

DRAFT - Issues/Ideas for RSA Topics for 2019/2020:

Scallop PDT – Looking for initial input on RSA research priorities.

See OneDrive for marked-up versions.

1. Continuation of dredge tow duration work.
 - a. Optimal tow length for survey dredge, specifically in high density areas.
 - i. A VIMS study comparing 15-min to 10-min tows was not conclusive that shortening tow duration by 5 min in the appropriate response to this issue.
2. Studies/analysis to quantify the impact of offshore energy development on the scallop fishery.
 - a. E.g. - Spatial overlap of the fishery with lease sites.
3. Harvest procedures/MSE for scallop rotational management.
 - a. This idea came up on a recent PDT call.
4. Fluctuations of the cold pool in Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic, and its relationship to scallop recruitment.
5. Survey Areas – Research to support evaluation of rotational management?
 - a. Intensive survey work - Access areas/Areas of interest:
 - i. Mid-Atlantic Access Areas and surrounds
 - ii. Nantucket Lightship areas and surrounds
 - iii. Closed Area I and surrounds
 - iv. Closed Area II and surrounds
 - v. Northern edge HAPC and surrounds
 - vi. Open area south of Long Island
 1. Why:
 - a. Research suggests that spat from animals in this area likely settles south in the Mid-Atlantic.
 - b. Area of interest for offshore energy development
 - vii. Gulf of Maine
 1. Area north of Provincetown
 - b. Broadscale
 - i. Mid-Atlantic
 - ii. Georges Bank
 - iii. Areas that are known to hold scallops in the Gulf of Maine
6. Bycatch Issues – Specific areas of focus?
7. Scallop Meat Quality/Diseases/Parasites
 - a. Nematodes
 - b. Gray Meats
 - c. Others?
8. WHAT ELSE? PDT add to this list if you have additional ideas.