

New England Fishery Management Council

Draft Action Plan

Fishery Management Plan: Atlantic Sea Scallops

Title of Action: Scallop Specifications for FY 2019 & FY 2020 (default)

Scope: Consider measures for: 1) fishery specifications for fishing year 2019, default measures for fishing year 2020; 2) Standard default measures;

Objectives:

Set specifications including ABC/ACLs, DAS, access area allocations for LA and LAGC, hard-TAC for NGOM management area, target-TAC for LAGC incidental catch and set-asides for the observer and research programs for fishing year 2019 and default specifications for fishing year 2020. Consider modifying access area boundaries, consistent with partial approval of OHA2.

Develop standard default measures that would streamline the specifications process by reducing the number of alternatives contained in each specifications process.

Likely Range of Alternatives:

The likely range of alternatives does not include all 2018 priorities identified by the Council w. The following table describes the likely range of alternatives in the Scallop Specifications for FY 2019 & FY 2020 (default):

Priority	Measure in Action
Regulatory Requirement	Scallop Fishery Specifications
2018 Council Priority	Standard Default Measures
2018 Council Priority	Modify access areas to be consistent with the partial approval of OHA2.

Range of measures will likely include: an overall ABC, set-asides for observer and research programs, estimate of catch from incidental scallop permits, DAS allocations, and access area trip allocations, overall quotas for the LAGC IFQ fishery and a hard TAC for the NGOM management program. The Council identified several additional measures for development in 2018, which are listed in the above table.

Development and analysis of these specifications will require significant involvement of many members of the Scallop PDT. Analyses will include estimates of projected catch for several bycatch species, and some involvement of the Groundfish PDT may be necessary to consider the potential impacts of scallop fishery specifications on non-target species.

Type of NEPA Analysis Expected (CE/EA/EIS):

This action is expected to require an Environmental Assessment. Any changes that would require the Council to prepare an EIS would have to be put in a separate action.

Endangered Species Act/Marine Mammal Protection Act:

Type of ESA Consultation Expected (Informal/Formal): This action is expected to have informal ESA consultation.

Other Applicable laws/issues: Typical issues and analyses expected at this time

DRAFT

Plan Development Team Membership and Other Individuals: (*All assignments are TBD pending approval by supervisors*)

	Organization	Member	Responsibility
Plan Development Team	NEFMC	Jonathon Peros	Chair of Scallop PDT and Plan Coordinator. Primary author of all documents and meeting materials for this action.
	NEFMC	Sam Asci	Support with analyses and meeting materials.
	NEFMC	Dr. Demet Haksever	Economic Impact Analyses.
	NMFS GARFO Sustainable Fisheries	Travis Ford	Chair of Implementation Team, primary point of contact at GARFO. Identify potential policy, regulatory, and administrative issues during development and review. Support with data needs and development of document.
	NMFS GARFO APS	Benjamin Galuardi	Complete data requests for the PDT. Identify potential monitoring issues during development and review.
	NMFS GARFO NEPA	Tim Cardiasmenos	Review document for completeness in terms of NEPA requirements during development and review.
	NMFS GARFO Protected Resources	Danielle Palmer	Consultation on development of measures and impacts on protected resources.
	NMFS NEFSC Population Dynamics	Dr. Dvora Hart	Technical work associated with scallop resource. Consultation on development of measures and biological impact analyses.
	NMFS NEFSC Social Science Branch	<i>vacant</i>	Complete data requests for the PDT. Social Impact Analyses.
	NMFS NEFSC Fisheries Sampling	Chad Keith	Complete observer program data requests for the PDT. Identify potential monitoring/observer program issues during development and review.

	MA Division of Marine Resources	Dr. Cate O'Keefe	Provide state fishery and survey information. Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
	Maine Department of Marine Resources	Kevin Kelly	Provide state fishery and survey information. Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
	Maine Department of Marine Resources	Carl Wilson	Provide state fishery and survey information. Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
	Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) (retired)	Dr. William DuPaul	Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
	Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS)	Dr. David Rudders	Provide data from available scallop surveys. Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
	UMASS Dartmouth (SMAST)	Dr. David Bethoney	Provide data from available scallop surveys. Consultation on development of measures and impacts on the resource and fishery.
Others	NONE		

NMFS Implementation Team Membership:

