



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116

John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 17, 2018
TO: Scallop Advisory Panel
FROM: Vincent Balzano, Scallop Committee Chair
SUBJECT: **Purpose for Scallop Advisory Panel meeting on May 23, 2018**

There is a Scallop Advisory Panel meeting at the Hotel Providence in Providence, RI on **Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 9:00 AM**. Please note there is a Committee meeting at that same location on May 24, 2018. Paper copies will not be mailed to you before the meeting. Documents for this meeting will be e-mailed to you as they become available.

Purpose: The main objectives of this meeting are to:

- 1) Continue work on the 2018 scallop work priorities. The Advisory Panel should be ready to provide input to the Committee on next steps regarding the monitoring and catch accounting priority, and standard default measures. Council staff will provide updates on recent work.
- 2) Consider approaches for completing 2018 work priorities (specifications action, FW, amendments).
- 3) Develop research recommendations for the 2019/2020 Scallop RSA program.
- 4) Provide feedback on the RSA Program Review being coordinated by the Council, Science Center, and Regional office.
- 5) Discuss other business as necessary.

The Scallop Advisory Panel will be considering input from the PDT at this meeting. There will be a scallop report at the upcoming April Council meeting in Portland, ME (June 12 – 14, 2018).

Meeting Materials: Paper copies of the documents listed below will be provided at the meeting. A PDF of each document will be posted to www.nefmc.org. Staff will provide copies of any additional meeting materials that are not included in this package. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jonathon Peros (jperos@nefmc.org; 978-465-0492 ext. 117).

1. Staff Presentation (to be provided)
2. Meeting Memo from Scallop Committee Chair, Mr. Vincent Balzano
3. Monitoring and Catch Accounting discussion document (with letters to NOAA)
4. Standard Default Measures
 - a. Staff Presentation (Mr. Sam Asci)
 - b. Discussion document
5. RSA Documents
 - a. 2018/2019 RSA Award Announcement
 - b. Summary of Recent RSA Awards

- c. Scallop PDT recommendations for 2019/2020 RSA Research Priorities
- d. Draft Outline – Review of NEFMC’s RSA Programs
- 6. April 26, 2018 Scallop PDT meeting summary
- 7. May 8, 2018 Scallop PDT meeting summary
- 8. Draft Action Plan – 2019/2020 Specifications
- 9. Explanation of Scallop Observer Coverage Rates: Assigned vs. Carried
- 10. Correspondence

2018 Scallop Work Priorities

Recent Activity: On April 17, 2018 the Council voted to modify the 2018 priorities list by removing gear modifications to protect small scallops and adding the development of standard default measures. The Council also ranked the 2018 priorities to direct Committee and PDT work. Priorities that are considered regulatory requirements or represent ongoing work were not ranked.

Regulatory Requirements & Ongoing work	Council Ranking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifications for 2019/2020 • Benchmark (SAW/SARC 65) • Support Scallop RSA Program • In-season catch accounting • Specify Allocation Review Triggers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modify Access Areas to be consistent with OHA2 2. Standard default measures 3. Monitoring and catch accounting 4. Consider LAGC IFQ trip limits 5. NGOM Management measures

Next Steps: Council staff will review the updated 2018 work priorities at the outset of the meeting. Subsequent presentations will focus on three specific work priorities for 2018: 1) monitoring and catch accounting; 2) standard default measures; 3) RSA research recommendations for 2019/2020. The group will also consider approaches for completing 2018 work priorities (specifications action, FW, amendments).

Anticipated Outcomes. The AP may wish to recommend that the Council formally begin work on a scallop action at this meeting.

Monitoring and Catch Accounting

Recent Activity. On April 17, 2018 the Council voted to send two letters to NOAA (see Document #3) requesting that the agency review penalty schedules, pursue technical solutions to assist with quota compliance, and work implement real-time online IFQ quota transfers. On May 8, 2018, the Scallop PDT was joined by Mr. Timothy Donovan, Assistant Director of Enforcement at GARFO, along with Mr. Don Frei and Mr. Shawn Eusebio of OLE. A summary of this discussion and OLE input can be found in Document #7. The PDT has updated the monitoring and catch accounting discussion document.

