Scallop Framework 29

Jonathon Peros, NEFMC Staff,
Scallop PDT Chair

Scallop AP – Nov. 29, 2017
Scallop CTE – Nov. 30, 2017
Boston, MA

New England
Fishery Management Council

Today's Meeting:

- **Goal: Review FW29 measures, analysis, and potentially identify preferred alternatives.**

Outlook:

- Scallop Report at Council meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 7 at 10:30am, following the 2018 priorities discussion.
- The SSC report to Council will be at 9am Wednesday, Dec. 6
- Expect the Council to take final action on FW29 in December.
- "Decision Draft" submission of FW29 in December.
  - Delay in Final Action will delay the Framework.
  - Tracking OHA2 – Decision anticipated by January 4, 2017.

Updates – Groundfish FW 57

- **Alternative 4.3.1.3:** Modify part of the SNE YT AM trigger for scallop fishery (remove150% trigger for1 year)
- Final year end groundfish catch report for FY2016 has been released. **No Reactive Scallop AMs triggered for FY2018.**
- **Update Sub-ACLs for FY 2018. See below.**

Stock	FY 2017 Sub-ACL	**FY 2018 Sub-ACL**	% Change
GB Yellowtail Flounder	32 mt	33 mt	**3.10%**
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	34 mt	5 mt	**-85.30%**
GOM/GB Windowpane	36 mt	18 mt	**-50%**
SNE/MA Windowpane Flounder	209 mt	158 mt	**-24.40%**

Agenda – FW 29, Specifications

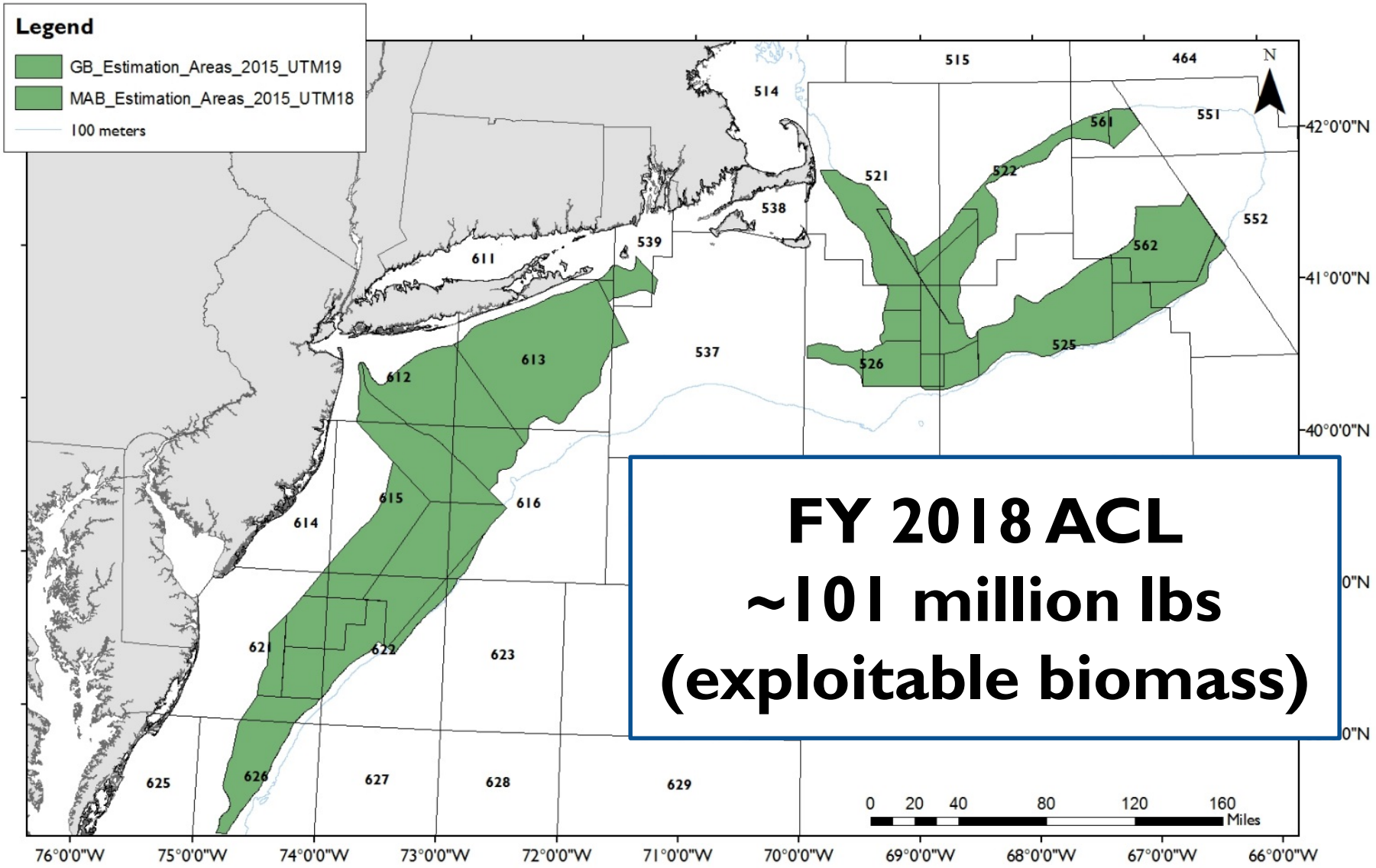
- Framework Overview and Preliminary Analyses
- 4.1 – OFL and ABC for 2018/2019
- 4.2 – Northern Gulf of Maine Management Measures
- 4.3 – Allocation of Closed Area I Carryover
- 4.4 – Specifications for FY 2018 and FY 2019 (default)
- 4.5 – LAGC IFQ fishing in Access Areas
- Issues to Clarify – 2019 Default Measures and PT Allocations
- 4.6 – Measures to Reduce Fishery Impacts
- 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 – Flatfish Accountability Measures
- Evaluation of projected flatfish bycatch in FY 2018

Framework 29: Purpose and Need

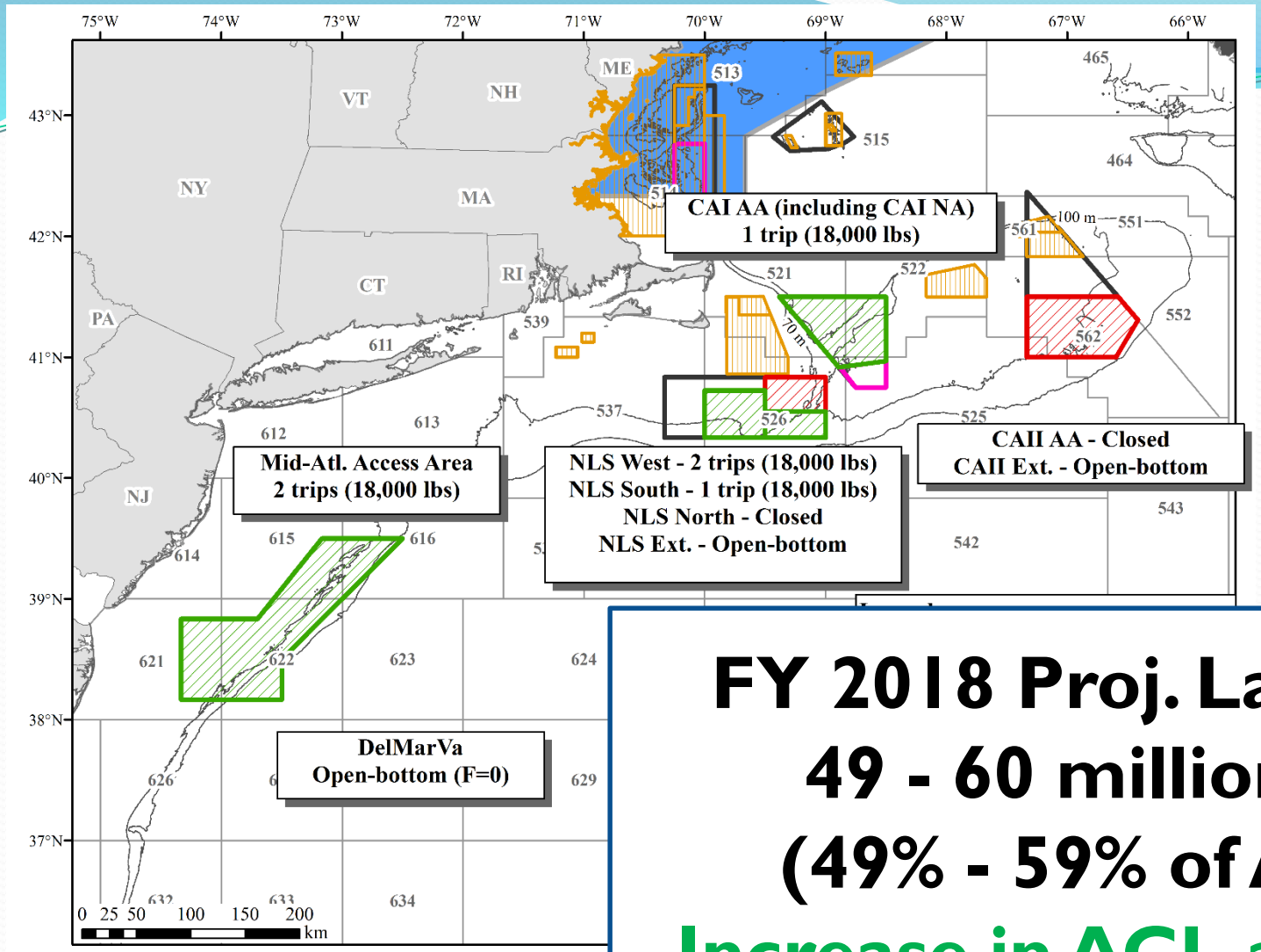
Doc.2 page 6

Need	Purpose	Section(s)
To achieve the objectives of the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP to prevent overfishing and improve yield-per recruit from the fishery	To set specifications including: OFL, ABC, scallop fishery ACLs and ACTs including associated set-asides, day-at-sea (DAS) allocations, general category fishery allocations, and area rotation schedule and allocations for the 2017 fishing year, as well as default measures for FY2018 that are expected to be replaced by a subsequent action.	4.1, 4.4
To manage total removals from the Northern Gulf of Maine management area.	To set landing limits for the LA and LAGC components in the Northern Gulf of Maine management area based on exploitable biomass.	4.2
To reduce bycatch of windowpane flounder and yellowtail flounder if the scallop fishery exceeds the annual catch limit (sub-ACL).	To implement AMs for GOM/GB windowpane flounder, GB and SNE/MA yellowtail flounder.	4.7, 4.8, 4.9
To facilitate access to scallops formerly in a habitat management area	To modify existing access area boundaries to facilitate the harvest of scallops in Closed Area I North HMA and Nantucket Lightship HMA, consistent with FMP goals and objectives.	4.4
To ensure equality in allocations	To adjust LA allocations with unharvested Closed Area I carryover pounds	4.3

Overview of FW29 Specifications and Preliminary Analyses



FY 2018 ACL
~101 million lbs
(exploitable biomass)



FY 2018 Proj. Landings
49 - 60 million lbs
(49% - 59% of ACL)

Increase in ACL and APL from FW28, overall F low

Specification Alternatives

- ***11 Total Options, including Status Quo and No Action***

- Increase in Annual Projected Landings (fishery allocations) with most scenarios under consideration from FW28 levels.

- Alternatives 2 – 5 each consider two F rates for open area fishing.