Implementation Team Chair: Travis Ford, GARFO Staff

Organization	Name	Responsibility
NMFS GARFO SFD	Travis Ford	Implementation Team Chair; primary GARFO contact
NMFS GARFO SFD	Shannah Jaburek	GARFO contact, website updates
NMFS GARFO APSD	Ben Galuardi	Update monitoring procedures
NMFS GARFO APSD	Anna Macan	Send out IFQ letters for March 1 default and FW 28 allocations. Update any changes to the transfer program
NMFS GARFO IRM	Ken Ortiz	Update databases with appropriate allocations
NMFS GARFO SHA	Greg Power	Update port agents on new regulations
NMFS OLE	Don Frei	OLE Outreach
NMFS GARFO SFD	Linda Giamanco	Send out bulletin

NMFS GARFO Comms	Allison Ferreira	Prepare email for public
NMFS GARFO IRM	Patrick Rohan	Prepare address list for bulletins

Implementation Team Issues:

Enforcement: TBD

Information Resource Management (IRM): TBD

Statistics: TBD

Observer Coverage: TBD

Administrative issues/costs: TBD

Regulatory clarification/simplification: TBD

Data Requirements: TBD

VMS: TBD

Protected Resources: TBD

Plan for How to Measure the Effectiveness of the Action: TBD

Other: TBD

Worksheet 1: Timeline for Scallop Specifications FY 2019 & FY 2020 (default)

2018	Framework 29: Specifications Action and Management Measures
APR 17	NEFMC – Council modifies 2018 priorities
MAY	PDT work on 2018 priorities
JUN	Committee / PDT develop alternatives
JUN 12-14	NEFMC – receives information on development of management measures
JUL-SEP	Committee / PDT develop alternatives
SEP 26-28	NEFMC – receives information on the development of specifications
OCT	SSC recommends ABC for FY 2019 and FY 2020
OCT-NOV	Committee and PDT complete documents
DEC 4-6	NEFMC – Council takes final action
DEC-JAN	Council staff submits decision draft completes pre-submission
2018	
JAN	NMFS publishes proposed rule
JAN	EA reviewed by NMFS
FEB	Staff completes final submission for NMFS review and approval
March	NMFS publishes final rule
APR 1	Target Implementation

Worksheet 2: Detailed Timeline for Scallop Specifications FY 2019 and FY 2020

PROJECT PHASE	STARTING	ENDING	PROJECT PHASE	STARTING	ENDING
COUNCIL INITIATES ACTION	6.13.2018	6.13.2018	DECISION DRAFT SUBMISSION	12.20.2018	12.20.2018
DEVELOPMENT	5.1.2018	12.4.2018	PROPOSED RULE SUBMITTED TO HQ AND PUBLISHED	1.9.2019	1.18.2019
PDT MEETINGS (8)	5.1.2019	12.1.2018	PROPOSED RULE COMMENT PERIOD (15 DAYS)	1.18.2019	2.5.2019
ADVISORY PANEL/COMMITTEE MEETINGS (4)	5.23.2018	11.29.2018	FORMAL EA SUBMISSION	2.15.2019	2.15.2019
COUNCIL TAKES FINAL ACTION	12.6.2018	12.6.2018	FINAL RULE PREPARED (INCL. ADDRESSING PUBLIC COMMENTS)	2.5.2019	2.19.2019
COUNCIL STAFF DEVELOPS DECISION DRAFT	11.7.2018	12.2.2018	FINAL RULE SUBMITTED TO HQ AND PUBLISHED	2.19.2019	3.8.2019
DECISION DRAFT SUBMITTED	12.20.2018	12.20.2018	ACTION EFFECTIVE *PROVIDING RANGE IN CASE APA WAIVER NOT CLEARED AND FULL 30-DAY DELAY REQUIRED	4.1.2019	4.1.2019
REGS TO COUNCIL FOR DEEMING	12.20.2018	12.20.2018			
COUNCIL STAFF FINALIZES EA	12.7.2017	1.15.2019			
EA PRE-SUBMITTED TO NMFS	1.15.2019	1.5.2019			
EA REVIEWED BY NMFS	1.15.2019	1.27.2018			
EA COMMENTS INCORPORATED BY COUNCIL STAFF	1.28.2018	2.4.2018			

Action Plan Versions:

Version	Date	Change Description
1	May 16, 2018	Initial Action Plan prepared for Executive Committee Review.
2		
3		
4		
5		