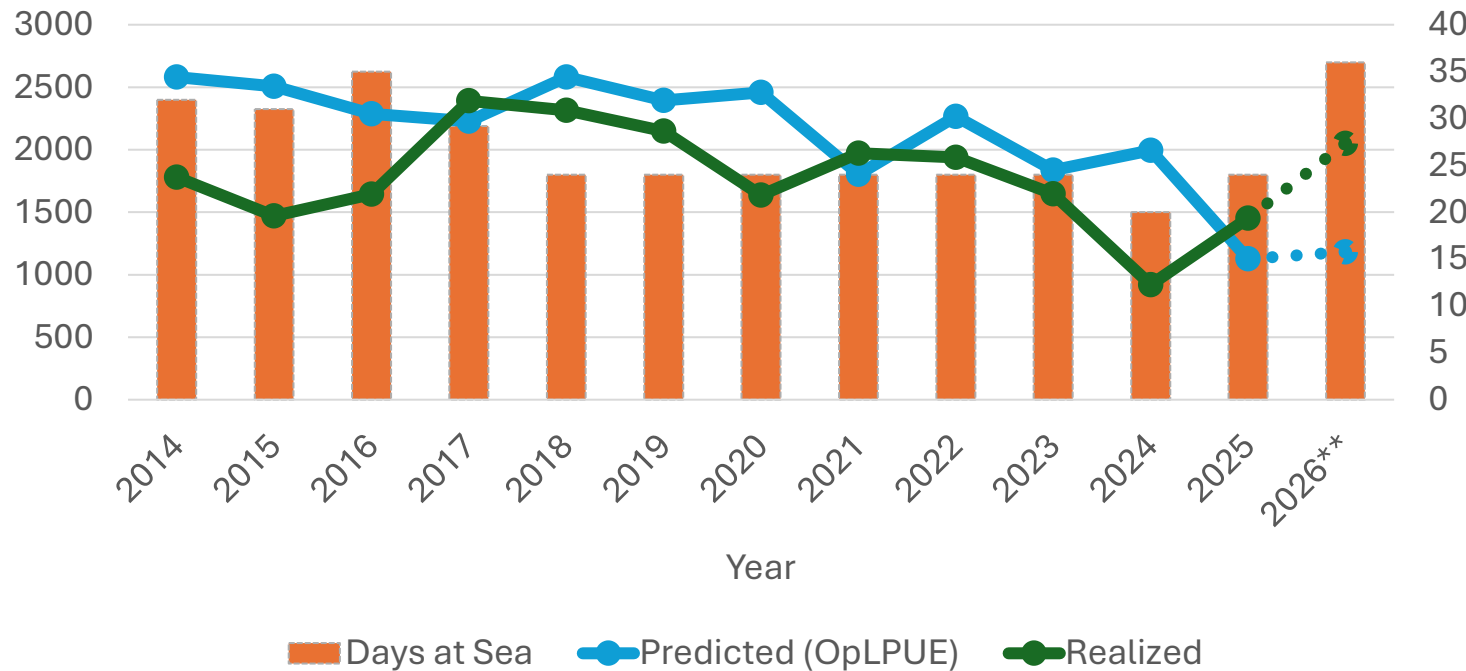
SAMS MODEL PARAMETERS

- **Selectivity:**
 - Consider 2025-2026 observer kept/discarded size frequencies – likely no need to adjust.



[GARFO Scallop
Fishery Performance
Report](#)

SAMS MODEL PARAMETERS



* 1,373 lb/day used for DAS allocation in the absence of projections, which was a 3-year average of 2023-2025 open area LPUE

** Open area LPUE as of August 12, 2026 (GARFO Quota Monitoring)

- LPUE: Underestimated in 2026 - Possible causes?
 - Higher than expected growth
 - Lower than expected M
 - Underestimated MAB biomass (1 survey in HCS in 2025)
- Adjustments for 2027? Revised LPUE model used for 2025-2026 may be systematically underestimating



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Management Council

AGENDA DAY 2

9:00 AM	Review any follow-up analyses/homework/continue with Aug. 26 agenda (if needed)
9:30	Continue reviewing 2026 data and outlook for 2027 • Update on nematode and shell disease prevalence in Mid-Atlantic • Develop PDT input for 2027/2028 specifications (BASE run)
10:45	Recap: Additional analyses & modeling decisions; plan for next PDT meeting
11:00	Framework 42: Discuss the development of measures to allocate regional DAS and sub-management areas in the NGOM.
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:15	Scallop PDT Memo to Groundfish PDT re: GB Yellowtail
2:00	Review Draft 3-Year Work Plan
3:00	Adjourn



UPDATE ON NEMATODE AND SHELL DISEASE PREVALENCE IN MID-ATLANTIC

- Sally Roman, VIMS



SUMMARY OF DATA DECISION POINTS

- SAMS Areas
- SHMW
- Combining Survey estimates
- Growth
- LPUE
- Selectivity
- Natural Mortality