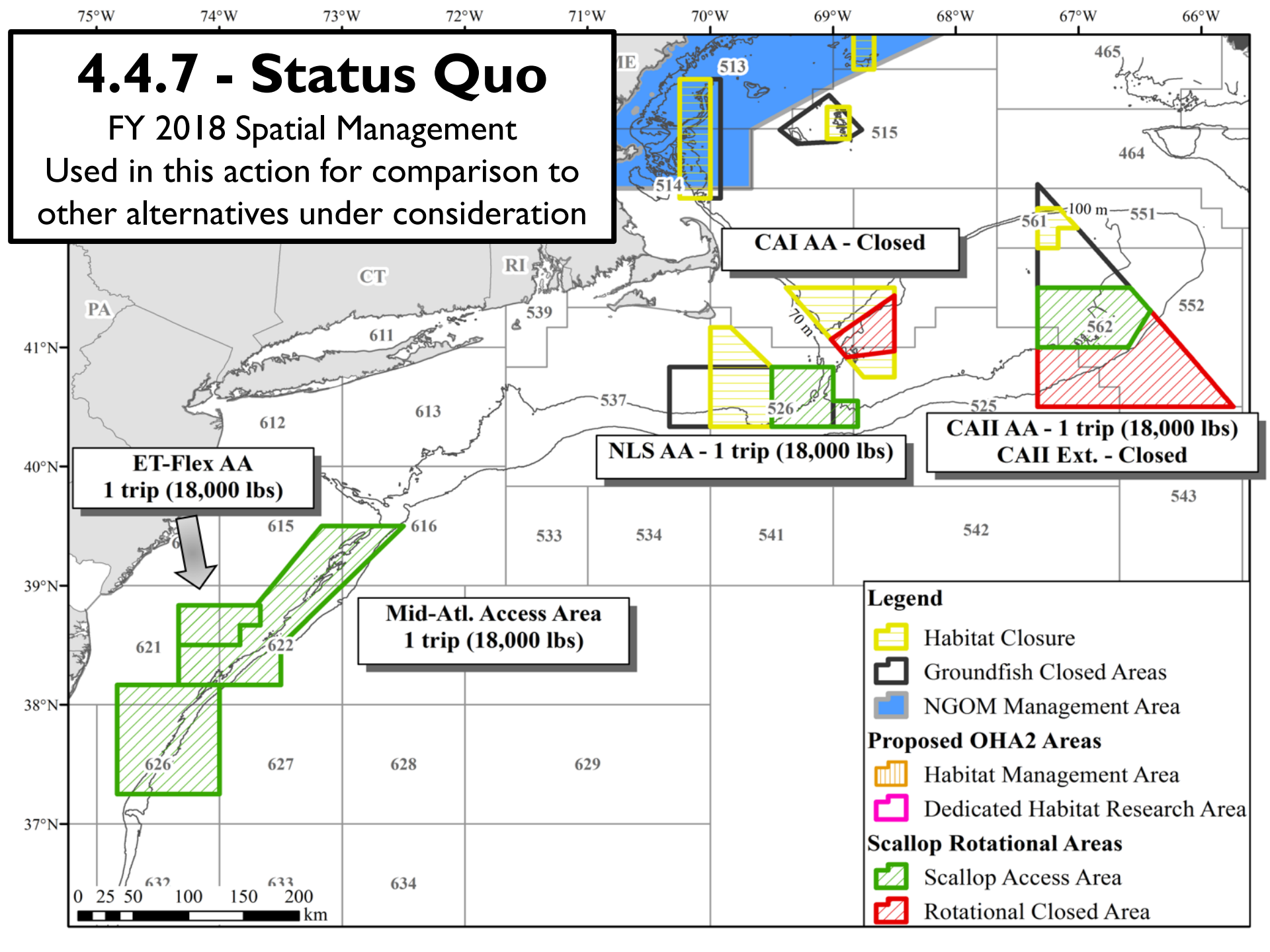
Specification Alternatives

- **See *Handout* of Document 2a, page 21 "Table 5"**

	FW 29 Measure	*Status Quo* FW 28 preferred applied in 2018	Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	Alternative 2 Base Runs		Alternative 3 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 5 trip option		Alternative 4 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 6 trip option		Alternative 5 Only NLS West opens		Alternative 6 Only CAI Opens
a	***Section in FW29***	**4.4.7**	**4.4.1**	**4.4.2.1**	**4.4.2.2**	**4.4.3.1**	**4.4.3.2**	**4.4.4.1**	**4.4.4.2**	**4.4.5.1**	**4.4.5.2**	**4.4.6**
b	**Open Area F**	F=0.44	F=0.39	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.26	F=0.295	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.36
c	***Run Title***	*sq*	*na*	*BASE36*	*BASE40*	*5BOTH36*	*5BOTH40*	*6BOTH26*	*6BOTH295*	*NLSW36*	*NLSW40*	*CAIF36*
d	**Landings w/ CAI carryover**					57.7 mil	59.9 mil	57.9 mil	60 mil	57.8 mil	59.9 mil	53.0 mil
e	**APL after set-asides**	41.7 mil	22.3 mil	49.6 mil	51.5 mil	53.8 mil	57.6 mil	53.9 mil	56.1 mil	53.9 mil	55.9 mil	49.0 mil
f	**FT LA DAS**	25	21.75	23	26	28	31	21	24	28	31	23
g	**FT Access Area Allocation**	72,000	18,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	108,000	108,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
h	**FT trips at 18,000 lbs**	4	1	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	5
i	**LAGC IFQ Only (5%) Quota**	2.08 mil	1.1 mil	2.48 mil	2.57 mil	2.69 mil	2.8 mil	2.7 mil	2.8 mil	2.7 mil	2.8 mil	2.45 mil
j	**Projected Open Area LPUE**	2,178	2,221	2,508	2,476	2,531	2,500	2,607	2,581	2,531	2,500	2,508
k	**Area Swept Est. (sqnm)**	4,214	2,581	2,852	3,095	2,673	2,941	2,050	2,271	2,584	2,941	2,777
l	*Spatial Management Configuration for Each Framework 29 Specifications Alternative*											
m	**Georges Bank Area**											
n	CL1ACC	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	1 trip CA I AA (CL1ACC &	1 trip CA I AA (CL1ACC & CL1NA)	1 trip CA I AA (CL1ACC &	1 trip CA I AA (CL1ACC & CL1NA)	1 trip CA I AA (CL1ACC & CL1NA)
o	CL1NA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed					
p	CL-2(N)	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
q	CL-2(S)	CA II AA	Closed	1 trip CA II AA (CL-2(S) &	1 trip CA II AA (CL-2(S) &	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	1 trip CA II AA (CL-2(S) & CL2Ext)
r	CL2Ext	Closed	Closed			Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	
s	NLSAccN	NLS AA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
t	NLSAccS	NLS AA	Closed	1 Trip in NLS-South	1 Trip in NLS-South	1 Trip in NLS-South	1 Trip in NLS-South	1 Trip in NLS-South	1 Trip in NLS-South	Closed	Closed	1 Trip in NLS-South
u	NLSNA	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	2 Trips in NLS-West	2 Trips in NLS-West	2 Trips in NLS-West	2 Trips in NLS-West	2 Trips in NLS-West	2 Trips in NLS-West	Closed
v	NLSExt	NLS AA	Closed	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
w	NF	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
x	SCH	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
y	SF	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
z	**MidAtlantic**											
aa	Block Island	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
bb	Long Island	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
cc	NYB	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
dd	MA inshore	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
ee	HCSAA	MAAA	MAAA	3 Trips MAAA	3 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA	2 Trips MAAA
ff	ET Open	MAAA	MAAA									
gg	ET Flex	ET-Flex	Closed									
hh	DMV	MAAA	MAAA	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0	Open, DMV@F=0
ii	Virginia	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open

4.4.7 - Status Quo

FY 2018 Spatial Management
Used in this action for comparison to other alternatives under consideration



