



Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

NOAA Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

For Information Contact:
Sustainable Fisheries Division
(978) 281 – 9315

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/>
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ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP FISHERY **ALL SCALLOP VESSELS**

Compliance Guide for Landing and Possessing In-Shell Scallops

The attached handout describes scallop possession limits under the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan to help captains and dealers when possessing and landing in-shell scallops (shellstock). The handout includes meat weight and in-shell limits and examples of how to measure what vessels have onboard and at time of landing. Please read the handout carefully and distribute it to your vessel operators. The provided examples are based on baskets and fish totes commonly used in the fishery, but it is your and your vessel crew's responsibility to know the volume of the containers you are using and to ensure that you do not exceed the possession limits.

The handout is not a substitute for the regulations. We encourage you to review the full text of the regulations available at: <http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov>.

If you would like to learn more about these and other measures or details about recent actions, we have posted additional information on our website at:
<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/scallop>.

For any questions please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at (978) 281-9315 or the Office of Law Enforcement at (978) 281-9213.

For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Region.

Atlantic Scallop Possession Limits and In-Shell Equivalents

LAGC Atlantic Scallop Possession Limits Shoreward of Demarc

Permit Category	Scallop Meats	In-Shell Shoreward of Demarc	In-Shell Basket Equivalent	In-Shell Tote Equivalent
IFQ	600 lb †	75 U.S. bu	62.5 Baskets	35.7 Totes
NGOM	200 lb	25 U.S. bu	20.8 Baskets	11.9 Totes
Incidental	40 lb	5 U.S. bu	4.2 Baskets	2.4 Totes

† An IFQ-permitted vessel on a declared scallop trip may possess scallops in excess of the possession limit if it is carrying an observer and the observer set-aside for that particular access area has not been exhausted.

LAGC Atlantic Scallop Possession Limits Seaward of Demarc

LAGC Permit Category	Scallop Meats	In-Shell Seaward of Demarc	In-Shell Basket Equivalent	In-Shell Tote Equivalent
IFQ - Not declared into the Access Area Program	600 lb	100 U.S. bu	83.3 Baskets	47.6 Totes
IFQ - Declared into the Access Area Program	600 lb †	75 U.S. bu (100 bu only while inside access area)	62.5 Baskets (83.3 baskets only while inside access area)	35.7 Totes (47.6 totes only while inside access area)
NGOM	200 lb	50 U.S. bu	41.7 Baskets	23.8 Totes
Incidental	40 lb	10 U.S. bu	8.3 Baskets	4.8 Totes

† An IFQ-permitted vessel on a declared access area trip may possess scallops in excess of the possession limit if it is carrying an observer and the observer set-aside for that particular access area has not been exhausted.

Limited Access Possession Limits

Permit Category	Scallop Meats	In-Shell Shoreward of Demarc	In-Shell Basket Equivalent	In-Shell Tote Equivalent
Limited Access (All Trips)*	N/A**	50 U.S. bu	41.7 Baskets	23.8 Totes

*When fishing on a declared access area trip, vessels may have no more than 50 bushels of in-shell scallops when outside of the access area.

**When fishing on a declared access area trip, vessels cannot exceed the possession limit as described in 50 CFR § 648.59.

Note: Permit holders may possess or land a limited number of shucked scallops or in-shell scallops, per trip, as prescribed in 50 CFR § 648.52. If you are landing both scallop meats and in-shell scallops, law enforcement will convert the product to one unit of measure to determine the applicable possession limit. You may be delayed by law enforcement.



Basket and Tote Equivalents

50 CFR 648.2 - Bushel (bu) means a standard unit of volumetric measurement deemed to hold 1.24 ft³ (35.24 L) of in shell Atlantic sea scallops.

Standard Fish Basket

1 Basket = 1.47ft³ (41.63 L)



Standard Fish Tote

1 Tote = 2.65ft³ (75.04 L)



Note: These Standard fish baskets and totes are the most commonly used containers and are used in the examples. If your fish baskets or totes differ from above standard sizes, the conversions in the examples will not apply. Check the manufacturers label for volume or review the appropriate volumetric measurement for each non-standard container. Containers must be flush to the top and not rounded over.

Conversion Example

1 Standard Basket of In-Shell Scallops = 1.2 bu

1 Standard Tote of In-Shell Scallops = 2.1 bu

8 lb of Scallop Meats = 1 bu

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{_____ Totes} \times 2.1 \text{ bu/tote} & = & \text{_____ bu} \\
 & + & \\
 \text{_____ Baskets} \times 1.2 \text{ bu/basket} & = & \text{_____ bu} \\
 & + & \\
 \text{_____ lb scallop meats} \div 8 \text{ lb/bu} & = & \text{_____ bu} \\
 & \parallel & \\
 & \text{_____ Total bu} &
 \end{array}$$

Example:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{_____ } 4 \text{ Totes} \times 2.1 \text{ bu/tote} & = & \text{_____ } 8.4 \text{ bu} \\
 & + & \\
 \text{_____ } 7 \text{ Baskets} \times 1.2 \text{ bu/basket} & = & \text{_____ } 8.4 \text{ bu} \\
 & + & \\
 \text{_____ } 400 \text{ lb scallop meats} \div 8 \text{ lb/bu} & = & \text{_____ } 50 \text{ bu} \\
 & \parallel & \\
 & \text{_____ } 66.8 \text{ Total bu} &
 \end{array}$$

For more information, call the Greater Atlantic Regional Office Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315 or the Office of Law Enforcement at 978-281-9213.