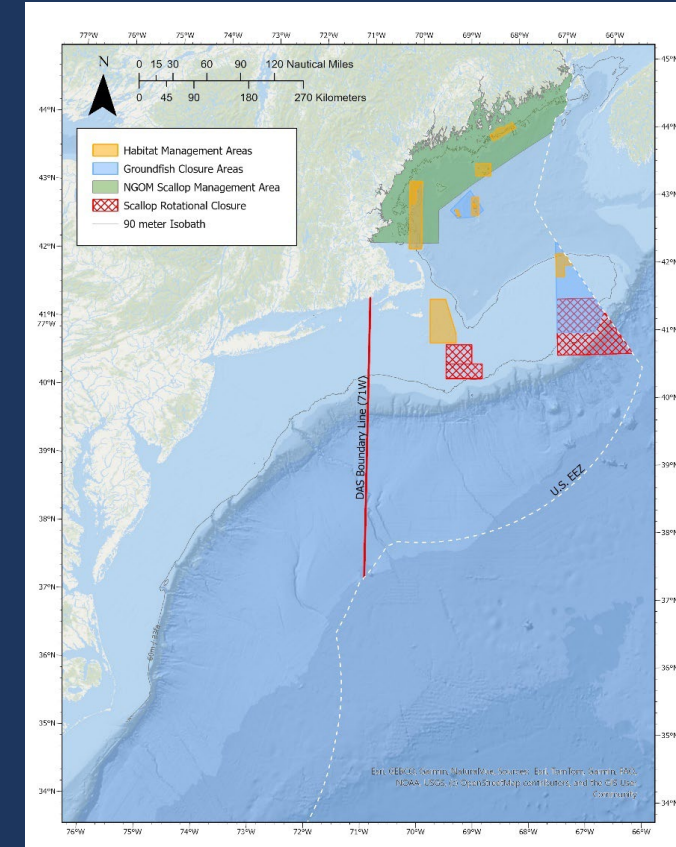
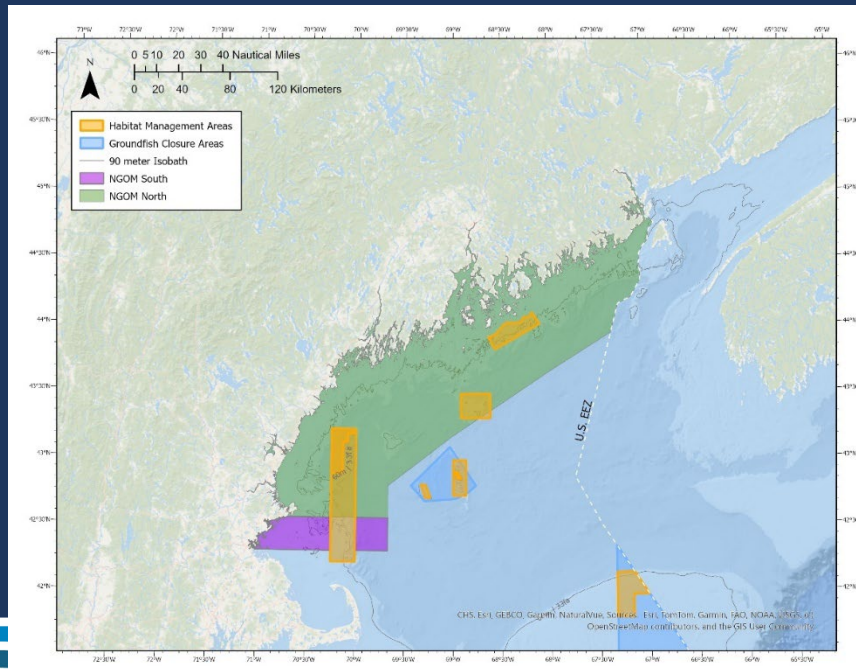
RECAP & PLANNING FOR NEXT MEETING

- Additional analyses and remaining work?
- Need for August 31 meeting?



FRAMEWORK 42 – MANAGEMENT MEASURES ACTION

1. Region-specific DAS
2. NGOM sub-management areas



SCALLOP FRAMEWORK 42

Scope of action

- Region-specific Days-at-Sea, NGOM sub-management areas
 - Developing the mechanism, separate from any allocations.

Key milestones & meetings

- Framework 42 initiated in June 2026
- Updates on September 16th (Plymouth, MA), December (Newport, RI)
- Council takes final action in April 2027 (or earlier, if possible)

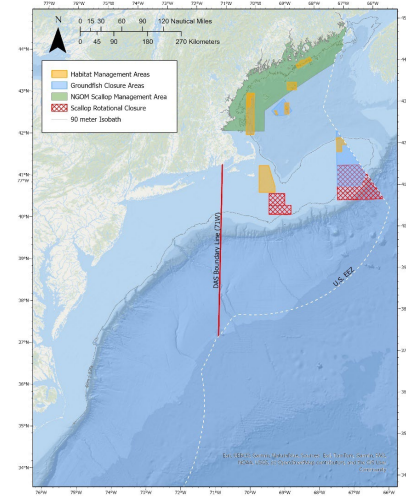


REGIONAL LIMITED ACCESS DAS ALLOCATIONS

Purpose: reduce risk of regional overfishing when large differences in regional LPUE lead to overconcentration of fishing effort

→ DAS Trading and Limits

- Option 1: exchange DAS in equal increments (allow fractional values)
- Option 2: allow trading; ratio cannot exceed **X** DAS (e.g. 3) in one region for 1 DAS in another
- Option 3: allow trading; no restriction on magnitude of trade



Potential benefits:

- All options: additional vessel operational flexibility
- Options 2 & 3: trading >1 DAS on a smaller vessel for 1 DAS on a larger vessel = efficiency gain

Potential drawbacks:

- Option 3: equivalent to stacking

PDT recommendation: Option 1 or 2 or 3?



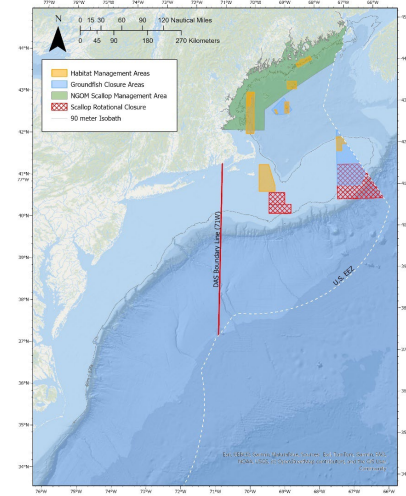
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REGIONAL LIMITED ACCESS DAS ALLOCATIONS

Purpose: reduce risk of regional overfishing when large differences in regional LPUE lead to overconcentration of fishing effort

→ DAS Trading Cap

- Option 1: no cap on proportion of a vessel's DAS that could be exchanged
- Option 2: vessel DAS trades capped at exchanging up to 50% (?) of DAS allocation



Potential benefits:

- Option 2: could prevent stacking if vessels can trade DAS in equal amounts (not needed if only allow 1:1 trading)

Potential drawbacks:

- ?