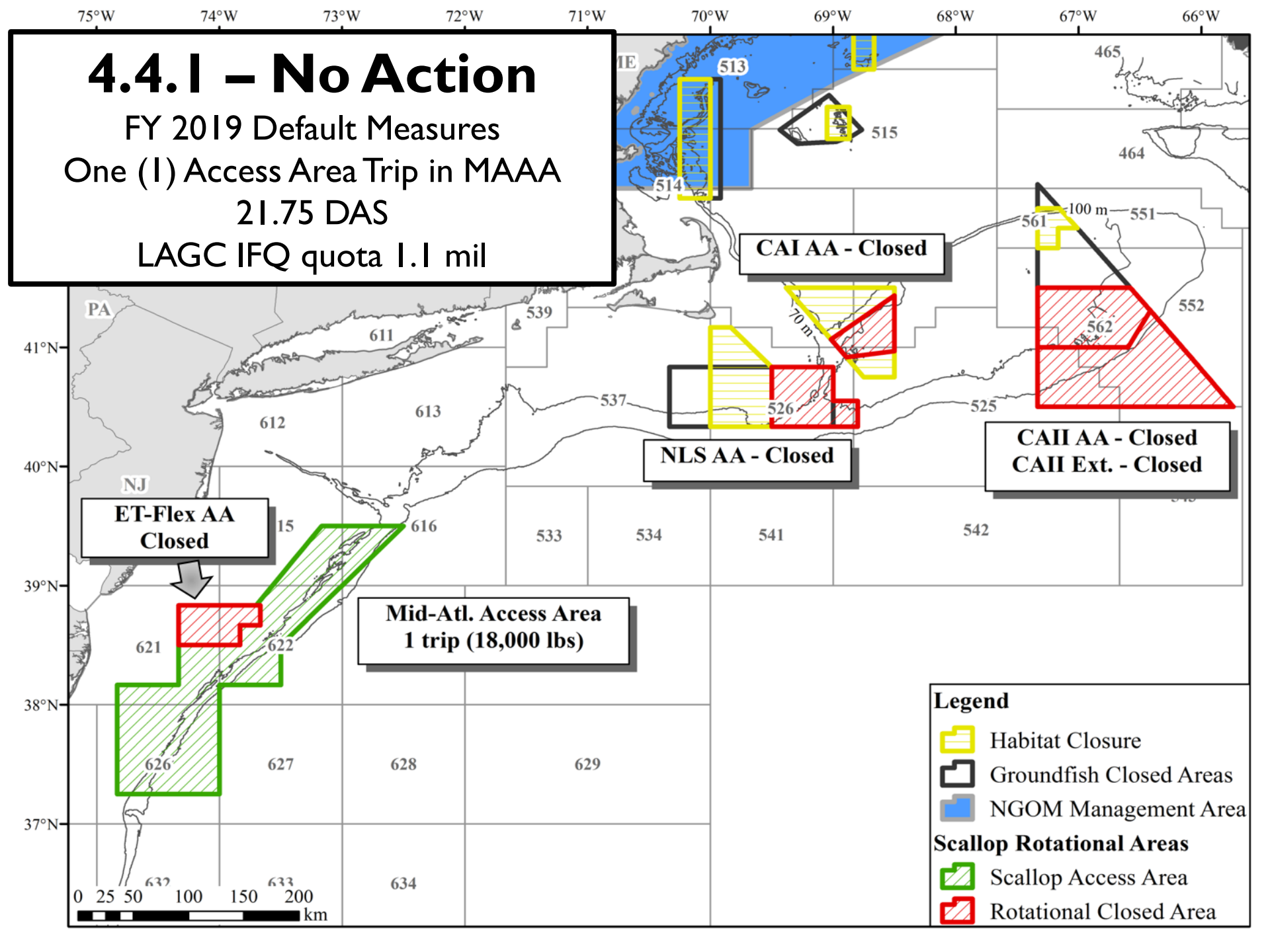
4.4.1 – No Action

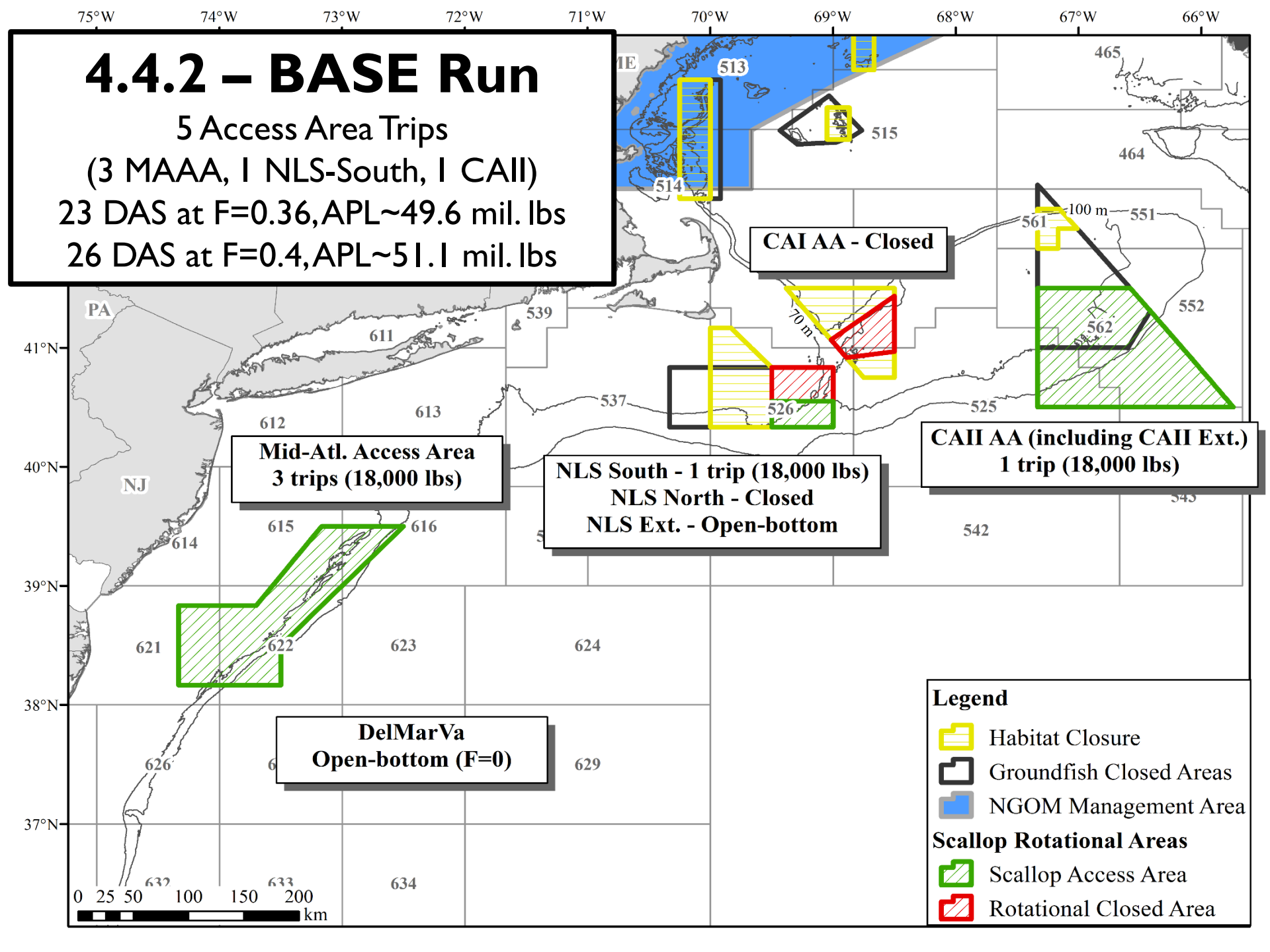
FY 2019 Default Measures

One (1) Access Area Trip in MAAA

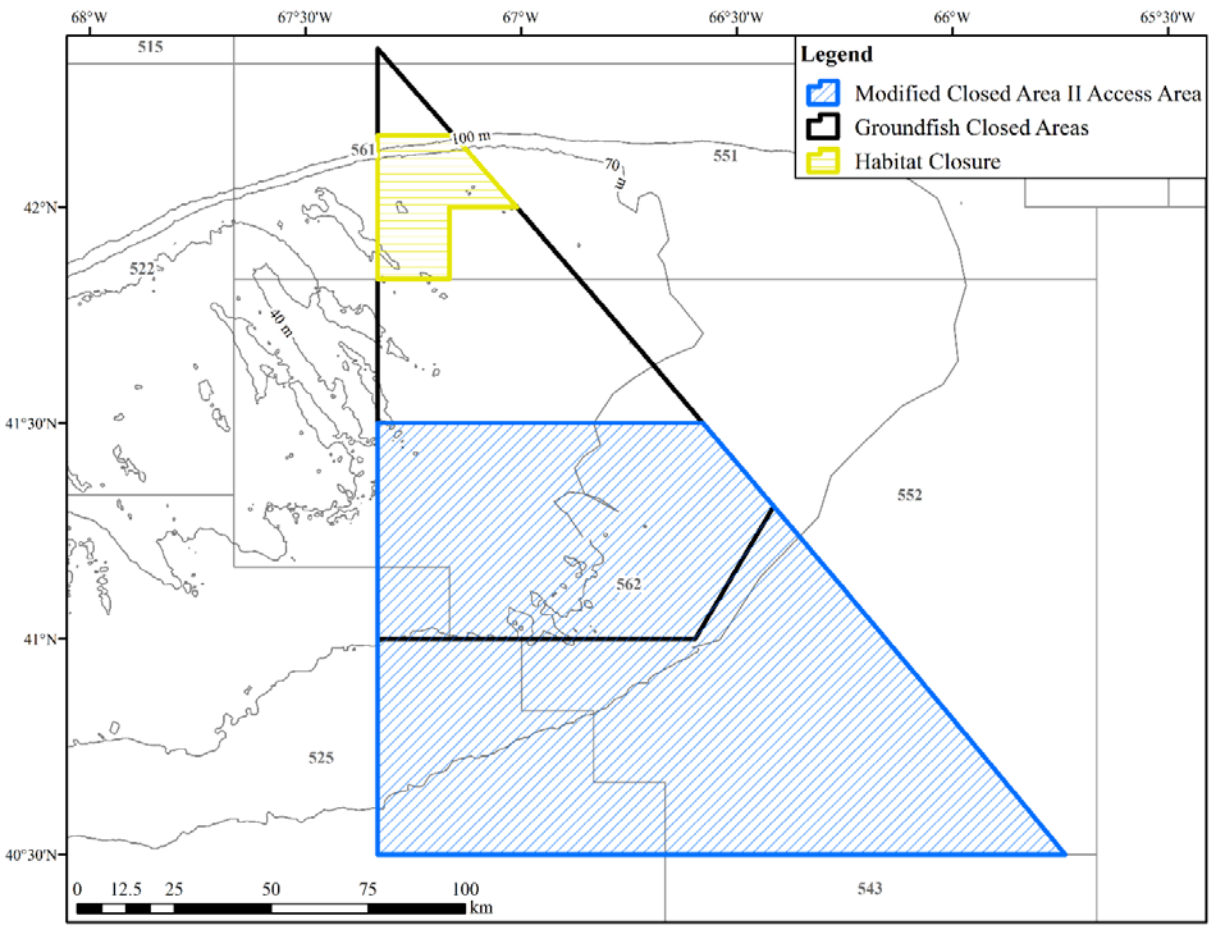
21.75 DAS

LAGC IFQ quota 1.1 mil




4.4.2 – BASE Run
5 Access Area Trips
(3 MAAA, 1 NLS-South, 1 CAII)
23 DAS at F=0.36, APL~49.6 mil. lbs
26 DAS at F=0.4, APL~51.1 mil. lbs
CAI AA - Closed
Mid-Atl. Access Area
3 trips (18,000 lbs)
NLS South - 1 trip (18,000 lbs)
NLS North - Closed
NLS Ext. - Open-bottom
CAII AA (including CAII Ext.)
1 trip (18,000 lbs)
DelMarVa
Open-bottom (F=0)
Legend
Habitat Closure
Groundfish Closed Areas
NGOM Management Area
Scallop Rotational Areas
Scallop Access Area
Rotational Closed Area
100 m
70 m
0 25 50 100 150 200
km

FW 29 Closed Area II Access Area Configuration for: Alternative 2 – BASE Run Alternative 6 – Only CAI Opens



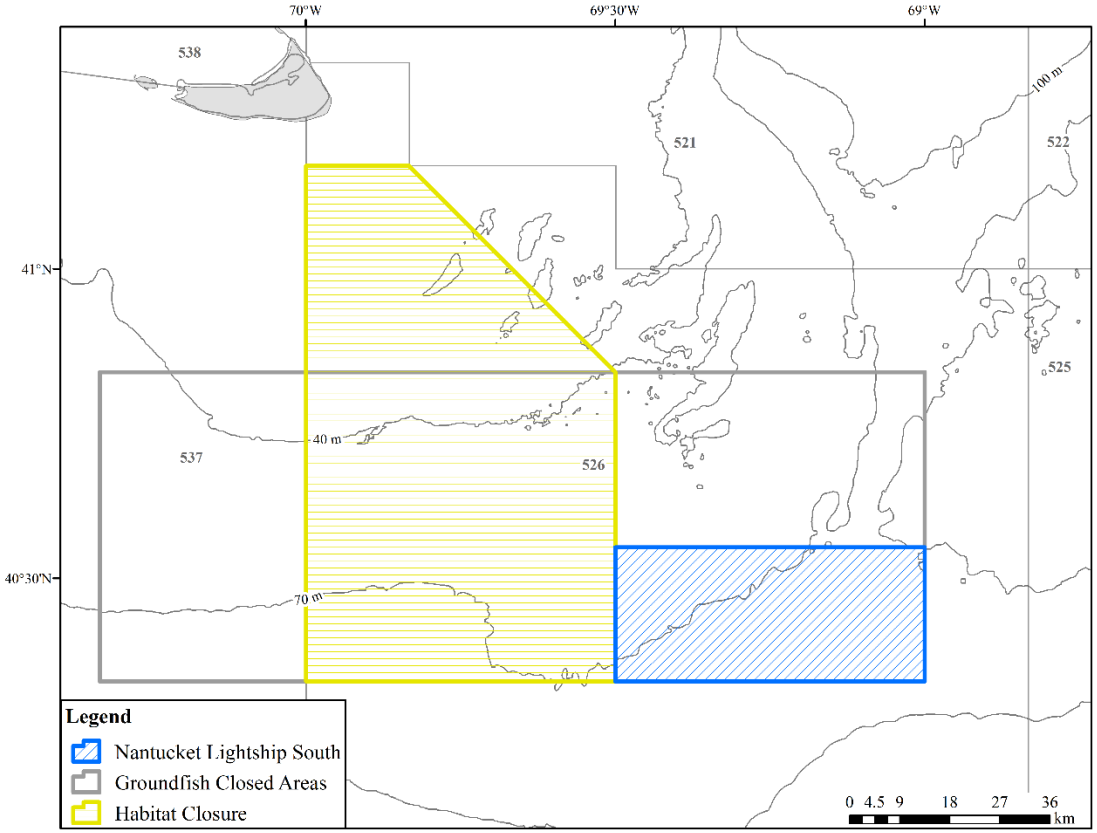
FW 29 Nantucket Lightship South Configuration for:

