

AP and CTE: See Tables/Figures for Comparison of Alternatives under Consideration

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Scallop Framework 28

Framework 28 is considering a range of allocations for FY2017 fishery specifications including ten (10) overall alternatives, which include slightly different DAS allocations and area closures (Table 3). The Council is considering changing how specification values are calculated for the IFQ component in this action. Under status quo, the IFQ component’s quota would be allocated at 5.5% of the ACL. The Council is also considering allocating the IFQ quota based on projected landings associated with each specification run. Overall projected landings are expected to be about 52.4 million pounds if status quo is selected, or 51-47 million pounds if allocations are based on projected landings for all groups. Both options represent an increase from FY2016 levels. The No Action Alternative (2.3.1.1.4), is FY2017 default measures set in Scallop Framework 27, which are precautionary (limited access area effort for limited access vessels). This alternative is included in the analysis, but it is assumed that FW28 will replace those default measures. Status Quo (2.3.1.1.3) would carry forward the same specification configuration approved through FW27, which includes 34.55 DAS for FT LA vessels and three (3) access area trips in the MAAA. The Basic Run and Basic Run with Elephant Trunk Rotational Closure Flex (ETC Flex) Option are very similar overall, and only differ in terms of area closure options. Both options allocate four (4) 18,000 pound access area trips to FT LA vessels, with the same configuration of closures with the exception of the current ET Closure. Under the ETC flex option, FT LA vessels would have the choice to fish one of their AA trips in the Mid-Atlantic in either the current MAAA or in what is currently the Elephant Trunk Rotational Closure. All three DAS options use the same configuration on openings/closures, which includes the opening of the NLS extension as open bottom.

Table 1 - Overview of Each Run under Consideration in FW28. Note: Run column corresponds with the tables in this document.

Approach to setting Specifications		FW 28 Measure	Description	Run
No Action (IFQ at 5.5% of ACL) Section 2.3.1		2.3.1.1.1	Basic Run and 30 DAS	2. Basic Run GCSQ
		2.3.1.1.2	Basic Run + ETC Flex at 30 DAS	SQ
		2.3.1.1.3	Status Quo From FY2016 (FW27)	7. ETCGC SQ
		2.3.1.1.4	No Action	1. No Action
Applying Spatial Management to Spec Setting (IFQ at 5.5% of PL) Section 2.3.2	Basic Run Options	2.3.2.1.1.1	Basic Run and 30 DAS	3. Basic Run GCP
		2.3.2.1.1.2	Basic Run and DAS set at F=0.4	4. OpF=0.4
		2.3.2.1.1.3	Basic Run and DAS set at F=0.48	5. OpF=0.48
	Basic Run + ETC Flex Options	2.3.2.1.2.1	Basic Run + ETC Flex at 30 DAS	6. ETC
		2.3.2.1.2.2	Basic+ETC Flex and DAS set at F=0.4	Same as 4.OpF=0.4
		2.3.2.1.2.3	Basic+ETC Flex and DAS set at F=0.48	Same as 5.OpF=0.48

1.0 IMPACTS

1.1 OVERFISHING LIMIT AND ANNUAL BIOLOGICAL CATCH

1.1.1 Overfishing Limit and Annual Biological Catch

The Magnuson-Stevens Act requires that annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) be set in all fishery management plans to help control total harvest. Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) is defined as the maximum catch that is recommended for harvest, consistent with meeting the biological objectives of the management plan. The Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) is responsible for setting ABC.

1.1.2 Alternative 1 – No Action for OFL and ABC

1.1.3 Alternative 2 – Updated OFL and ABC for FY 2017 (13 month FY) and FY 2018 (default)

1.2 NORTHERN GULF OF MAINE TAC

1.2.1 Alternative 1 – No Action (70,000 lb TAC)

1.2.2 Alternative 2 – NGOM TAC based on survey and catch data

1.2.2.1 Sub-Option 1 – NGOM TAC of 95,000 lbs

1.2.2.2 Sub-Option 2 – NGOM TAC of 111,000 lbs

1.3 APPLYING SPATIAL MANAGEMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION SETTING PROCESS (ACL FLOWCHART)

Projected Total Biomass:

Figure 1 - Comparison of projected total scallop biomass (mt)

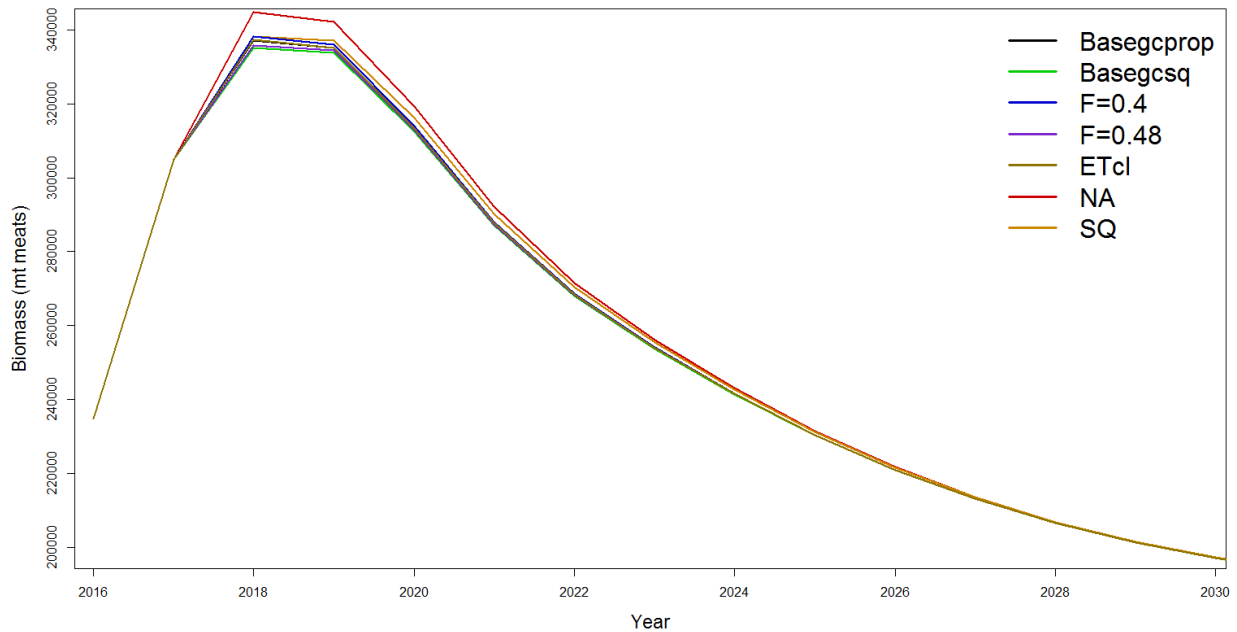


Table 2 - Projected Biomass (mt) for alternatives under consideration.

subperiod	Fishing year	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017-2018	2017	304,955	304,955	304,955	304,955	304,955	304,955	304,955	304,991
	2018	338,143	344,818	335,111	337,003	338,214	335,821	337,260	335,475
2017-2018 Total		643,098	649,773	640,066	641,958	643,169	640,776	642,215	640,466
2019-2021	2019	337,019	342,060	333,665	335,130	335,954	334,326	335,119	333,701
	2020	316,084	319,351	312,363	313,412	313,935	312,901	313,406	312,390
	2021	290,138	292,129	287,060	287,723	288,050	287,429	287,783	287,154
2019-2021 Total		943,241	953,540	933,088	936,265	937,939	934,656	936,308	933,245
2022-2031	2022	270,468	271,619	268,043	268,446	268,622	268,290	268,469	268,085
	2023	255,538	256,194	253,719	253,963	254,055	253,883	253,955	253,719
	2024	242,718	243,089	241,402	241,551	241,598	241,510	241,529	241,382
	2025	231,267	231,473	230,337	230,428	230,452	230,407	230,408	230,317
	2026	221,599	221,710	220,952	221,008	221,020	220,998	220,994	220,938
	2027	213,569	213,629	213,125	213,159	213,165	213,154	213,150	213,116
	2028	206,909	206,940	206,606	206,601	206,604	206,599	206,596	206,601
	2029	201,618	201,634	201,413	201,383	201,384	201,382	201,380	201,410
	2030	197,399	197,408	197,261	197,216	197,216	197,215	197,214	197,259
	2031	193,811	193,816	193,718	193,664	193,664	193,664	193,663	193,717
2022-2031 Total		2,234,896	2,237,512	2,226,576	2,227,419	2,227,780	2,227,102	##### #	2,226,544
Grand Total		3,821,235	3,840,825	3,799,730	3,805,642	3,808,888	3,802,534	##### #	3,800,255