PDT recommendation: Option 1 or 2?



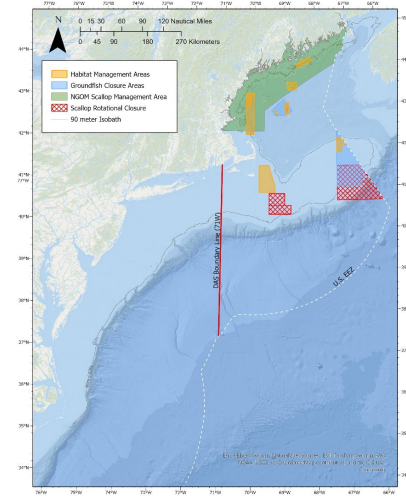
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REGIONAL LIMITED ACCESS DAS ALLOCATIONS

Purpose: reduce risk of regional overfishing when large differences in regional LPUE lead to overconcentration of fishing effort

→ DAS Trading Timing

- Option 1: pre-season trading only
- Option 2: allow in-season trading (akin to access area trips via FishOnline)



Potential benefits:

- Option 2: GARFO has programmatic support

Potential drawbacks:

- Option 1: negatively affect flexibility; limit vessel's ability to respond to changing conditions

PDT recommendation: Option 1 or 2?



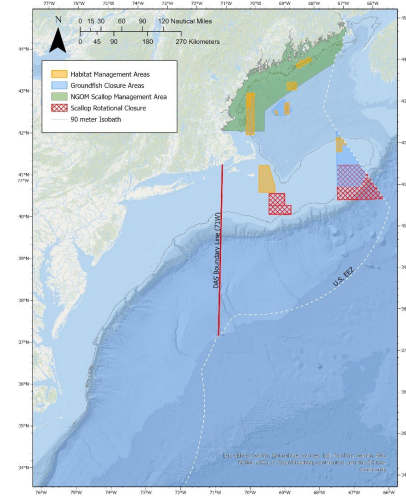
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REGIONAL LIMITED ACCESS DAS ALLOCATIONS

Purpose: reduce risk of regional overfishing when large differences in regional LPUE lead to overconcentration of fishing effort

→ DAS Carryover

- Option 1: proportional split
- Option 2: carryover can be fished in either region (up to 10 DAS) without restriction



Potential benefits:

- Option 1: mechanism to transition from non-regional DAS to regional DAS between years
- Option 2: redistribute effort to another region; maximize vessel operational flexibility; simplify accounting

Potential drawbacks:

- Option 1: challenging for GARFO to support depending on other program design choices
- Option 2: reduce benefit of regional allocations; could result in fishers hedging future bets and forgo current effort in a lesser region for future fishing in a better region



NGOM SUB-MANAGEMENT AREAS

Purpose: limit the realized fishing mortality on Stellwagen Bank (where effort was heavily concentrated) & redistribute effort to other banks/ledges in NGOM with robust scallop beds

→ Area Boundaries

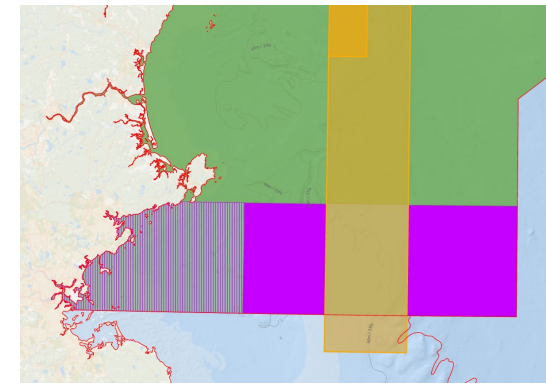
- Option 1: No transit corridor
- Option 2: Establish transit corridor

Potential benefits:

- Option 2: improve operational flexibility?

Potential drawbacks:

- Option 2: OLE guidance that transit corridor is not needed, may complicate monitoring, better to require continuous transit with gear stowage



PDT recommendation: Option 1?



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NGOM SUB-MANAGEMENT AREAS

Purpose: limit the realized fishing mortality on Stellwagen Bank (where effort was heavily concentrated) & redistribute effort to other banks/ledges in NGOM with robust scallop beds



→ **Timing of sub-area openings**

- *Option 1: Both areas open simultaneously April 1*
- *Option 2: NGOM-N opens on April 1; NGOM-S opens on a fixed date (April 15?) or after N is closed, whichever is earlier*
- *Option 3: NGOM-S opens on April 1; NGOM-N opens on a fixed date (April 15?) or after S is closed, whichever is earlier*

Potential benefits:

- Option 1: greatest operational flexibility when LPUE is greatest; best option to control fishing mortality
- Options 2 & 3: simplest logistically; could control fishing mortality

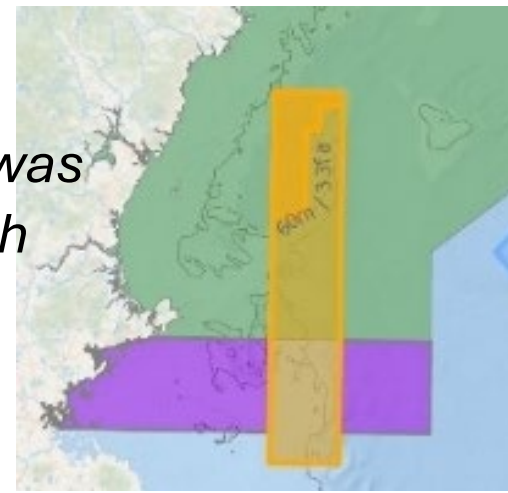
Potential drawbacks:

- Option 1: complicate enforcement & catch accounting
- Options 2 & 3: could complicate business planning; may not address vessel crowding on Stellwagen



NGOM SUB-MANAGEMENT AREAS

Purpose: limit the realized fishing mortality on Stellwagen Bank (where effort was heavily concentrated) & redistribute effort to other banks/ledges in NGOM with robust scallop beds



→ Accountability measures

- Option 1: No action (maintain current AM)
- Option 2: Modify AM so that there would be a pound-for-pound payback by sub-area

Potential benefits:

- Option 1: simplest; overall goal of AM would remain
- Option 2: likely minimal benefit gained

Potential drawbacks:

- Option 2: create unnecessary complexity

PDT recommendation: Option 1?