Alternative 2 – Base Run

Alternatives 3 – Both CAI and NLS-W

Alternative 5 – Only NLS-W Opens

Alternative 6 – Only CA I Opens



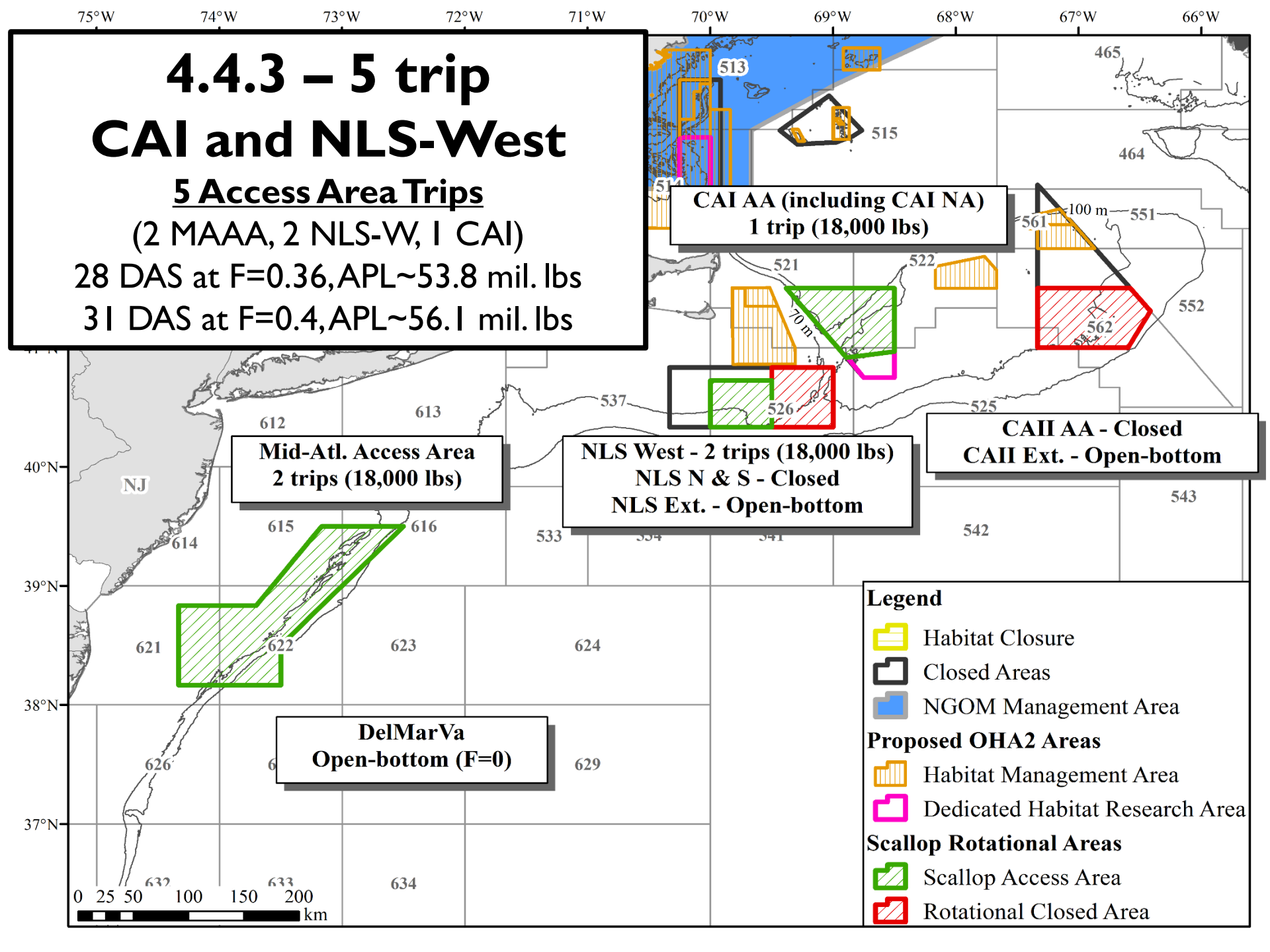
4.4.3 – 5 trip CAI and NLS-West

5 Access Area Trips

(2 MAAA, 2 NLS-W, 1 CAI)

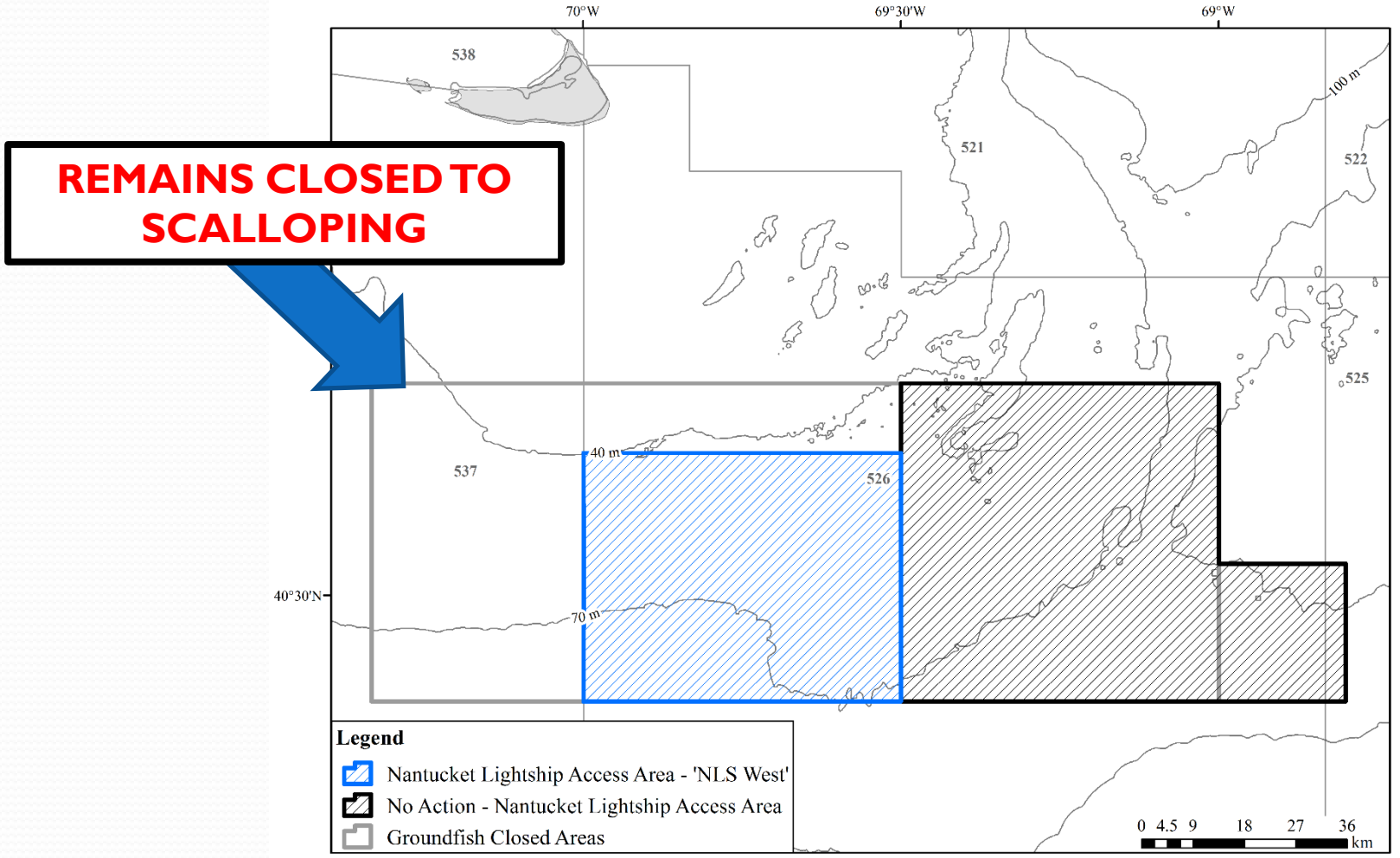
28 DAS at F=0.36, APL~53.8 mil. lbs

31 DAS at F=0.4, APL~56.1 mil. lbs



FW 29 Nantucket Lightship West Configuration for:

Alternatives 4.4.3 & 4.4.4 - Both CAI and NLS-W
Alternative 4.4.5 – Only NLS-W Opens



