

#5

**From:** [togue@mainedayboatscallops.com](mailto:togue@mainedayboatscallops.com) [mailto:[togue@mainedayboatscallops.com](mailto:togue@mainedayboatscallops.com)]

**Sent:** Friday, November 07, 2014 10:30 AM

**To:** Deirdre Boelke

**Subject:** FW 26 Comments: support for Alternative 2.5.3

Hello Deirdre and members of the Scallop AP and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to ask you to recommend Alternative 2.5.3 in Framework 26. This alternative will give individual states the ability to craft State Water Exemptions if and as they wish to allow Federally permitted scallop fishermen to participate in state water scallop fisheries regardless of the status of the NGOM TAC.

The state of Maine has a sustainably managed scallop fishery that is a critical component of the winter income of many Maine fishermen. Those Maine fishermen that hold Federal scallop permits have historically been more active (and therefore more dependent on) the scallop fishery those fishermen who hold only a state permit. It makes no sense to prevent Federally permitted scallop fishermen from participating in the state water fishery simply because the TAC in Federal waters has been harvested. Prohibiting these fishermen from participating in the state water fishery will have *no biological impact* on the scallop resource in Federal waters. It is also unlikely to have any biological impact on the resource in state waters, since the state of Maine employs a trigger mechanism to shut down areas once they believe a certain biomass has been removed.

I understand that individual states may wish to handle this issue differently. It is for this reason that I ask you to recommend Alternative 2.5.3, which will allow states to handle this issue in a way that best suits their needs. Thank you for your work on this matter that is so important to Maine fishermen.

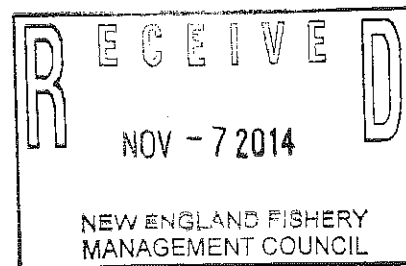
- Togue

Togue Brawn

[www.mainedayboatscallops.com](http://www.mainedayboatscallops.com)

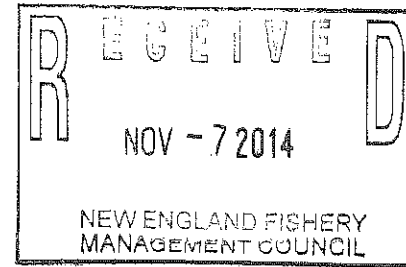
207.838.1490

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#5a.

**From:** Kristan Porter [<mailto:kbporter5@roadrunner.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 07, 2014 10:56 AM  
**To:** Deirdre Boelke  
**Cc:** [togue@mainedayboatscallops.com](mailto:togue@mainedayboatscallops.com)  
**Subject:** Scallop FW



Deirdre

I would like to urge the Scallop Committee to support amendment 2.5.3 to FW 26 of the Scallop Management Plan.

As a NGOM permit holder I feel that this amendment adequately addresses the issue of being able to fish for scallops in state waters after the NGOM TAC has been reached. I would like to thank the Committee for working to solve our concerns in such a timely matter.

Thank You  
Kristan Porter  
Permit # 150227

Comment Received November 10, 2014

Dear members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to remind you of the importance of removing the prohibition on fishing in Maine state waters after the NGOM TAC is reached. I thank you for taking up this very important matter, and ask you to support Alternative 2.5.3. The state of Maine scallop fishery is an exceptionally important part of my yearly income. I and many others have sacrificed greatly to rebuild our state fishery, and we are finally seeing the benefits.

Now that the Northern Gulf of Maine is starting to look promising, we may find ourselves shut out of the state fishery we helped rebuild. The fact that NGOM waters are finally rebounding as well should not prevent fishermen from fishing in the healthy Maine state fishery.

I understand that different states may wish to handle this matter differently, which is why I am asking you to support Alternative 2.5.3. Please support this alternative, which will help fishing families like mine **remain** fishing families.

Thank you for taking up this important matter.

Sincerely

Alex Todd

F/V Jacob and Joshua

Maine Scallop Advisory Council Chairman

4. Scallops - November 17-20, 2014

#5c

-----Original Message-----

From: w j [mailto:talkswithcrows@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 5:24 AM

To: Deirdre Boelke

Subject: scallop alternative

Dear Members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to ask you to recommend Alternative 2.5.3 in FW 26. This Alternative allows states to craft State Water Exemptions to allow Federally Permitted Scallop fishermen to take part in their state water fisheries if the NGOM TAC is reached if and as they see fit.