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SUMMARY OF PDT RECOMMENDATIONS THUS FAR:

Regional DAS allocations:

- 1:1 DAS trading??
- DAS trade cap of up to X% (50%??) of their DAS allocation
- In-season trading permitted??
- DAS carryover can be fished in either region (up to 10 DAS); i.e., not apportioned according to current year regional DAS allocation??

NGOM sub-management areas:

- *Do not create a transit corridor between areas: OLE thought a corridor is not needed & may complicate monitoring; more useful to require continuous transit & gear stowage (consistent with other closures/access areas)*
- *Timing of sub-area openings:*
 - Sequential access
 - Open area 1 on April 1; Area 2 opens after Area 1 is closed or after first area is closed, whichever is earlier
- *No change in reactive AMs?*

IN-SHELL POSSESSION LIMIT

	Survey Meat Count			Estimated Weight (lbs) of Whole Scallops for Limit		
	< 25th Perc.	Average	> 75th Perc.	< 25th Perc.	Average	> 75th Perc.
Northern Stellwagen	30.0	16.8	8.9	4,626	2,600	1,373
NGOM Other	36.7	22.3	13.8	6,262	3,824	2,399

ME DMR Dredge Survey data 2024-2026, $\geq 40\text{mm}$.

PDT Recommendation for AP/Committee Discussion: ??

- *Idea:*
 - Additional cap of 150% of the possession limit for combined in-shell & shucked meats
- *Why?*
 - Limit deck-loading while maintaining vessel operational flexibility



NEXT STEPS ON FW42

1. Sept. 16th NEFMC meeting
 - Update, potentially narrow scope of FW42 (if applicable)
2. Enforcement Committee meeting (tent. Fall)
 - Bring forward any questions/concerns on program details of regional DAS and NGOM sub-areas
3. Nov. AP/Cte meetings
 - Update, define range of alternatives
4. Spring
 - Select preferred alternatives, final action (April or earlier, TBD)