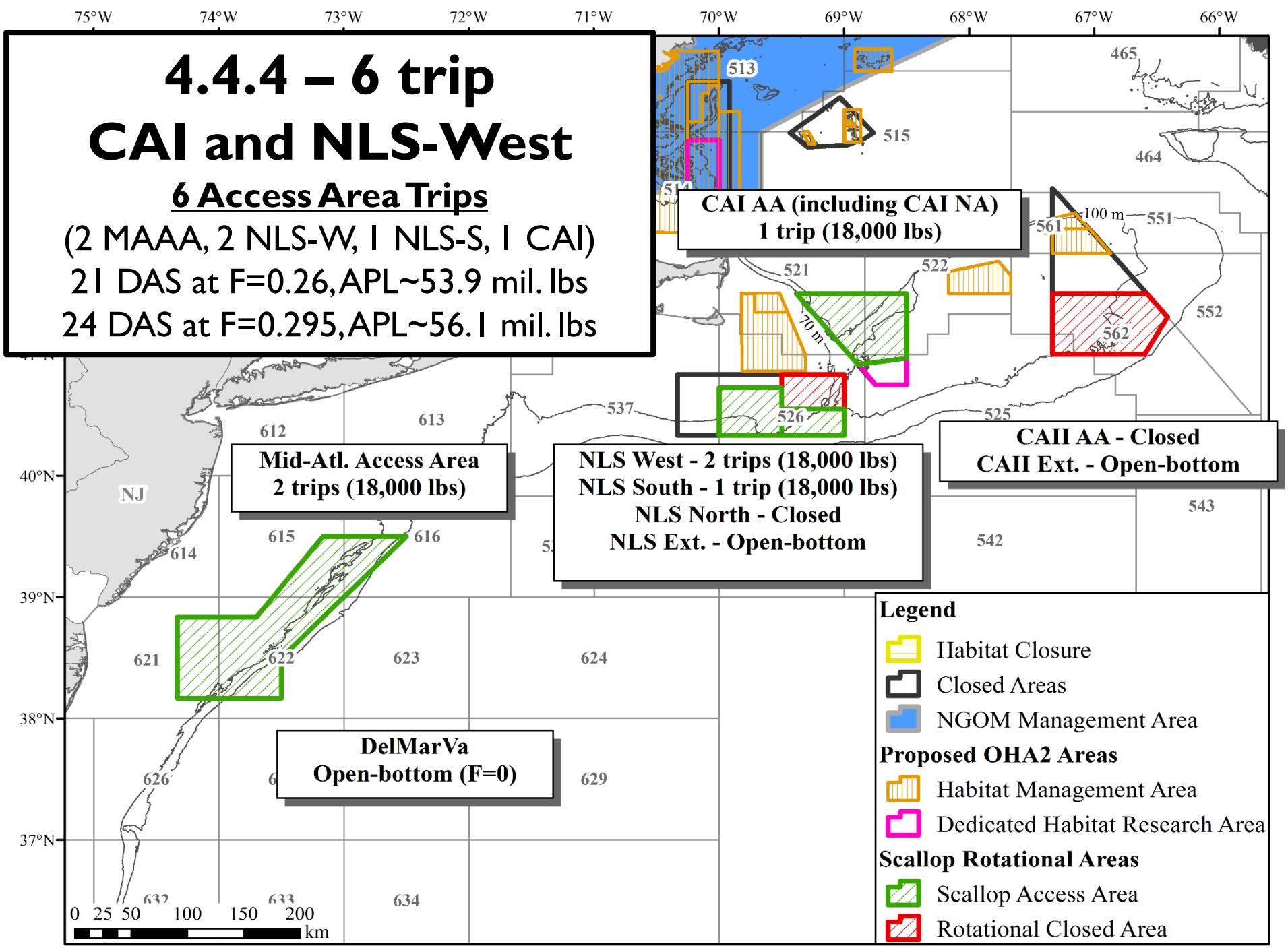
4.4.4 – 6 trip CAI and NLS-West

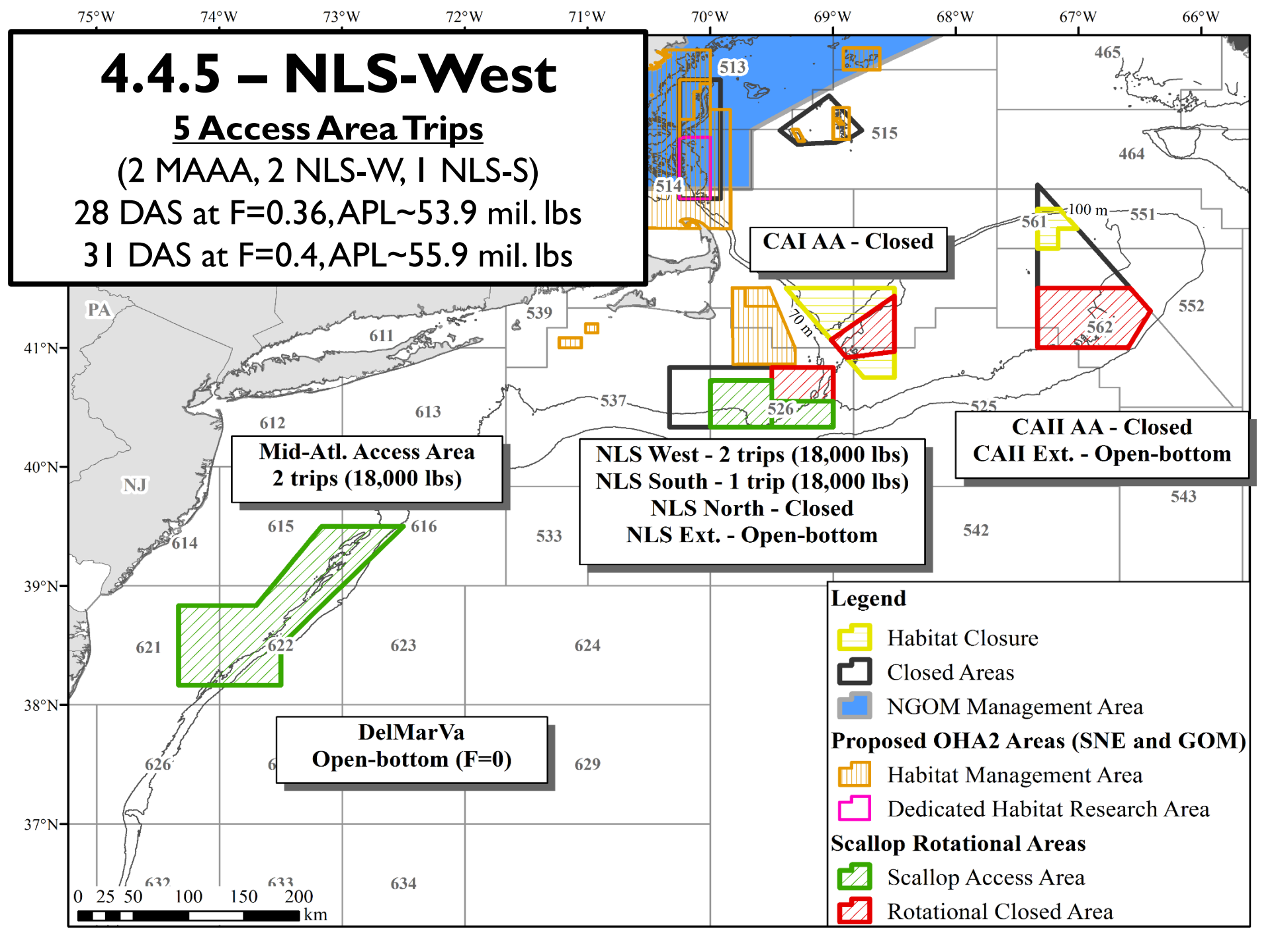
6 Access Area Trips

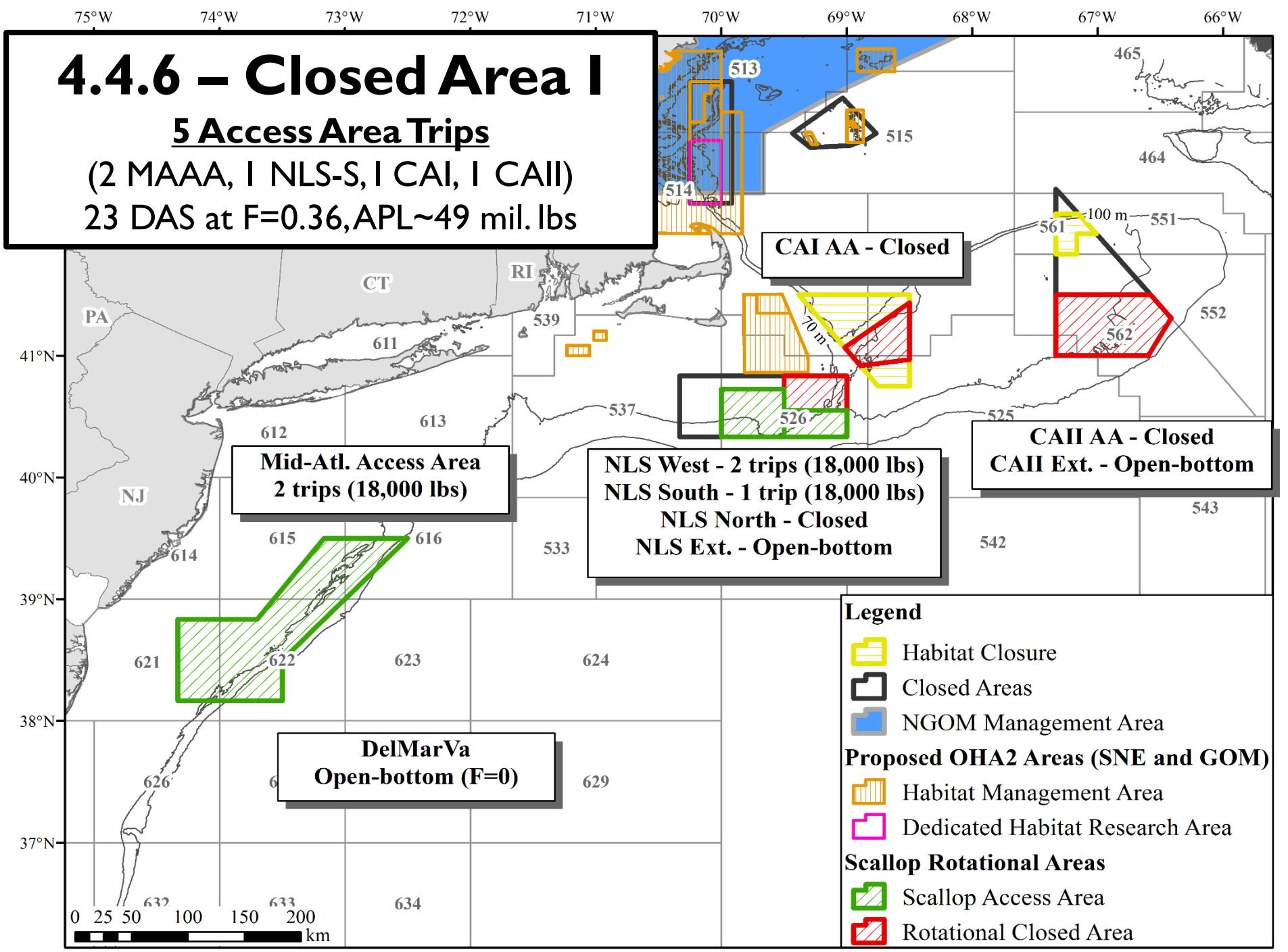
(2 MAAA, 2 NLS-W, 1 NLS-S, 1 CAI)

21 DAS at F=0.26, APL~53.9 mil. lbs

24 DAS at F=0.295, APL~56.1 mil. lbs

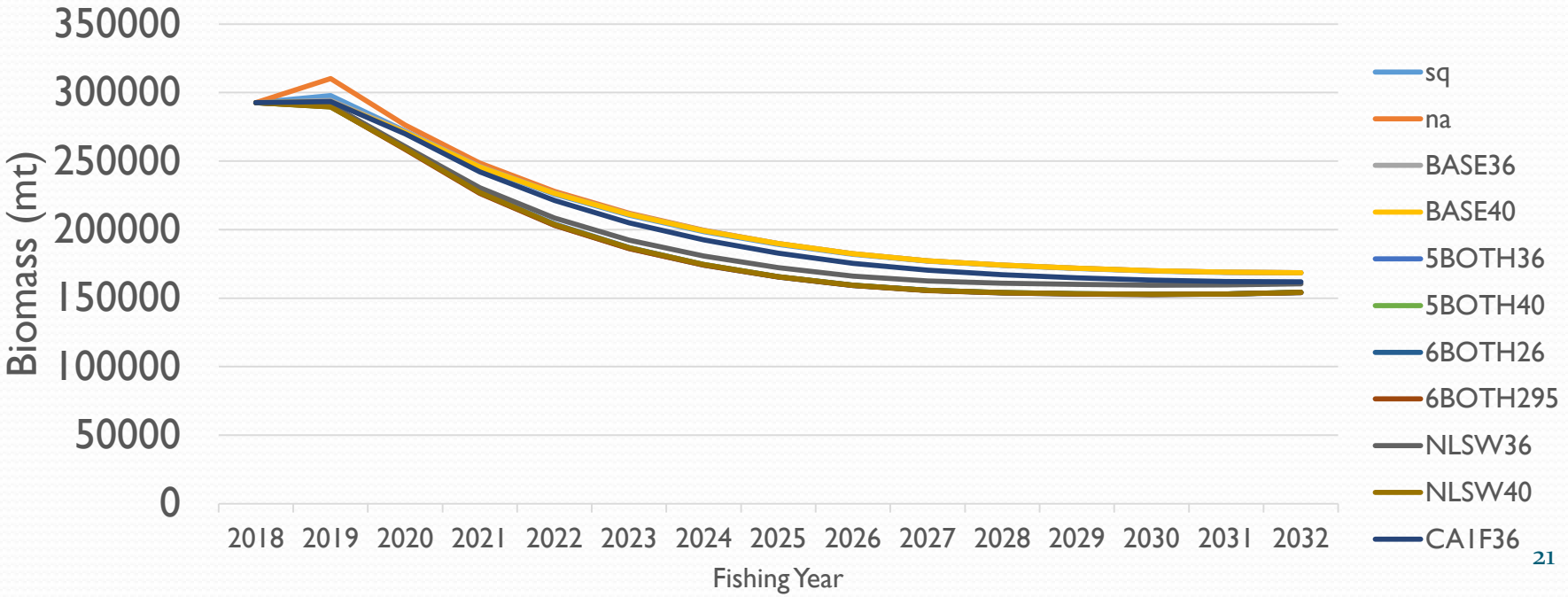



4.4.5 – NLS-West
5 Access Area Trips
(2 MAAA, 2 NLS-W, 1 NLS-S)
28 DAS at F=0.36, APL~53.9 mil. lbs
31 DAS at F=0.4, APL~55.9 mil. lbs
CAI AA - Closed
Mid-Atl. Access Area
2 trips (18,000 lbs)
NLS West - 2 trips (18,000 lbs)
NLS South - 1 trip (18,000 lbs)
NLS North - Closed
NLS Ext. - Open-bottom
CAII AA - Closed
CAII Ext. - Open-bottom
DelMarVa
Open-bottom (F=0)
Legend
Habitat Closure
Closed Areas
NGOM Management Area
Proposed OHA2 Areas (SNE and GOM)
Habitat Management Area
Dedicated Habitat Research Area
Scallop Rotational Areas
Scallop Access Area
Rotational Closed Area
75°W
74°W
73°W
72°W
71°W
70°W
69°W
68°W
67°W
66°W
41°N
40°N
39°N
38°N
37°N
PA
NJ
513
514
515
464
465
561
100 m
551
552
562
70 m
526
539
611
612
613
537
525
543
542
533
614
615
616
621
622
623
624
626
629
632
633
634
0 25 50 100 150 200
km


4.4.6 – Closed Area I
5 Access Area Trips
(2 MAAA, 1 NLS-S, 1 CAI, 1 CAII)
23 DAS at F=0.36, APL~49 mil. lbs
CAI AA - Closed
Mid-Atl. Access Area
2 trips (18,000 lbs)
NLS West - 2 trips (18,000 lbs)
NLS South - 1 trip (18,000 lbs)
NLS North - Closed
NLS Ext. - Open-bottom
CAII AA - Closed
CAII Ext. - Open-bottom
DelMarVa
Open-bottom (F=0)
Legend
Habitat Closure
Closed Areas
NGOM Management Area
Proposed OHA2 Areas (SNE and GOM)
Habitat Management Area
Dedicated Habitat Research Area
Scallop Rotational Areas
Scallop Access Area
Rotational Closed Area
75°W
74°W
73°W
72°W
71°W
70°W
69°W
68°W
67°W
66°W
41°N
40°N
39°N
38°N
37°N
CT
RI
PA
NJ
100 m
70 m
0 25 50 100 150 200
km