Projected Landings:

Table 3 - Projected Total Landings for Alternatives under Consideration.

subperiod	Fishing year	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETCG CSQ
2017-2018	2017	47.7	35.6	52.4	49.2	47.3	51.1	49.2	52.4
	2018	67.2	69.7	68.5	69.2	69.9	68.4	69.5	68.9
Total		114.9	105.4	120.9	118.4	117.1	119.5	118.7	121.3
2019-2021	2019	81.0	83.5	82.2	82.8	83.3	82.3	82.8	82.2
	2020	82.3	84.0	81.7	82.2	82.5	81.9	82.1	81.6
	2021	71.1	72.3	70.4	70.8	71.0	70.6	70.8	70.5
Total		234.4	239.8	234.3	235.8	236.8	234.8	235.7	234.3
2022-2031	2022	64.6	65.3	64.0	64.2	64.3	64.1	64.2	64.0
	2023	61.6	61.9	61.0	61.1	61.2	61.1	61.1	61.0
	2024	60.6	60.8	60.2	60.2	60.2	60.2	60.2	60.1
	2025	59.2	59.3	58.9	58.9	58.9	58.9	58.9	58.8
	2026	57.7	57.7	57.4	57.5	57.5	57.5	57.5	57.4
	2027	57.0	57.0	56.8	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.8
	2028	56.4	56.4	56.3	56.4	56.4	56.4	56.4	56.3
	2029	56.0	56.1	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0
	2030	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0	56.0
	2031	56.2	56.2	56.2	56.1	56.1	56.1	56.1	56.2
Total		585.2	586.8	582.7	583.2	583.5	583.1	583.3	582.7
Grand Total		934.6	932.0	937.9	937.4	937.4	937.4	937.7	938.3

Figure 2 - Comparison of projected scallop landings (mt)

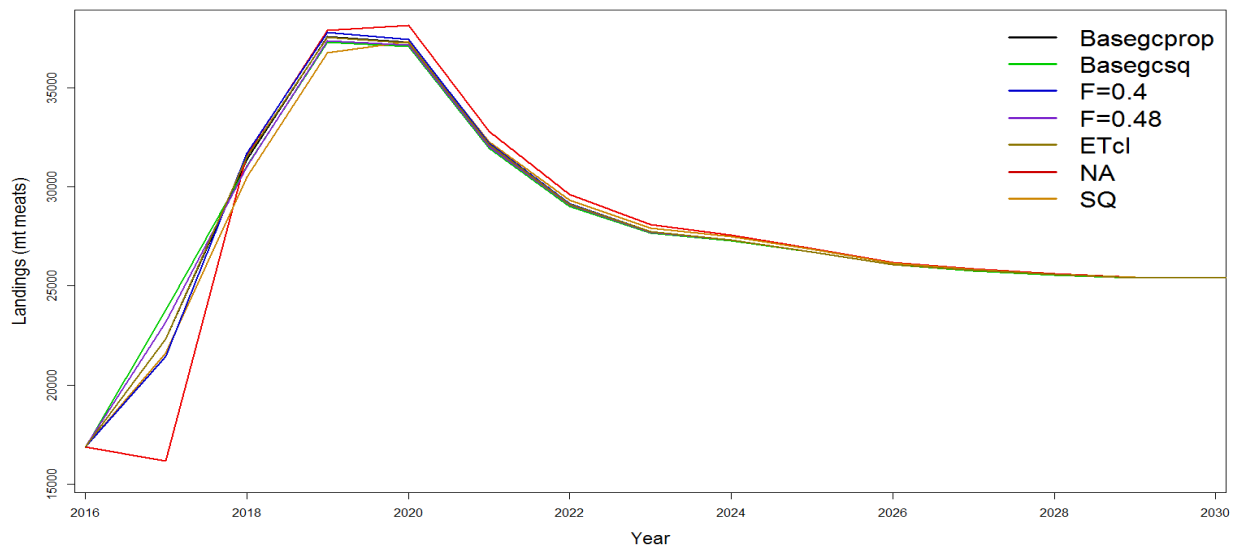


Table 4 - Projected Average Open Area F for alternatives under consideration.