SCALLOP PDT MEMO TO GROUND FISH PDT RE: GB YELLOWTAIL

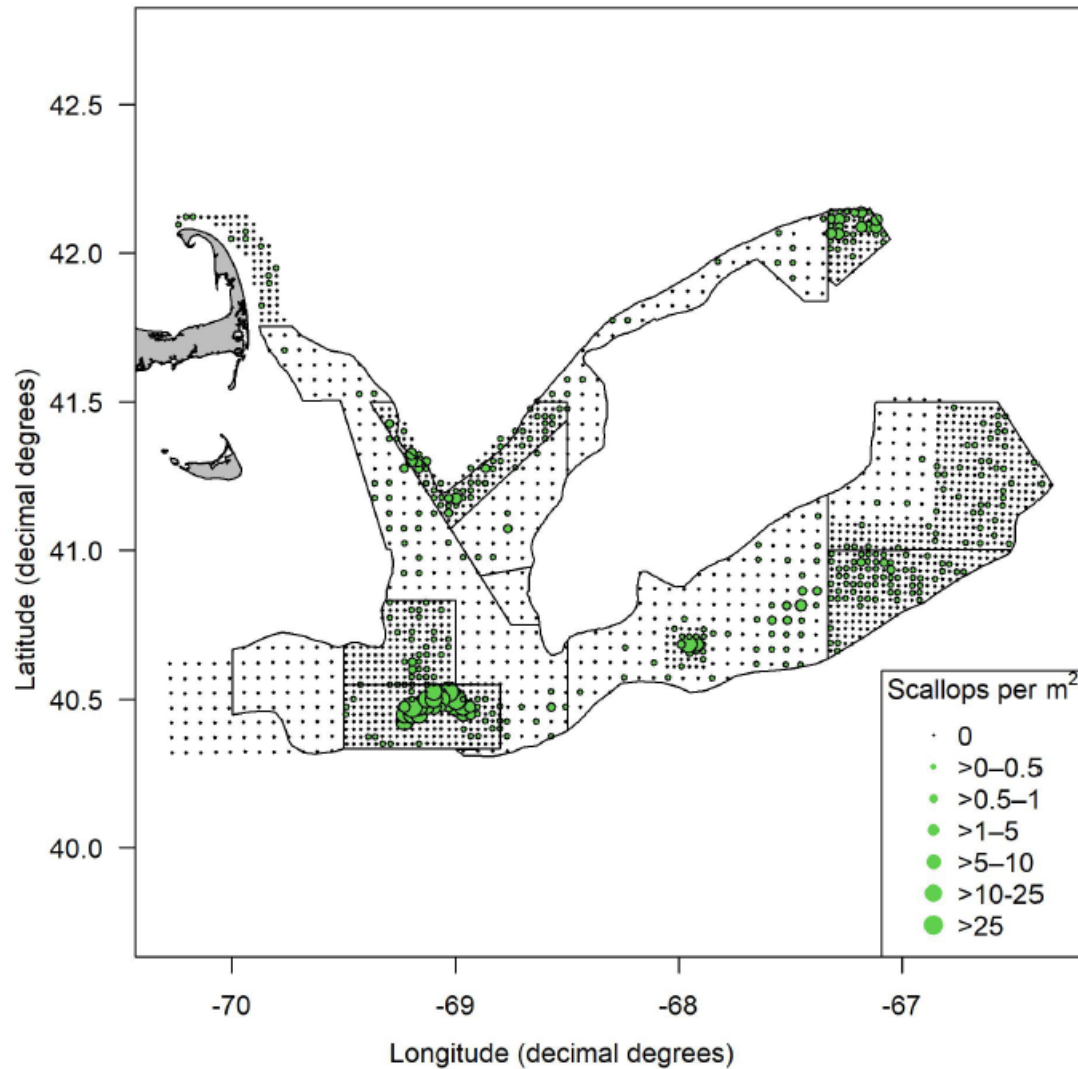


SCALLOP PDT MEMO TO GROUND FISH PDT RE: GB YELLOWTAIL

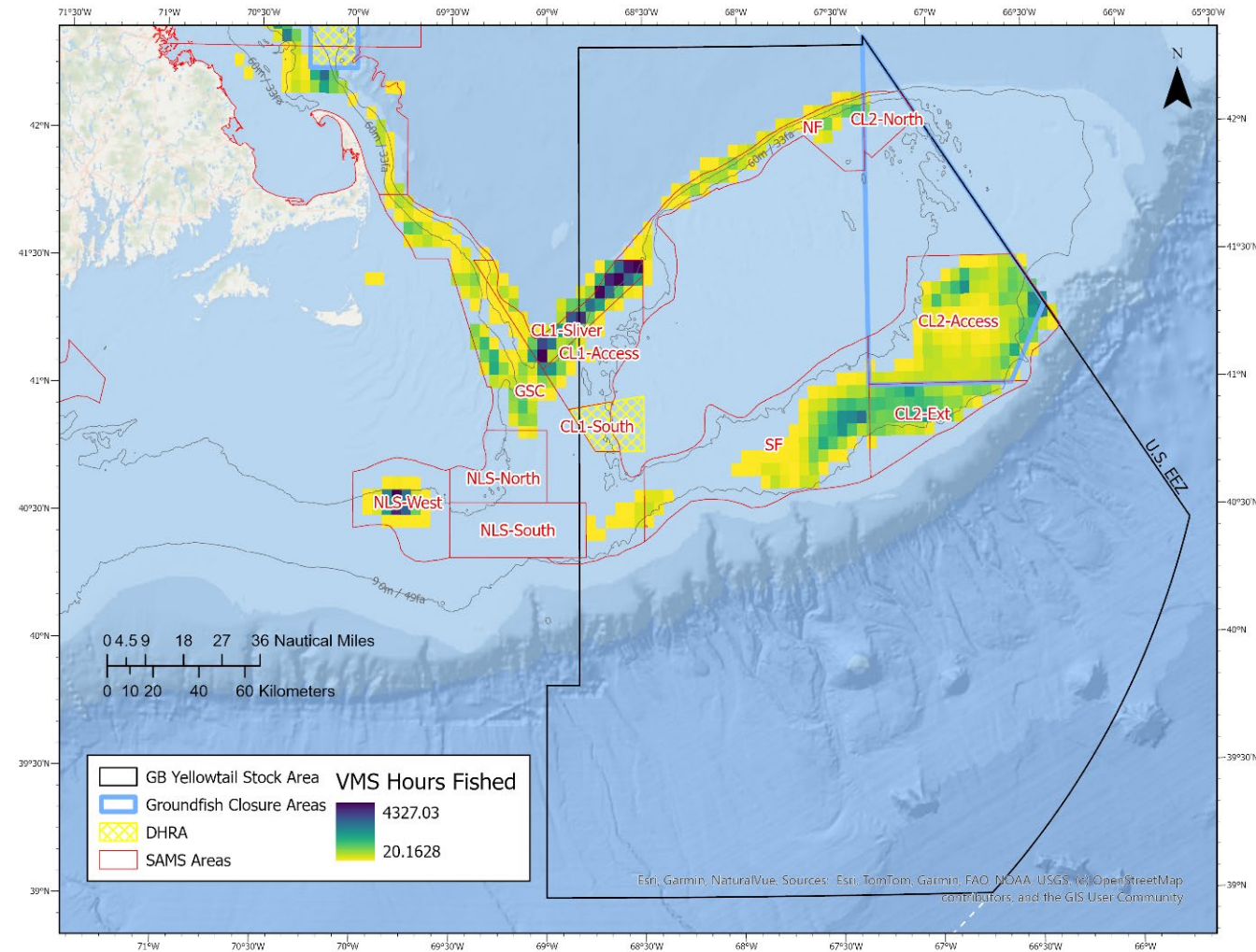
Scallop fishery outlook in GB yellowtail flounder stock area

- No access trips in FY2026
- Area II closed April 1 – May 15; closed again on July 14 (LA fishing remaining allocation)
- 2026 surveys:
 - Substantial recruitment & decline in exploitable biomass on eastern GB;
 - Anticipate Area II will remain closed in FY 2027;
 - Moderate increase in exploitable biomass in open bottom W of Area II in Southern Flank
- VMS effort:
 - FY 2025: mostly in CL1-Sliver, CL2-Access, CL2-Extension, open area west within Southern Flank (less along northern flank of GB)
 - FY2026: anticipate substantial effort west of Area II in Southern Flank

SMAST mean recruited scallop density_2026 survey



VMS data_FY 2025



FY 2025 GB YELLOWTAIL FLOUNDER SUB-ACL EXCEEDED

FY 2025: 19.6 mt bycatch (= ~132% of sub-ACL)

FY 2026 projection: 1.8 mt (observed trips between Oct. 2024 – Oct. 2025)

- *NE Mult FW72* set 2026 scallop sub-ACL: 4.8 mt
- *As of Aug. 6, 2026*: 0.46 mt GB yellowtail bycatch (~10% of sub-ACL)

FY	Total Shared TAC	US % Share	US TAC	% US TAC Caught	Scallop sub-ACL	Scallop catch	% Scallop sub-ACL Caught
2020*	162	74%	120	8.3%	18.6	1.5	8%
2021*	125	64%	80	38.4%	12	29.1	243%
2022*	200	61%	122	7.1%	19	7.8	40.8%
2023*	200	53%	106	18.8%	17	19.5	118.4%
2024*	168	42%	70	9.3%	14.9	5.0	33.3%
2025*	168	42%	70		14.9	19.6	131.7%
2026*	57	54%	31		4.8		

* retention of GB yellowtail prohibited for scallop fishery
[NOAA Quota Monitoring](#)