Maine's state water scallop fishery is a critical component of my winter income. It is also important to many other Maine fishermen who hold Federal Scallop permits. None of us should be forced to sit at home while our neighbors participate in Maine's state water fishery simply because we hold Federal permits.

This is a very important issue to me and to a number of other Maine fishermen. I urge you to support Alternative 2.5.3 so that the state of Maine can craft a State Waters Exemption to the prohibition that currently threatens my ability to take part in Maine's state water fishery. I would also like to underscore the importance of making sure this Exemption can be approved indefinitely rather than being something that must be requested annually. This is far too important an issue to be subject to annual approval.

Thank you very much for your attention to this important matter.

Yours truly,

Walter Jessiman F/V Dreamcatcher

November 8, 2014

Dear Members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to inform you that my first preference would be to support Options 2.2.2 and 2.2.3 in Framework 26, which will enable NGOM permit holders to participate in Maine's state waters fishery regardless of the status of the NGOM TAC. It would also allow states the ability to request exemptions for additional permit types if it seems appropriate. I also wanted to state that in the event that this seems unlikely, then I would support Alternative 2.5.3 as my second choice, which would allow the state of Maine to craft a State Waters Exemption that would enable me as a federal permit holder to participate in the state waters fishery upon which I depend on, as do many others. I would much prefer that as a NGOM Permit holder that the Council would put my first proposal into law, because the fishing industry could really use some stability at this time. Making the NGOM permit permanently exempt in my view could in fact do just that. At this time many federally permitted Maine boats and all of the families that depend on these vessels including mine would see this action as a very positive step.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Ira Miller

-----Original Message-----

From: jim wotton [mailto:[cranberryislandlobster@yahoo.com](mailto:cranberryislandlobster@yahoo.com)]

Sent: Sunday, November 09, 2014 5:46 PM

To: Deirdre Boelke

Subject: NGOM Fix

Dear members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to ask you to support Alternative 2.5.3 in Framework 26.

As a Maine fisherman, I make my living by fishing for several species over the course of the year. The NGOM management area was established so that fishermen like me could fish for scallops in the federal waters of the NGOM if and when the resource recovered. But now, the recovery of the resource in the federal waters of the NGOM threatens my ability to take part in Maine's state water fishery, which is an important part of my winter income.

The state of Maine manages its waters responsibly. I hold a NGOM permit because scallop fishing is important to me. Fishermen like me should not be prevented from taking part in Maine's state water fishery simply because we hold a Federal permit. Excluding us from the state water fishery will have no biological impact on the Federal resource and will have little or no biological impact on the state water resource. But it will have a devastating economic impact on all of us.

It's my understanding that other states may wish to handle this issue differently than the state of Maine. I can't pretend to know how important this issue is in other states, but I can tell you first hand the state water scallop fishery is extremely important to many Maine fishermen, and we need this problem solved as quickly as possible. In the interest of getting that done, I urge you to support Alternative 2.5.3, which will allow each state to craft exemptions as they see fit through the State Waters Exemption program.

Thank you very much for addressing this important issue.

Yours truly, James Wotton, F/V Overkill Friendship, Maine

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrea Hunter [<mailto:hntandr2@aol.com>]

Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 10:21 AM

To: Deirdre Boelke

Subject: Alternative 2.5.3 in FW 26

Dear Members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Committee:

I am writing to ask you to recommend the Alternative 2.5.3 in FW 26 because it allows each state to solve the problem for its own fishermen. This Alternative allows states to create State Water Exemptions to allow Federally Permitted Scallop fishermen to take part in their state water fishery, regardless of whether or not the NGOM TAC is reached.

Maine's state water scallop fishery is a critical component of my winter income. This is how I support my family through the winter and spring months. It is also important to many other Maine fishermen who hold Federal Scallop Permits. None of us should be forced to sit at home while our neighbors are participating in Maine's state fishery simply because we hold Federal Permits.

It is my understanding that the State of Maine is eager to solve this problem, and I urge you to support Alternative 2.5.3 so that the State can create a State Water Exemption to the prohibition that currently threatens my ability to take part in the Maine's state water fishery. I would also like to stress the importance of making sure this Exemption can be approved indefinitely rather than be requested annually. This is an issue that is very important to me and my family along with a number of other Maine fishermen and their families.

Thanks you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas C Butler Jr, F/V Ericajade  
NGOM Permit Holder