Average of OpF		Scenario							
subpe riod	FY	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt- GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF =0.4	5.OpF =0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017- 2018	2017	0.59	0.62	0.46	0.44	0.40	0.48	0.44	0.46
	2018	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
2017- 2018 Total		0.54	0.55	0.47	0.46	0.44	0.48	0.46	0.47
2019- 2021	2019	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2020	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2021	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
2019- 2021 Total		0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
2022- 2031	2022	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2023	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2024	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2025	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2026	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2027	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2028	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2029	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2030	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
	2031	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
2022- 2031 Total		0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48
Grand Total		0.49	0.49	0.48	0.48	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.48

Table 5 - Projected Average of FT LA DAS for alternatives under consideration.

subperiod	Fishing year	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017-2018	2017	34.50	34.50	30.00	30.00	27.56	32.44	30.00	30.00
	2018	33.40	33.10	35.70	35.70	36.24	35.25	35.80	34.00
2017-2018 Total		33.95	33.80	32.85	32.85	31.90	33.85	32.90	32.00
2019-2021	2019	53.10	55.70	58.10	58.10	58.44	57.71	59.00	56.00
	2020	70.60	72.20	74.70	74.70	74.87	74.37	74.60	72.00
	2021	59.50	60.30	63.60	63.60	63.81	63.45	63.80	60.00
2019-2021 Total		61.07	62.73	65.47	65.47	65.71	65.18	65.80	62.67
2022-2031	2022	56.30	56.80	60.00	60.00	60.12	59.94	60.10	57.00
	2023	55.70	56.00	59.00	59.00	59.08	58.99	59.10	56.00
	2024	55.90	56.00	59.00	59.00	59.05	59.00	59.00	56.00
	2025	55.60	55.70	58.20	58.20	58.22	58.19	58.20	55.00
	2026	55.00	55.00	57.50	57.50	57.51	57.50	57.50	55.00
	2027	55.10	55.10	57.40	57.40	57.38	57.38	57.40	55.00
	2028	54.90	54.90	57.10	57.10	57.07	57.07	57.10	55.00
	2029	54.90	54.90	56.90	56.90	56.88	56.88	56.90	55.00
	2030	55.30	55.30	57.00	57.00	57.02	57.02	57.00	55.00
	2031	55.40	55.40	57.10	57.10	57.10	57.10	57.10	55.00
2022-2031 Total		55.41	55.51	57.92	57.92	57.94	57.91	57.94	55.40
Grand Total		53.68	54.06	56.09	56.09	56.02	56.15	56.17	53.73

Table 6 - Projected Average LPUE of Open Areas for alternatives under consideration.

subperiod	Fishing year	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017-2018	2017	2095	2070	2312	2323	2349	2297	2323	2312
	2018	2320	2306	2320	2329	2352	2307	2329	2320
Total		2208	2188	2316	2326	2351	2302	2326	2316
2019-2021	2019	2459	2481	2462	2470	2478	2462	2478	2473
	2020	2836	2852	2836	2839	2841	2838	2835	2831
	2021	2790	2801	2791	2793	2794	2793	2788	2785
	Total	2695	2711	2696	2701	2704	2698	2700	2696
2022-2031	2022	2664	2674	2667	2668	2669	2668	2665	2663
	2023	2583	2589	2585	2586	2586	2586	2584	2583
	2024	2557	2560	2558	2558	2558	2558	2558	2557
	2025	2542	2544	2542	2543	2543	2543	2542	2542
	2026	2515	2516	2515	2515	2515	2515	2515	2515
	2027	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500
	2028	2493	2493	2493	2493	2493	2493	2493	2493
	2029	2489	2490	2489	2489	2489	2489	2489	2490
	2030	2486	2486	2486	2485	2485	2485	2485	2486
	2031	2490	2490	2490	2490	2490	2490	2490	2490
Total	2532	2534	2533	2533	2533	2533	2533	2532	2532
Grand Total		2521	2523	2536	2539	2543	2535	2538	2536