- *Reactive AM in FY 2026* in place for northern windowpane flounder sub-ACL → Do not expect the AM would be in place in FY 2027



SCALLOP DRAFT 3-YEAR WORK PLAN



New England Fishery
Management Council

LONG-TERM SCALLOP STRATEGIC PLAN

- **Council's Holistic Strategic Plan (2026-2036)**
 - Overarching, not fishery specific. Four goals outlined to improve Council processes and decision-making.
 - Implementation plan is still ongoing (*update during Sept. Council meeting*).
- **Scallop Strategic Plan** was developed to define a shared vision for the direction of the scallop fishery over the next 3-5 years and provide actionable steps to get there.
 - Informed by four visioning sessions and input from Council members, NOAA Fisheries staff, and scallop fishermen and processors from across the region.
 - Highlighted 9 overall objectives and 29 strategies to work towards those objectives
 - Align implementation of the Scallop Strategic Plan with the Holistic Strategic Plan as it is fleshed out – already a lot of overlap between the two.



LONG-TERM SCALLOP STRATEGIC PLAN

Reactive → Resilient → Proactive

How do we get there?

Proposal – Develop 3-Year Work Plan

1. Identify highest-priority items from the Scallop Strategic Plan. Sequence work items alongside required annual work priorities for 2027 – 2029
2. Kick it back to the Scallop PDT for additional analysis, develop draft work plan
3. AP & Committee review and finalize work plan in September.
4. Committee recommendations for 2027 priorities would go to the Council for final decision in December
5. Summer 2027, AP & Committee reviews planned work for 2028 and discusses new work for 2030.

PDT Recommendation?



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Management Council

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Improving real-time data collection
- Developing in-season management triggers
- Separating management of the Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank stocks
- Developing tools/protocol for managing high-density areas
- Improving fishing practices (e.g. improved outreach, electronic monitoring, gear modifications, regulations)
- Reconsider development of a Scallop Access Area on the Northern Edge



Strategic Plan Objectives

1. Improve management capacity, flexibility, and responsiveness in a changing environment.
2. Improve the reliability of annual projections
3. Expand opportunities in the NGOM while maintaining conservative management
4. Improve rotational management performance
5. Improve fishing practices
6. Maintain economic viability of the scallop fleet
7. Maintain a dynamic Scallop Research Set-Aside program
8. Develop infrastructure to support scallop enhancement
9. Improve scallop industry engagement

RELEVANT RECENT AND ONGOING RESEARCH

Real-time data collection

- Image-based Research Fleet (CFRF, 2023-2025 awards)
- ScallApp (CFRF, 2024 award)

Rotational management

- Kowaleski et al. (2026) – Evaluating management options for high-density recruitment events.
- How Often Do Small Scallop Aggregations Grow Into Fishable Beds and What are the Drivers? (SMASST, 2023 award)

Fishing Practices

- Electronic Monitoring (CFF)

Scallop Enhancement

- VIMS Enhancement Workshop White Paper
- Development of a Scalable Near-Shore Nursery System for Sea Scallops (VIMS, 2023 award)
- Key factors influencing the efficacy of transplanting (CFF, 2022 award)

Gear Modifications

- Tensiometers (CFF, 2024 award)
- 4.25” rings (CFRF, 2025 award)

Scallop biology

- Disentangling recruitment and growth dynamics (WHOI, 2024-2025 award)
- Climate driven changes in growth and distribution (VIMS, 2024-2025 award)
- Combining ocean models and shell archives to quantify and project spatiotemporal changes in scallop functional traits (UConn, 2024-2025 award)
- Recruitment dynamics and impacts of offshore wind development (CFF, WHOI, 2025 award)



2027 WORK PLAN - Draft

Type	Description	Timeline
Required	Complete and submit FW42	Complete Spring 2027
Required	Complete 2027 Specifications Package	Complete Winter 2027
Required	Set ABC/ACL for scallop stock with specifications for FY 2028 (FY 2029 default)	2027
New	Framework to set management measures for FY 2028 Northern Edge access (TBD)	2027
Ongoing	Scallop RSA Management (Share-Day, if needed 2028 RSA priorities)	Ongoing
Ongoing	Scallop Stock Projection Methods	Summer 2027
New	Develop white paper on improving scallop fishing practices, including a working definition of 'high-grading'.	2027

Considerations:

- Full PDT involvement in developing white paper or more effective as a separate sub-group?
 - Improving fishing practices could include guidance on predator control
- Timing/structure of a potential Northern Edge action will need to align with potential Habitat work.
 - Possibly trailing action, TBD



2028 WORK PLAN - Draft

Type	Description	Timeline
Required	Complete and submit (Northern Edge?) Framework Action Timing TBD, dependent on Habitat	Complete early 2028
Required	Set ABC/ACL for scallop stock with specifications for FY 2029 (FY 2030 default)	2028
New	Framework to set management measures for FY 2029 In-season, reactive management triggers.	2028
Ongoing	Scallop RSA Management (Set 2-year priorities, Share-Day, Program Support)	Ongoing
Ongoing	Implementation of Scallop Stock Project Methods	Ongoing
New	Conduct Council-led workshops on improving scallop fishing practices	2028
New	Coordinate review of Automated Detection technology for use in scallop surveys	2028

Considerations:

- Which group would be most suited for conducting a review of automated detection technology for management use? SSC may not be the right body.
- Are Council-led workshops to communicate findings of 2027 white paper the best approach? Better ways of disseminating the information?



2029 WORK PLAN - Draft

Type	Description	Timeline
Required	Complete and submit (In-season adjustment) Framework Action	Complete early 2029
Required	Set ABC/ACL for scallop stock with specifications for FY 2030 (FY 2031 default)	2029
New	Framework to set management measures for FY 2030 TBD (Scallop Enhancement Set-Aside?)	2029
Ongoing	Scallop RSA Management (Share-Day, Program Support)	Ongoing
New	?	
New	?	