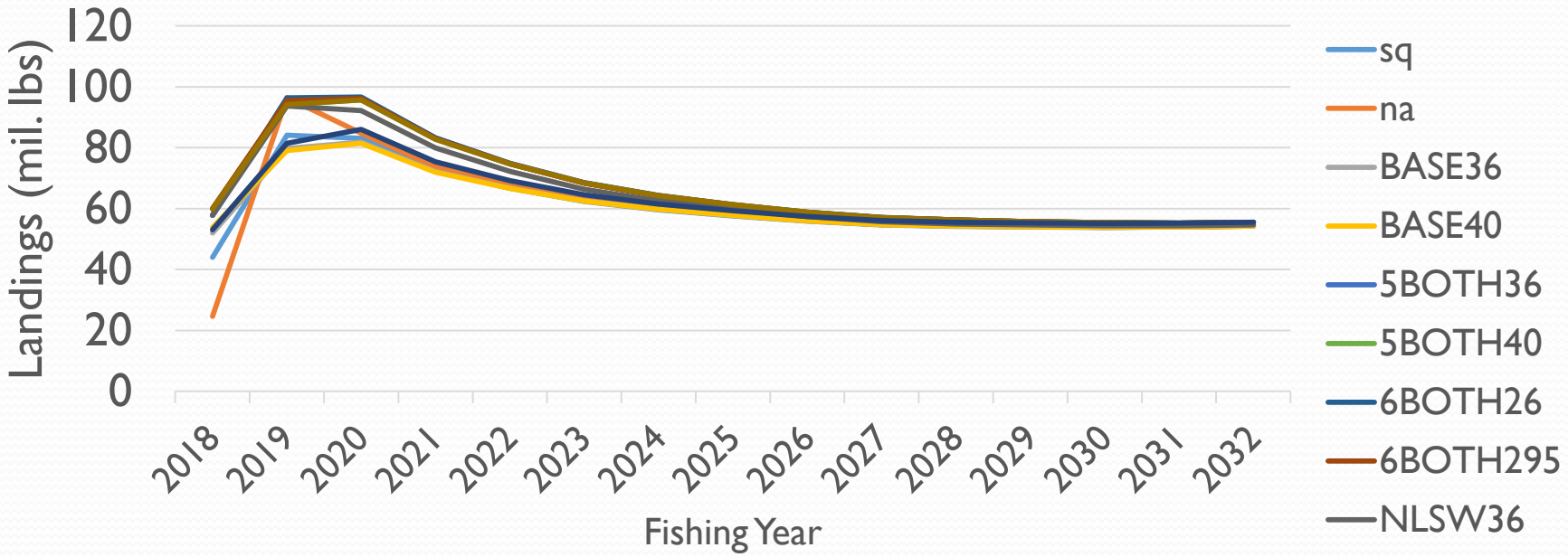
Projected Biomass

- Overall the projected biomass estimates are similar in the short and long run.
- No Action (default measures, lowest allocation), results in slightly higher biomass in the short term.
- Alternative 2 – BASE runs assume EFH areas remain closed.



Biological Considerations

- Overall F for all runs less than F=0.18.
- Risk of overfishing is low for all alternatives under consideration.
- Landings projections generally reflect assumptions re: OHA2
  - Higher if areas open, lower if they stay closed



Summary of Economic Impacts

FW 29 Measure	*Status Quo*	Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	Alternative 2 Base Runs		Alternative 3 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 5 trip option		Alternative 4 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 6 trip option		Alternative 5 Only NLS West opens		Alternative 6 Only CAI Opens
Section in FW29	**4.4.7**	**4.4.1**	**4.4.2.1**	**4.4.2.2**	**4.4.3.1**	**4.4.3.2**	**4.4.4.1**	**4.4.4.2**	**4.4.5.1**	**4.4.5.2**	**4.4.6**
Open Area F	F=0.44	F=0.39	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.26	F=0.295	F=0.36	F=0.4	F=0.36
Landings w/ CAI carryover (mil lbs)					57.7	59.9	57.9	60	57.8	59.9	53.0
Revenue, mil.$ (2017$)	573	340	641	659	713	733	713	734	698	733	665

- Positive ST and LT economic impacts with all alternatives.
- Alternatives that include access to NLS-W or CA-I (Alt. 3,4,5,6) result in **higher benefits** compared to no openings through OHA2 (SQ, Alt. 1 & 2)
  - **Higher benefits** generally a result of redirecting effort out of CAII in 2018 to areas with larger scallops and/or higher densities.
- Alternatives 3 and 4 (Both CAI and NLS-W open) have the highest landings, revenues, and total benefits in FY 2018.

Summary of EFH Impacts

- Lowest overall swept area estimates for Alternatives that open both NLS-W and CAI → High densities of large animals
- Alt. 3-6 appreciably less swept area than SQ, NA, and Alt. 2

	Alt. 2	**Alt. 4**	**Alt. 5**	**Status Quo**
	4.4.2.2	4.4.4.2	4.4.5.1	4.4.7
	BASE F=0.4	6BOTH F=0.295	NLSWest F=0.36	Status Quo F=0.44
Access Area (sq nm)	885	443	318	1,459
Open Area (sq nm)	2,209	1,828	2,264	2,754
Total (sq nm)	3,094	2,271	2,583	4,213
Total Landings	53.8 mil lbs	60 mil lbs	57.8 mil lbs	44 mil. Lbs

Summary of Protected Resources Impacts

- There are no major PR interaction concerns if NLS-West and/or CAI-N are open and fished (no turtles or sturgeon).
- AA effort to the NLS-West and(or) CAI will likely have positive impacts on PR compared to Status Quo.
- Open area configuration with NLS-ext and CAII-ext open bottom may reduce open area fishing in MAAA.
- Alternatives with 2 trips in MAAA have positive impact relative to 3 MAAA trip option.
- NGOM fishery not anticipated to have seasonal overlap with PR.

Impacts: Flatfish Bycatch Estimates

- The projections are forecasts (with error) and should not be taken as precise estimates.
- Preliminary estimates for GB YT, Northern Windowpane, Southern Windowpane, and SNE/MA YT for ALL Alternatives under consideration in this action.
- PDT developed models to estimate d/K ratios for areas with no/little data (NLS-HMA, CAI N HMA). There is considerable uncertainty around these estimates.
- See Documents 4, 7, and 8.

Impacts: Flatfish Bycatch Estimates

	Georges Bank Yellowtail	Northern Windowpane	SNE/MA Yellowtail	Southern Windowpane
Overfished?	Unknown	**Yes**	**Yes**	**No**
Overfishing?	Unknown	**No**	**Yes**	**No**
2018 US ABC	213	92	52	473
Scallop Allocation (% of ABC)	16%	21%		36%
Sub-ACL (mt)	33	18		158
Range of Projected Catch (mt)	**5.57 - 43.44**	**46.69 - 68.08**	**3.84 - 5.25**	**228.6 - 308.23**

Measures implemented by Council to reduce bycatch in Scallop Fishery:

- Zero possession/prohibition of retention
- 10" twine top to allow escapement of flatfish from dredge
- Maximum 7-row apron
- Seasonal Closure of CAII AA from Aug. 15 – Nov. 15 to protect YT, and secondarily windowpane
- Prohibition of RSA compensation fishing in CAII (1.25 million lbs) *(Proposed again this year)*

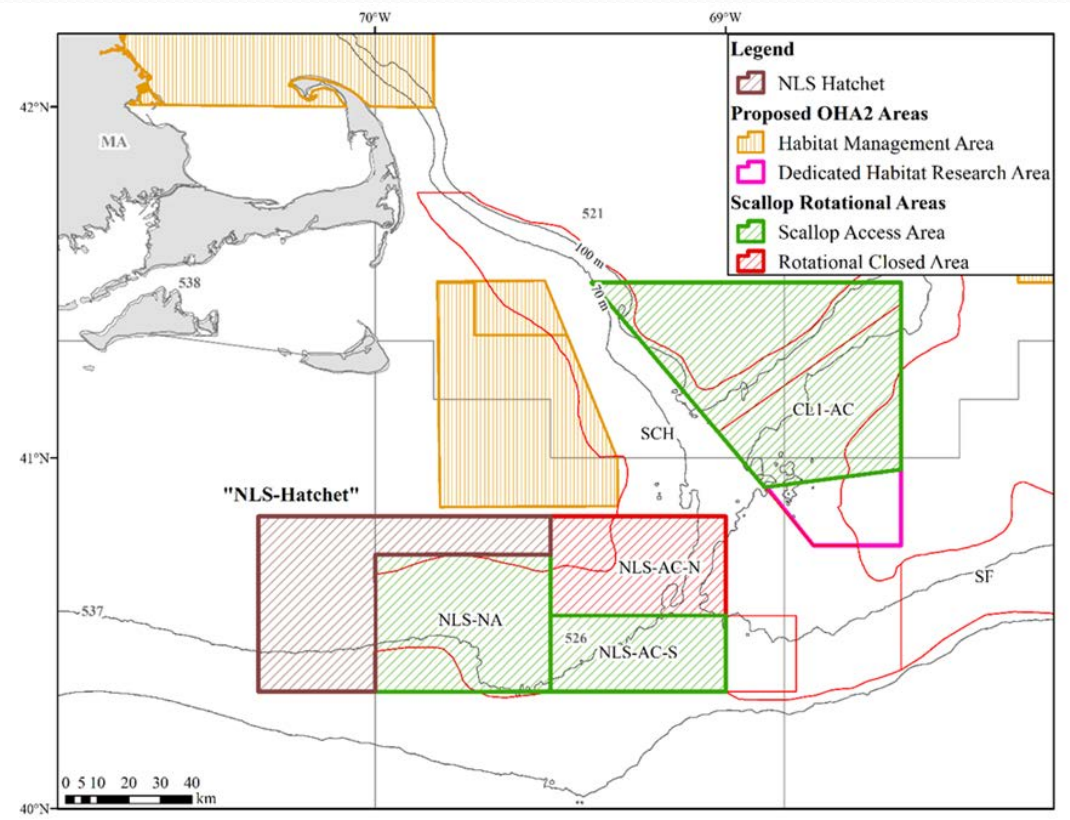
Impact of Spatial Management on Scallop Fishery Bycatch: FW 29

- Where the fishery is allocated access area trips matters;
- The impacts of rotational management on flatfish stocks are likely to be mixed.

- The highest bycatch estimates of Georges Bank yellowtail flounder (~36 mt - ~46 mt) are when CAII is open.
- Closing Closed Area II in 2018 results in substantially lower bycatch estimates of yellowtail (~5.5 mt - ~13 mt), which are below the sub-ACL for this stock.
- Closing Closed Area II in 2018 also reduces bycatch estimates for Northern windowpane flounder.

Measures that may Reduce Bycatch

- Measures that could be pursed in Framework 29 that are anticipated to reduce flatfish bycatch:
  1. Fish a lower open area F
  2. Prohibit RSA Compensation Fishing in CAII
  3. Keep areas that could open in the NLS and CAII-N closed; collect additional data
  4. PDT Recommendation in Response to Committee Tasking



Northern Windowpane

- Projected to exceed the Northern windowpane sub-ACL (18 mt) in FY 2018 (bycatch range 46.69 mt – 68.08)
- Bycatch projections do not account for seasonal closure of CAII S from Aug. 15 – Nov. 15, and may be over estimated.
- **The PDT recommends that the Council proactively apply the "small" Northern windowpane reactive AM being developed in FW29 (proactive for FY 2018 only, if CAII is open).**
  - 5-row apron with a 1.5:1 maximum hanging ratio from November 16 – December 31 in Closed Area II. (6 weeks).
  - This measure is anticipated to reduce CAII AA bycatch of Northern windowpane by ~24%, and Georges Bank yellowtail bycatch by ~9% during that time.