Next Steps. Staff will review recent Council actions on this issue and summarize the PDT's conversation with NOAA OLE.

Anticipated Outcomes. The AP may wish to recommend additional areas of focus/action for this priority to the Committee.

- *Additional Monitoring:* The PDT recommends that the pre-land notification requirement be expanded to include Limited Access open area trips.
- *Addressing Overages:* OLE noted that other regions have processes in place to allow vessels and dealers to proactively address landings overages. This could be explored in more detail.

Standard Default Measures

Recent Activity: In April the Council voted to add standard default measures to the 2018 priority list. On May 8, 2018 the Scallop PDT discussed draft alternatives and concepts for this work item.

Next Steps: Council staff will present background information and draft alternatives.

Anticipated Outcomes. The AP may wish to recommend a range of alternatives for analysis at this meeting. The AP may also wish to provide feedback on 1) guidelines for standardizing part-time access area allocations; and 2) the 60-day window to finish access area trips in the following fishing year.

PDT Tasking: Observer Coverage

Recent Activity: On March 22, 2018 the Committee tasked the PDT with exploring the discrepancy between the number of trips assigned an observer vs. trips that carried an observer.

Next Steps: Staff from the NEFSC's Observer program will present information on this issue.

2019/2020 Scallop RSA Research Recommendations

Recent Activity: The Scallop PDT developed research recommendations for the 2019/2020 Scallop RSA program over two meetings (April 26, 2018 & May 8, 2018), and through correspondence. The 2018/2019 Scallop RSA awards were announced on May 16, 2018.

Next Steps: Council staff will present information on the RSA program, recent awards, and the PDT's research recommendations.

Anticipated Outcomes. The AP may wish to recommend scallop RSA research priorities for 2019/2020 at this meeting. The Council will make final recommendations for the 2019/2020 cycle during the Scallop Report at the June Council meeting.

Research Set-Aside Program Review

Recent Activity: The Council initiated a program review of all RSA programs in 2017. The Council is interested in examining the programs in order to identify potential improvements. The review of the Council's RSA programs (scallops, monkfish, herring) is being jointly conducted by the Center (NEFSC), Regional Office (GARFO), and Council.

Next Steps: Dr. Michael Sissenwine (Review Chair) and Ms. Deirdre Boelke (Council staff) will provide the group with an overview of the RSA program review, and lead discussion on this topic.

Anticipated Outcomes. Anticipated Outcomes. The AP should review the meeting materials for agenda item (Document 5d) and be familiar with the terms of reference (TORs) and Review Guidance (dated 2/22/2018). Dr. Sissenwine and Ms. Boelke are interested in collecting input on the Scallop RSA program from AP members and stakeholders in attendance at the meeting. The AP should focus comments on the overall program administration, program structure, and results, as well as detailed comments on the draft outline under development. Feedback provided at this meeting will be incorporated into the RSA program review.

Please review all documents before the meeting.

If you have any questions about these enclosures, please contact Jonathon Peros (978-465-0492 ext. 117).

DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE: Expected progress on priorities relative to Council meetings

Priorities	Jun-18	Sep-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Apr-19
Specifications for 2019/2020	Survey cruises	Review survey data, preliminary OFL/ABC projections	Final Action	Submit Specs Package	New specs in place April 1
Benchmark (SAW/SARC 65)	Review Panel meeting	Final report available			
Support Scallop RSA Program	Set 2019/2020 Priorities	FFO Published	Proposals Due	Proposals in evaluation	Announce 2019/2020 awards
In-season catch accounting	Ongoing				
Specify Allocation Review Triggers	Executive Committee Discussion				
1. Modify Access Areas to be consistent with OHA2		Consider modifying boundaries in specifications action		Coordinate with Habitat on EGB (TBD), Consider a review of rotational management	
2. Standard default measures	Draft Alternatives for consideration	Review impacts analyses	Final Action		
3. Monitoring and catch accounting	Review letters to NOAA; develop any additional recommendations				
4. Consider LAGC IFQ trip limits	PDT gathering data	Present analyses on trip limit increases (Committee tasking)			
5. NGOM Management measures	Coorindate GOM appendix	Review GOM appendix from SAW/SARC 65, fishery data			