Questions for PDT:

- Ideas for what may be management ready for 2029? Would a Framework to setup guidelines for scallop enhancement and/or a funding mechanism be viable?
- Additional ideas for scallop work priorities based on Strategic Plan and Committee input?
 - Evaluate use of NGOM control date to cap permits?
 - LAGC IFQ Program Review 2024-2028?
 - Alternative management of high-density areas?



LONG-TERM SCALLOP STRATEGIC PLAN

For today:

- Review Draft 3-Year Work Plan and provide recommendations
 - What work items are ready for Council action, and which need additional research or analysis?

Next steps:

- 3-Year Work Plan will serve as the basis for AP and Committee recommendations for 2027 Priorities (September meeting)

PDT Recommendations?

Strategic Plan Objectives

1. Improve management capacity, flexibility, and responsiveness in a changing environment.
2. Improve the reliability of annual projections
3. Expand opportunities in the NGOM while maintaining conservative management
4. Improve rotational management performance
5. Improve fishing practices
6. Maintain economic viability of the scallop fleet
7. Maintain a dynamic Scallop Research Set-Aside program
8. Develop infrastructure to support scallop enhancement
9. Improve scallop industry engagement



NEXT STEPS

August 31- Scallop PDT (Hold, Webinar) – Needed?

September 9 – Joint Scallop PDT & AP (Boston, MA)

September 10 – Scallop Committee (Boston, MA)

September 15-17 – NEFMC Meeting (Plymouth, MA)

September 22 – Scallop PDT (Webinar)

October 7 – SSC Meeting to recommend OFL/ABC

Week of October 19 – Scallop PDT – date confirmed?

- Plan to review SAMS runs, invite AP & CTE to review and ask questions.

October 27 – Scallop Joint AP & Committee (New Bedford, MA)

Action Items

- Projected/Observed SH frequency comparison to estimate lag effect
- Finalize GB Yellowtail Memo for the Groundfish PDT
- Finalize 3-Year Work Plan for September AP/CTE



OTHER BUSINESS?



BACK-UP



New England Fishery
Management Council

REGIONAL DAY-AT-SEA ALLOCATIONS

AP & Committee Feedback from June meetings

- The AP did not agree on the benefits of continued development and were concerned about reduced vessel operational flexibility. Several AP members supported delaying implementation until FY2028 so that trading of DAS could be supported.
- The Committee supported continued development as a future tool that could be employed by the Council as needed.
- The AP and Committee were not supportive of options that reduced DAS carryover, or considered differential DAS counting.

Based on the June Council decision, specifications that consider region-specific DAS allocations would not be on the table until FY2028, and trading of DAS would therefore be considered viable in FY2028.



DAS CARRYOVER

Year 1

36 DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y0)

Year 2

20 GB DAS
12 MA DAS
6.25 GB DAS carryover (Y1)
3.75 MA DAS carryover (Y1)

Year 3

24 DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y2)

Apportion carryover DAS

Year 1

36 DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y0)

Year 2

20 GB DAS
12 MA DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y1)

Year 3

24 DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y2)

Allow carryover to be fished anywhere



DAS CARRYOVER

Year 1

36 DAS
10 DAS carryover (Y0)

Year 2

20 GB DAS, 12 MA DAS
6.25 GB DAS carryover (Y1)
3.75 MA DAS carryover (Y1)

Year 3

12 GB DAS, 16 MA DAS
? GB DAS carryover (Y2)
? MA DAS carryover (Y2)

- In example (left), combined 10 DAS carryover limit.
- How would **lost** DAS be apportioned?

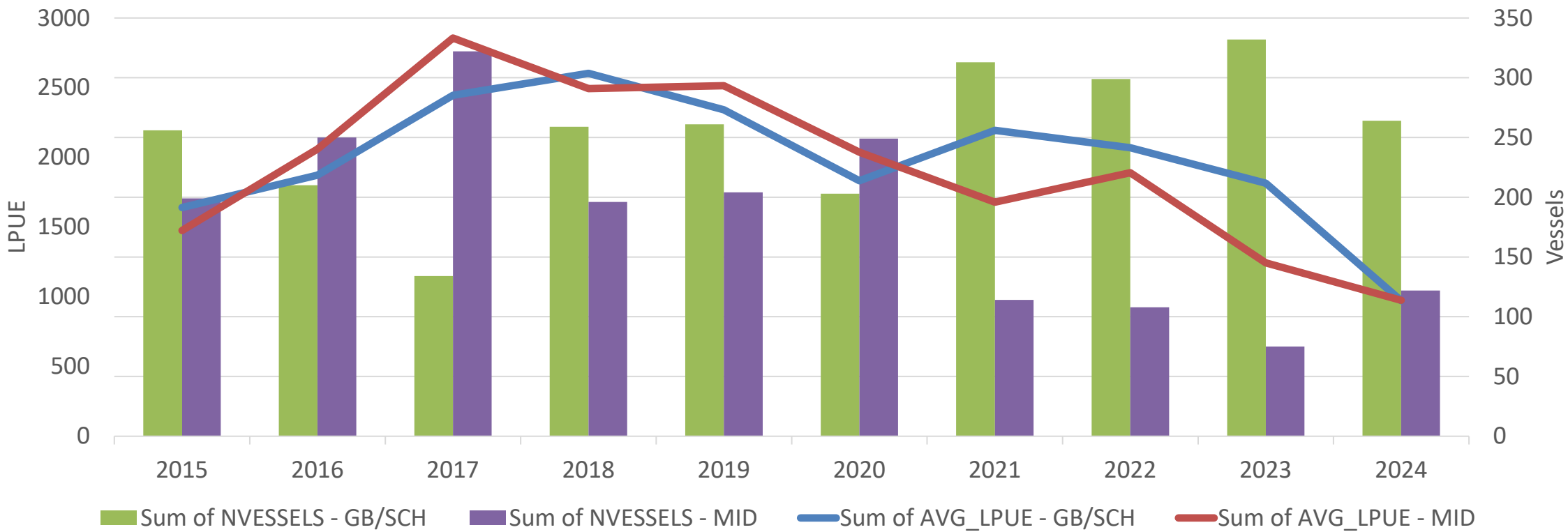
*Vessel completes Year 2 with **6 GB DAS** and **6 MA DAS** remaining*

PDT Recommendation?