Georges Bank Yellowtail

- Projected catch is around the sub-ACL (33 mt) in FY 2018 when CAII is open, and well below sub-ACL when closed.
- Bycatch projections do not account for seasonal closure of CAII S from Aug. 15 – Nov. 15, and may be over estimated.
- **The PDT recommendation to proactively apply the "small" reactive AM if CAII is open is expected to also reduce GB YT catch by ~9%.**

Southern Windowpane

- Projected to exceed the Southern windowpane sub-ACL (158 mt) in FY 2018 (bycatch range 228.6 mt – 308.23)
- Not overfished. Overfishing is not occurring. Rebuilt.
- **The majority of bycatch is projected to come from NLS-ext. PDT has very low confidence in this estimate.**
  - Uncertainty in scallop biomass and d/K model.
  - Estimate may be inflated by 2-3x.
- AM will be implemented in spring of 2018 → reduce catch.
- In light of all measures that may reduce bycatch, the PDT is NOT recommending additional proactive measures.

SNE/MA YT Flounder

- Projected bycatch range of 3.84 mt – 5.25 mt.
  - ~8.2% of 52 mt US ABC, well below FY 2017 ACL
  - SSC reconsidered ABC for SNE YT. Anticipate an increase in the ABC.
- Southern Windowpane AM will be implemented in spring of 2018 → this is expected to reduce YT catch as well.
- In light of all measures that may reduce bycatch, the PDT is NOT recommending additional proactive measures.

Overall Summary of AA options

"Rank"	Alternative	Impacts
Less Than Ideal	**Alt. 1 - No Action** **Alt. 7 - Status Quo**	Lowest Landings and Revenue, Highest Bycatch and Swept Area (SQ)
Good	**Alt. 2 - BASE**	Positive impacts relative to SQ and NA, increase in landings from FW28
Better	**Alt. 5 – NLS-only** **Alt. 6 – CAI-only**	Positive impacts relative to Alt. 2 (BASE) for revenue, bycatch reduce, biological
Best	**Alt. 4 – "6 trips"** **Both CAI + NLSW**	Highest Landings and Revenue, Lowest bycatch and swept area, Low F

Framework 29 Measures

Document 2a: "Decision Document"

Version 1 (11/22/17)

- Summary of Measures
- High Level Impacts

DECISION DOCUMENT

for

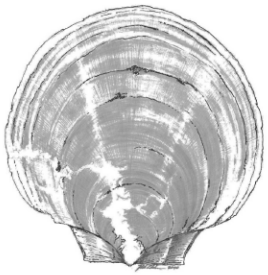
Framework Adjustment 29

to the

Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP

Advisory Panel and Committee Copy (11/22/17, version 1)

This decision document will be updated again for the Council on November 27, 2017 (version 2), and after the Advisory Panel and Committee meet to reflect their input on alternatives under consideration in this action (version 3).



Scallop AP and Committee Meetings

November 29 & 30, 2017

Boston, MA

1

Document 2: Draft Framework 29 v.2 – Council Mailing

Update Sent 11/27/17

This is the document that is sent to NMFS

DRAFT

Council Mailing Copy (version 2)

November 27, 2017

Framework 29 to the Scallop FMP

Including a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), an Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE Report)

Initial Council Meeting: April 18-20, 2017
Final Council Meeting:
Submission of Decision Document:
Submission of Preliminary EA:
Submission of Final EA:

1

Section 4.1 – OFL and ABC

- SSC Approved PDT Recommendation for OFL and ABC.
- Survey estimates adjusted to account for observed slow growth in the Nantucket Lightship and Elephant Trunk "flex" areas. The net impact of these adjustment is that estimates are more conservative.
- Even with modifications to model parameters, overall increases overall biomass estimates, OFL, and ABC

	FY	OFL	ABC including discards	Discards	ABC with discards removed
Alt. 1 – No Action	2018	69,678	56,992	13,850	43,142
Alt. 2 – Updated OFL and ABC	2018	72,055	59,968	14,018	45,950
	2019	69,633	58,126	12,321	45,805

Section 4.1 – OFL and ABC

- Document 2a: Page 5
- Document 2: Pages 20 - 23

Section2.1	OFL and ABC		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.1.1	Alt. 1	No Action for OFL and ABC			
4.1.2	Alt. 2	Updated OFL and ABC for FY2018 and FY2019 (default)	**		

- PDT supports updating OFL/ABC, 4.1.2

Section 4.2 - Northern Gulf of Maine

- Document 2a: Page 6 – 7
- Document 2: Pages 23 - 27

Three Alternatives under Consideration:

- Alternative 1 – No Action, NGOM TAC set at 95,000 lbs
  - No change to management measures in the area.
- Alternative 2 – See *next slide*
- Alternative 3 – Set NGOM TAC at Zero
  - The NGOM Management Area would not open to scalloping.

Section 4.2 - Northern Gulf of Maine

- Alternative 2 does several things:
  1. Set the overall TAC for 2018 and 2019 based on 2017 survey data of Stellwagen Bank and Jeffreys Ledge (F=0.15 or F=0.18)
  2. Caps removals for all fishery components, and develops separate TACs for LA and LAGC (two ways to split the TAC)
  3. LA share of NGOM TAC could only be fished as NGOM RSA compensation pounds. Additional reporting requirements (VMS hails) for these trips. Preference to NGOM research.
  4. Overages deducted from following year's TAC
- *Rationale:* This TAC split is intended to be a short term solution to allow controlled fishing in the NGOM management area until a future action can be developed to address NGOM issues more holistically. Not intended to be permanent.

Section 4.2 - Northern Gulf of Maine

FY 2018	F=0.15		F=0.18	
	165,000 lb overall TAC		200,000 lb overall TAC	
Alternative 2 Sub-Option:	**4.2.2.1.1** (70k, 50/50)	**4.2.2.1.2** (95k, 25/75)	**4.2.2.2.1** (70k, 50/50)	**4.2.2.2.2** (95k, 25/75)
LA (RSA) TAC (lbs)	47,500	52,500	65,000	78,750
LAGC TAC (lbs)	117,500	112,500	135,000	121,250

- If Alternative 2 is preferred, additional decisions:
  - Overall TAC of F=0.15 or F=0.18
  - TAC split: 70k, then 50/50 or 95k, then 25/75

Section 4.2 - Northern Gulf of Maine

4.2 - Northern Gulf of Maine TAC			PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.2.1	Alt. 1	No Action (95,000 lb TAC, no change to management of the area)			
4.2.2	Alt. 2	Set NGOM TAC using exploitable biomass projections for 2018 and 2019, cap removals for all fishery components, and apply LA share of TAC toward RSA compensation fishing	**		
4.2.2.1	Alt. 2 – Option 1a	Set NGOM TAC at F=0.15 (165k lbs in 2018, 115k lbs in 2019)			
4.2.2.1.1	Alt. 2 – Sub-Option 1a	NGOM TAC split: first 70,000 lbs to LAGC, then 50/50 split			
4.2.2.1.2	Alt. 2 – Sub-Option 2a	NGOM TAC split first 95,000 lbs to LAGC, then 25/75 between LAGC and LA			
4.2.2.2	Alt 2 – Option 2b	Set NGOM TAC at F=0.18 (200k lbs in 2018, 135k lbs in 2019)			
4.2.2.2.1	Alt. 2 – Sub-Option 1b	NGOM TAC split: first 70,000 lbs to LAGC, then 50/50 split			
4.2.2.2.2	Alt. 2 – Sub-Option 2b	NGOM TAC split first 95,000 lbs to LAGC, then 25/75 between LAGC and LA			
4.2.3	Alt. 3	Set NGOM TAC at 0 for FY 2018 and FY 2019			
Decisions/Questions/Information to Consider:					
The Council has developed a range of measures that include provisions that would modify how the LAGC and LA components operate in the NGOM management area.					

PDT Support for Alternative 2

Section 4.3 – Allocate CAI Carryover

- 1,638,604 pounds of LA CAI Carryover, 130 LA vessels
- Allocation is primarily from FY 2013 these trips were allocated through a lotter, but not harvested because it was not economically feasible
- Alternative 2 would allocate these pounds if either NLS-West or CAI Access Areas open through OHA2 for FY 2018

Allocation Year	Authorized	Landed	Underharvest
FY 2012	590,641	306,461	284,180
FY 2013	1,534,000	179,576	1,354,424
Total	2,124,641	486,037	**1,638,604**

Section 4.3 – Allocate CAI Carryover

Mechanics of Alternative 2:

Allocation of Closed Area I carryover would be done in following order:

1. If both Closed Area I and the Nantucket Lightship West are available, allocated exclusively to CA I.
2. If only Closed Area I is available, the carryover pounds would be allocated exclusively to CA I.
3. If only the Nantucket Lightship West is available (and CAI is not), allocate exclusively to Nantucket Lightship West.
4. If no changes are made through OHA2, the carryover pounds would not be allocated through FW29.

Allocation would be in addition to each FT trip allocated to the area.

Section 4.3 – Allocate CAI Carryover

Section 4.3	Allocate LA Closed Area I Carryover Pounds		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.3.1	Alt. 1	No Action			
4.3.2	Alt. 2	Allocate LA CAI Carryover Pounds for FY 2018, contingent upon OHA2 approval	**		

PDT Supports Alternative 2

Section 4.4 – Specifications

- Document 2a: Pages 9 - 12
- Document 2: Pages 29 – 48, impacts in Section 7
- Handout – Document 2a, Table 5 correction (*All allocations stayed the same*)

- Anticipate NMFS to make a decision on OHA2 by January 4, 2018, after the Council takes final action on FW29
- Many of the areas that may open hold high densities of exploitable scallops
- The Council has developed a range of measures to facilitate harvest of scallops in the Nantucket Lightship and/or Closed Area I if these areas open.
- The AP and Committee may wish to identify a *preferred alternative* for all OHA2 scenarios in FW29.

Section 4.4 – Specifications

- Document 2a: See pages 1 and 2, and Table 2
- Document 2: Pages 29 – 48, impacts in section 7
- Handout – Document 2a, Table 5 correction (*All allocations stayed the same*)

#	OHA2 Specification Scenarios	Alternatives	Council's preferred alternative
1	No change to current habitat and groundfish closures.	4.4.2 - BASE Runs 4.4.1 - No Action	AP:TBD CTE:TBD
2	Approval and implementation of both Georges Bank measures (Alternative 10 in 2.3.4 of OHA2) and Great South Channel and Southern New England (Alternative 4 in Section 2.3.5 of OHA2)	4.4.3 & 4.4.4 - Both open (5 & 6 trip options) 4.4.5 - NLS West Runs 4.4.6 - CAIF36 4.4.2 - BASE Runs 4.4.1 - No Action	AP:TBD CTE:TBD
3	Approval and implementation of only Great South Channel and Southern New England measures through OHA2	4.4.5 - NLS West Runs 4.4.2 - BASE Runs 4.4.1 - No Action	AP:TBD CTE:TBD
4	Approval and implementation of only Georges Bank measures though OHA2	4.4.6 - CAIF36 4.4.2 - BASE Runs 4.4.1 - No Action	AP:TBD CTE:TBD

Section 4.4 – Specifications

- Document 2a: See pages 1 and 2, and Table 2
- Document 2: Pages 29 – 48, impacts in section 7
- Handout – Document 2a, Table 5 correction (*All allocations stayed the same*)

- The AP and Committee may wish to identify a *preferred alternative* for all four OHA2 scenarios in FW29.
  - Four separate motions for preferred alternatives.
- The following measures could be selected for any OHA2 options, and are included to show full range of measures:
  - Status Quo (FW28 measures applied in FY 2018)
  - No Action (FY 2018 default measures from FW 28)
  - BASE Run (Fish only in areas currently open to fishery)

Section 4.4 – PDT Input

Document 6c

- Option of F=0.4 vs. F=0.36, **PDT recommends F=0.36**
- **If Council wants to further reduce impacts on open bottom, the PDT recommends Alt. 4, "6 trip" option.**
- **PDT has reservations about 3 AA trips in MAAA (and NLS-West)**
- **At low levels of DAS, there is uncertainty around how they fishery will utilize DAS.**
- **Substantial uncertainty around NLS-ext estimates, which impact DAS in most FW29 Alternatives**

