

Skate Limited Access And Upcoming Framework

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April 18, 2017



Scoping

- ▶ Six hearings
 - ▶ Portsmouth to Cape May

- ▶ Comment period
 - ▶ Ended March 6, 2017



Attendance

Portsmouth, NH	Webinar	Bourne, MA	Narragansett, RI	Montauk, NY	Cape May, NJ
10	9	20	22	12	4



Comment Totals

	For	Against	Unknown
Written	7	6	4
Scoping meeting	10	13	11



Comments by fishery

	For	Against
Wing	7	9
Bait	3	1
Both	2	2



Scoping comments by location

	Portsmouth, NH	Bourne, MA	Narragansett, RI	Montauk, NY	Cape May, NJ
For	2	4	4		2
Against		3		9	
Unknown		1	9		1



General comments

- ▶ Need more quota
- ▶ Reduce the management uncertainty buffer
- ▶ Change the bait skate incidental limit
- ▶ Want barndoor skate



Limited Access comments

- ▶ Revisit control dates
- ▶ Might need incidental permits
- ▶ Separate the wing and bait fisheries
- ▶ Permit splitting – no clear position
- ▶ Ownership caps
- ▶ Tiered permit structure
- ▶ Don't affect current operations
- ▶ Don't affect the monkfish fishery
- ▶ Consideration for groundfish fishery
- ▶ Don't change current management structure



Limited Access comments

- ▶ I've had enough
- ▶ Don't take our skates
- ▶ Can't believe we're discussing limited access for skate
- ▶ Concern over qualification
- ▶ Concern this would lead to catch shares & consolidation
- ▶ Stock status is good why is this needed
- ▶ Need to catch more skate because they're highly abundant
- ▶ Split the FMP up



AP discussions

- ▶ **No quorum**
- ▶ **Members present supported**
 - ▶ Existing control date and limited access for both fisheries
 - ▶ Tiered approach and not opposed to applying limited access to one fishery
- ▶ **No objection to**
 - ▶ Using historic landings for qualification for wing fishery
 - ▶ Using LOA for qualification in the bait fishery



Committee tasking

- ▶ Dividing the two skate fisheries for independent limited access programs
- ▶ Review on justification for limited access for each fishery
- ▶ Analyze different possession limits for day and trip boats in wing fishery



Upcoming Specifications Framework

- ▶ **Specifications**

- ▶ Updated survey indices expected in summer

- ▶ **Landing of barndoor skate**

- ▶ PDT needs to know what is best for industry

- ▶ Separate barndoor skate trip limits

- ▶ Year round fishery

- ▶ PDT may come up with additional options depending on biological considerations

- ▶ PDT will have to work on discard estimation

- ▶ **Other consideration**

- ▶ Possession limits for FY2017



Committee Recommendation

- ▶ **Additional Framework**
 - ▶ Additional framework to address bait possession limits and threshold trigger

