

A21: LAGC IFQ Alternatives

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Scallop Committee Meeting—March 27, 2020



New England
Fishery Management Council

LAGC IFQ Possession Limit

See Doc.2a—A21 DRAFT Alternatives

- **Action 6 – Increase the LAGC IFQ Possession Limit**
 - Range of alternatives: 600 pounds (No Action), 800 pounds, 1,000 pounds, 1,200 pounds
 - Sub-Options: 1) increase for open/access area trips, 2) increase for access area trips only

Potential decision point related to increasing the trip limit raised by PDT last week (see next)

LAGC IFQ Observer Compensation

- Observed LAGC IFQ trips able to catch trip limit plus compensation from Scallop IFO to offset cost of carrying observer.
 - Current compensation covers one day, regardless of trip length (daily rate for FY2019 = 250 pounds)

Input from PDT on 3/17/20:

- Concerns raised around increasing the possession limit without accounting for longer trips WRT to LAGC IFQ observer compensation
- One-day coverage rate was set when original 400-pound trip limit was in place
- Vessels shoulder the cost of total trip (i.e. providers charge vessels prorated hourly rate for trips > 1 day)
- Concern that vessels may fish differently with observer on board (e.g. fishing shorter trips than they would otherwise) → potential for biasing observer records
- Similar comments received during scoping process for A21

LAGC IFQ Observer Compensation

- PDT recommendation: consider adding alternatives that would adjust amount of compensation observed LAGC IFQ trips are eligible for.

Action 7 – Increase the Amount of Observer Compensation Available for LAGC IFQ Vessels

- Range of alternatives:
 - Keep current compensation for one day (No Action)
 - Prorate daily compensation rate in 12-hour increments
 - Allow a second day of compensation

Note: PDT added these alternatives to streamline discussion today. A motion or consensus is needed if AP/CTE wants these to be in A21

Observer compensation options

- **Alternative 2 – Prorate daily compensation rate in 12-hour increments for observed LAGC IFQ trips longer than one day**
 - Allows for additional compensation for trips longer than one day, capped at two days
 - Compensation could be caught on observed trip in addition to possession limit, or on subsequent trip up to possession limit
 - Prorating in 12-hour increments helps moderate observer set-aside utilization and reduce incentive for observed trips to fish longer just to receive more compensation

Observer compensation options

- **Alternative 3 – Allow second day of compensation for trips over 24 hours**
 - Allows for up to two days of compensation for observed trips
 - Compensation could be caught on observed trip in addition to possession limit, or on subsequent trip up to possession limit

Examples

- Using current daily compensation rate (250 pounds per day):

Example 1: For a trip time of ≤ 24 hours

- Alt. 1 – 250 pounds compensation
- Alt. 2 – 250 pounds compensation
- Alt. 3 – 250 pounds compensation

Example 2: For a trip time of 24 hours ≤ 36 hours

- Alt. 1 – 250 pounds compensation
- Alt. 2 – 375 pounds compensation
- Alt. 3 – 500 pounds compensation

Example 3: For a trip time of > 36 hours

- Alt. 1 – 250 pounds compensation
- Alt. 2 – 500 pounds compensation
- Alt. 3 – 500 pounds compensation

One-Way Transfer of IFQ

See Doc.2a—A21 DRAFT Alternatives

- **Action 8 – One-Way Transfer of Quota from LA with IFQ to LAGC IFQ-Only**
- Range of alternatives:
 - No Action
 - Allow temporary transfers only
 - Allow permanent and temporary transfers
- Sub-Options related to quota accumulation caps: 1) No change, 2) apply caps to total IFQ allocation

No decision point necessary at this time.



Questions?