Document 2a: page 9

Both NLS and CAI Available

FW 29 Measure	*Section in FW29*	Open Area F	Landings w/ CAI carryover	APL after set-asides	FT LA DAS	FT Access Area Allocation, AA trips ()	LAGC IFQ Only (5%) Quota
Status Quo FW 28 preferred	4.4.7	F=0.44	n/a	41.7 mil	25	72,000 (4)	2.08 mil
Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	4.4.1	F=0.39	n/a	22.3 mil	21.75	18,000 (1)	1.1 mil
Alternative 2 Base Runs	4.4.2.1	F=0.36	n/a	49.6 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.48 mil
	4.4.2.2	F=0.4	n/a	51.5 mil	26	90,000 (5)	2.57 mil
Alternative 3 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 5 trip option	**4.4.3.1**	F=0.36	57.7 mil	53.8 mil	28	90,000 (5)	2.69 mil
	4.4.3.2	F=0.4	59.9 mil	57.6 mil	31	90,000 (5)	2.8 mil
Alternative 4 Both CAI and NLS-W open, 6 trip option	**4.4.4.1**	F=0.26	57.9 mil	53.9 mil	21	108,000 (6)	2.7 mil
	4.4.4.2	F=0.295	60 mil	56.1 mil	24	108,000 (6)	2.8 mil
Alternative 5 Only NLS West opens	**4.4.5.1**	F=0.36	57.8 mil	53.9 mil	28	90,000 (5)	2.7 mil
	4.4.5.2	F=0.4	59.9 mil	55.9 mil	31	90,000 (5)	2.8 mil
Alternative 6 Only CAI Opens	**4.4.6**	F=0.36	53.0 mil	49.0 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.45 mil

Document 2a: page 10

Only NLS-West Available

FW 29 Measure	*Section in FW29*	Open Area F	Landings w/ CAI carryover	APL after set-asides	FT LA DAS	FT Access Area Allocation, AA trips ()	LAGC IFQ Only (5%) Quota
Status Quo FW 28 preferred	4.4.7	F=0.44	n/a	41.7 mil	25	72,000 (4)	2.08 mil
Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	4.4.1	F=0.39	n/a	22.3 mil	21.75	18,000 (1)	1.1 mil
Alternative 2 Base Runs	4.4.2.1	F=0.36	n/a	49.6 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.48 mil
	4.4.2.2	F=0.4	n/a	51.5 mil	26	90,000 (5)	2.57 mil
Alternative 5 Only NLS West opens	**4.4.5.1**	F=0.36	57.8 mil	53.9 mil	28	90,000 (5)	2.7 mil
	4.4.5.2	F=0.4	59.9 mil	55.9 mil	31	90,000 (5)	2.8 mil

Document 2a: page 11

Only CAI Available

FW 29 Measure	*Section in FW29*	Open Area F	Landings w/ CAI carryover	APL after set-asides	FT LA DAS	FT Access Area Allocation, AA trips ()	LAGC IFQ Only (5%) Quota
Status Quo FW 28 preferred	4.4.7	F=0.44	n/a	41.7 mil	25	72,000 (4)	2.08 mil
Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	4.4.1	F=0.39	n/a	22.3 mil	21.75	18,000 (1)	1.1 mil
Alternative 2 Base Runs	4.4.2.1	F=0.36	n/a	49.6 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.48 mil
	4.4.2.2	F=0.4	n/a	51.5 mil	26	90,000 (5)	2.57 mil
Alternative 6 Only CAI Opens	**4.4.6**	F=0.36	53.0 mil	49.0 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.45 mil

No Change to Habitat or Groundfish Closures

FW 29 Measure	*Section in FW29*	Open Area F	Landings w/ CAI carryover	APL after set-asides	FT LA DAS	FT Access Area Allocation, AA trips ()	LAGC IFQ Only (5%) Quota
Status Quo FW 28 preferred	4.4.7	F=0.44	n/a	41.7 mil	25	72,000 (4)	2.08 mil
Alternative 1 No Action (FW 28 Def.)	4.4.1	F=0.39	n/a	22.3 mil	21.75	18,000 (1)	1.1 mil
Alternative 2 Base Runs	4.4.2.1	F=0.36	n/a	49.6 mil	23	90,000 (5)	2.48 mil
	4.4.2.2	F=0.4	n/a	51.5 mil	26	90,000 (5)	2.57 mil

Section 4.5 – LAGC IFQ AA Allocations

- Document 2a: Pages 13 – 14
- Document 2: Pages 49 - 50

- ***4.5.1 - Decision 1: How to allocate IFQ AA trips?***
  - Alt 1. – Default Trips (558 trips)
  - Alt 2. – 5.5% of AA allocation
    - 5 trip options: 2,855 total trips
    - 6 trip options: 3,426 total trips
- ***4.5.2 - Decision 2: Where to allocate those trips to?***
  - Alt 1. – 558 trips to MAAA
  - Alt 2. – Allocate LAGC IFQ Access Area Trips Proportional to Allocations in each area, and allocate the equivalent of CA II trips to evenly to Georges Bank access areas

Section 4.5 – LAGC IFQ AA Allocations

- *4.5.2* – Alt 2. – Allocate LAGC IFQ Access Area Trips Proportional to Allocations in each area, and allocate the equivalent of CA II trips to evenly to Georges Bank access areas.
- **571 trips per FT LA trip.**
- **BASE run, CAII trips all go to NLS-S**
- **CAI run, split CAII trips between NLS-S and CAI**

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
			Number of Trips in Each Access Area					Proportion of Trips by Region	
Alternative	LAGC IFQ trips	Total FT AA trips	CAII	NLS-S	MAAA	NLS-West	CAI	GB%	MA%
1 - No Action	558	1			558				100%
2 - BASE	2855	5		1,142	1,713			40%	60%
3 - 5BOTH	2855	5		1,142	1,142		571	60%	40%
4 - 6BOTH	3426	6		571	1,142	1,142	571	66%	34%
5 - NLSW	2855	5		571	1,142	1,142		40%	60%
6 - CAI	2855	5		856	1,142		856	60%	40%

Section 4.5 – LAGC IFQ AA Allocations

Fishery Allocations to the LAGC IFQ Component		PDT Preferred	AP Preferred	CTE Preferred
4.5.1 - Allocation of the LAGC IFQ Trips in Access Areas				
Alt. 1	No Action (851 trips, default measure			
Alt. 2	5.5% of overall AA allocations	**		
4.5.2 - LAGC IFQ Allocations by area				
Alt. 1	Equal Disctribution to All Access Areas			
Alt. 2	Allocate LAGC IFQ Access Area Trips Proportional to Allocations in each area, and allocate the equivalent of CA II trips to evenly to Georges Bank access areas	**		

PDT supports:
4.5.1 – Alternative 2 (4.5.1.2)
4.5.2 – Alternative 2 (4.5.2.2)

Issues to Clarify – Default Measures

Default Measures for FY2019 – Page 15 of Doc.2a

- **PDT Recommendation:**
  - For LA Vessels – 75% of projected DAS, and 1 access area trip at 18,000 lbs in the Mid-Atlantic.
  - For LAGC vessels – 75% of 2017 allocations, LAGC access area trips set at 5.5% of the total access area allocation for default measures. These trips would be available in the MAAA.

- Based on the default measures developed in FW28.

Issues to Clarify – PT allocations

- **PDT input on page 15 or Doc.2a**
  - Likely PT allocations:
    - **5 trip options: 36,000 lbs of AA lbs and ~12 DAS**
    - **6 trip option: 43,200 lbs of AA lbs, and ~9 DAS**
  - Majority of PT fleet homeported in Mid-Atlantic
  - ***PDT Recommendation:***
    - 5 Trip options: Two (2) AA trips at 18,000 lbs per trip
      - PT vessels may take up to one (1) of these trips in any open access area, or up to two (2 – both trips) in the MAAA
    - 6 Trip option: Three (3) AA trips at 14,400 lbs per trip.
      - 1 trip in MAAA, 1 trip in NLS-West, 1 trip in CAI

Section 4.6 – Measures to Reduce Fishery Impacts

- Measure focuses on RSA compensation fishing.
- Alternative 2 considers restrictions on RSA compensation fishing in FY2018
  - NGOM Management Area (up to LA TAC)
  - CA II (yellowtail)
- This leaves the following areas available for compensation fishing:
  - Open Areas
  - All other access areas that may open (CAI, NLS-S, NLS-W, MAAA)

Section 4.6 – Measures to Reduce Fishery Impacts

Doc 2a. – Page 16

Section 2.5	Measures to Reduce Fishery Impacts		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.6.1	Alt. 1	No Action, RSA Comp fishing restricted to open areas			
4.6.2	Alt. 2	RSA Comp fishing prohibited in CAII, and limited to LA TAC in NGOM	**		

- PDT supports Alt. 2

Sections 4.7 – 4.9 – Flatfish AMs

- Measures generally focus on developing gear restricted areas → Streamline and simplify scallop AMs.
- PDT evaluated bycatch of all stocks, and considered spatial/temporal overlap
- PDT developed AM measures that aim to reduce catch of multiple flatfish stocks (i.e. GB yellowtail and Northern windowpane). With this approach, achieve bycatch savings for multiple stocks if AM is triggered.
- "Savings" are approximations – Feb. 2018 is first time GRA gear will be required in an AM.

Section 4.7 – Northern Windowpane AMs

Doc 2a. – Page 17
Doc 2. – Pages 51-56

Section 4.7	AMs for Northern Windowpane		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.7.1	Alt. 1	No Action			
4.7.2	Alt. 2	Reactive AM in GB Open Areas			
4.7.3	Alt. 3	Reactive AM in CAII and Extension (same "small" AM for both sub-Options			
4.7.3.1	sO1	Large AM – Year Round GRA in CAII and CAII-ext			
4.7.3.2	sO2	Seasonal Closure in CA II and CAI ext (Nov 16 – Dec 31)			

Georges Bank GRA Comparisons

	Alternative 2 – GB Open Areas	Alternative 3 – Closed Area II + Ext
Small AM	April 1 – April 30 Savings: GBYT ~2% NWP ~9%	Nov. 16 – Dec. 31st Savings: GBYT ~9% NWP ~24%
Large AM	April 1 – May 31 Savings GBYT ~ 11% NWP ~21%	Sub-Option 1: Year round GBYT ~33% NWP ~46%
		Sub-Option 2: **CLOSURE** Nov. 16 – Dec. 31st Savings: GBYT ~28% NWP ~51%

Section 4.8 – GB Yellowtail AMs

Doc 2a. – Page 18
Doc 2. – Pages 56-61

Section 4.8	AMs for GB YT		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.8.1	Alt. 1	No Action			
4.8.2	Alt. 2	Reactive AM in GB Open Areas			
4.8.3	Alt. 3	Reactive AM in CAII and Extension (same "small" AM for both sub-Options			
4.8.3.1	sO1	Large AM – Year Round GRA in CAII and CAII-ext			
4.8.3.2	sO2	Seasonal Closure in CA II and CAI ext (Nov 16 – Dec 31)			

Section 4.9 – SNE/MA Yellowtail AMs

Doc 2a. – Page 19
Doc 2. – Pages 61-72

Section 4.9	AMs for SNE/MA YT		PDT Pref.	AP Pref.	CTE Pref.
4.9.1	Alt. 1	No Action			
4.9.2	Alt. 2	Reactive AM in GB Open Areas Small AM – April (~10% savings) Large AM – April & May (~17% savings)			

Committee Tasking re: FW29 Projections

Doc 2a. – Page 20
Document 4 – PDT Memo

- **The PDT recommends that the Council proactively apply the "small" Northern windowpane reactive AM being developed in FW29 (proactive for FY 2018 only, if CAII is open).**
  - 5-row apron with a 1.5:1 maximum hanging ratio from November 16 – December 31 in Closed Area II. (6 weeks).
  - This measure is anticipated to reduce CAII AA bycatch of Northern windowpane by ~24%, and Georges Bank yellowtail bycatch by ~9% during that time.

End.