REGIONAL DAY-AT-SEA ALLOCATIONS

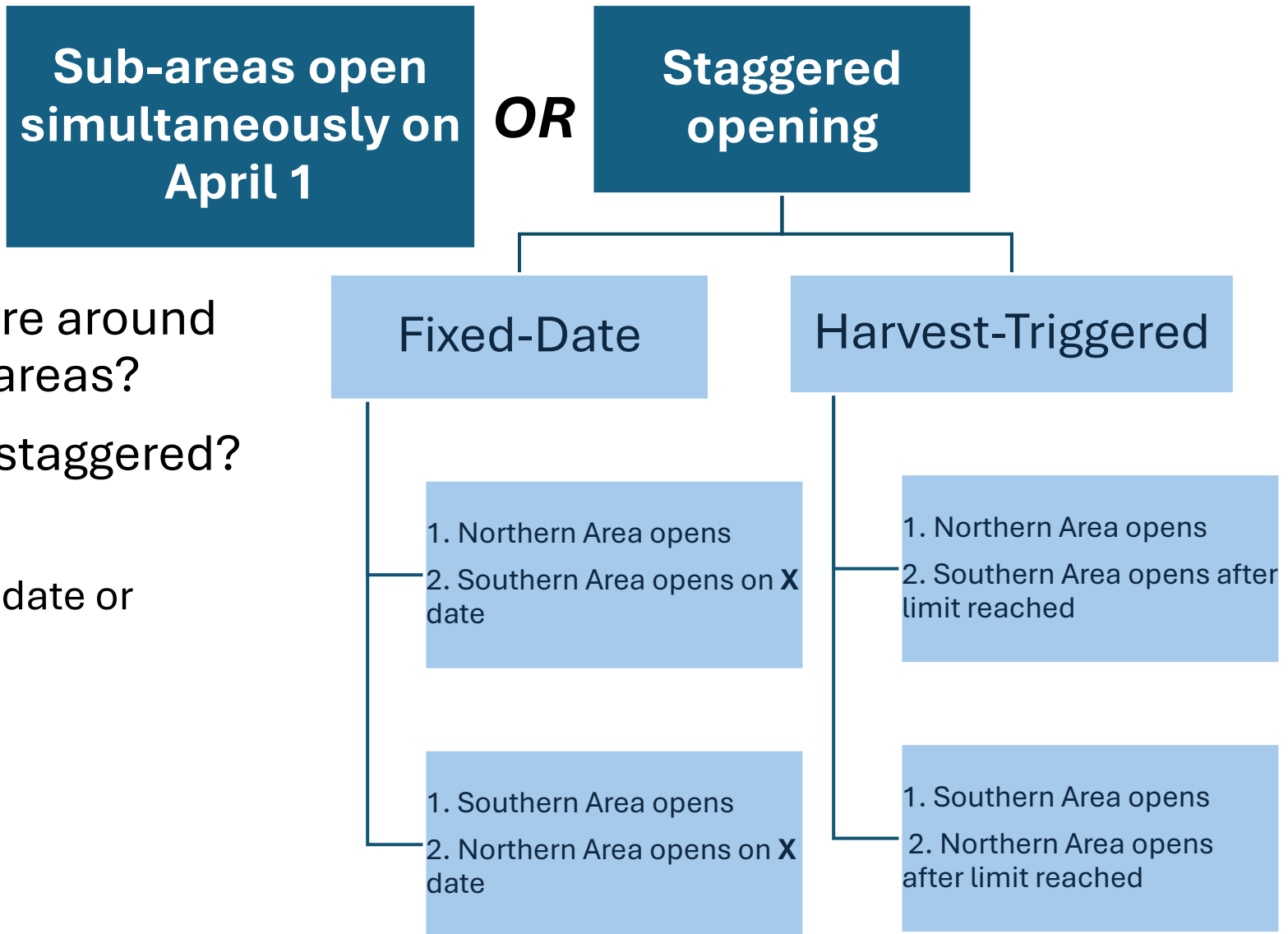
Background



NGOM SUB-AREAS TIMING OF OPENING

What considerations are there around structuring access to these areas?

- Open simultaneously vs. staggered?
- If staggered:
 - Should opening be fixed date or harvest-triggered?
 - Which area opens first?



EXAMPLE – IF AREA WAS SPLIT FOR FY 2026

NGOM 2026 ABC Biomass	2026 (lbs)
Stellwagen-NGOM	1,153,018
Ipswich	279,987
NGOM-Other	1,102,311
ABC (F=0.29 all NGOM areas)	1,988,570
	Alt 3
Fishing Mortality Rate	0.21
Area(s) Fished	NGOM-Stellwagen (F=0.25), NGOM-Other (F=0.18)
Total Allowable Landings	482,752
1% NGOM ABC for Observers	19,886
RSA Contribution	25,000
NGOM Set-Aside	437,866
No 2024 Overage - No AM	
2026 NGOM Set-Aside	437,866
2026 NGOM-Stellwagen Set-Aside	232,604
2026 NGOM-North Set-Aside	205,263
2027 (Default) NGOM Set-Aside	218,933
2027 NGOM-Stellwagen Set-Aside	116,302
2027 NGOM-North Set-Aside	102,631

NGOM without sub-areas

200 vessels @ 200 lbs/day ~ 438k lbs ~ **11 days**

NGOM South

200 vessels @ 200 lbs/day ~ 233k lbs ~ **5-6 days**

150 vessels @ 200 lbs/day ~ 233k lbs ~ **7-8 days**

NGOM North

100 vessels at 200 lbs/day ~ 200k lbs ~ **10 days**

50 vessels at 200 lbs/day ~ 200k lbs ~ **20 days**

- Expect reduced participation in NGOM-North
- How might effort on Stellwagen shift?