Table 7 - Projected average LPUE all areas

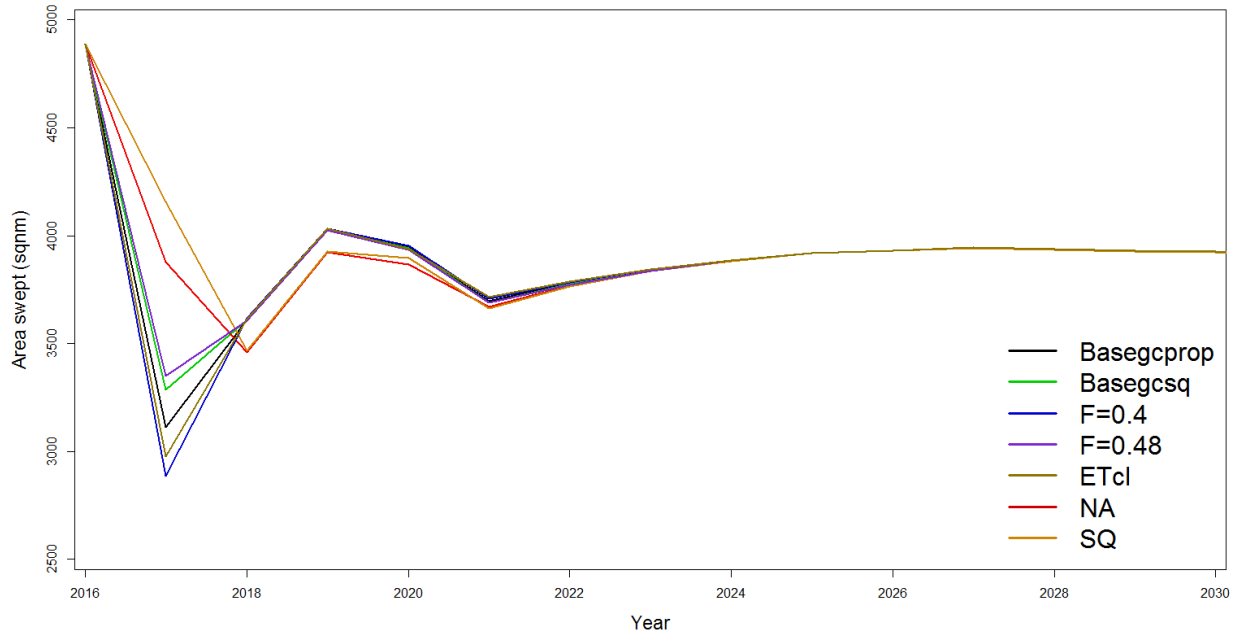
subperiod	FY	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017-2018	2017	2240	2139	2580	2593	2620	2566	2635	2627
	2018	2707	2709	2680	2685	2694	2677	2681	2675
Total		2474	2424	2630	2639	2657	2622	2658	2651
2019-2021	2019	2842	2847	2813	2817	2821	2813	2809	2805
	2020	2935	2949	2903	2906	2907	2905	2902	2899
	2021	2896	2906	2869	2871	2872	2871	2866	2863
Total		2891	2901	2862	2865	2867	2863	2859	2856
2022-2031	2022	2777	2785	2757	2758	2759	2758	2755	2753
	2023	2695	2701	2680	2682	2682	2681	2680	2679
	2024	2664	2667	2654	2654	2654	2654	2654	2653
	2025	2646	2648	2638	2639	2639	2639	2638	2638
	2026	2618	2619	2612	2612	2612	2612	2612	2612
	2027	2601	2601	2597	2597	2597	2597	2596	2597
	2028	2592	2592	2589	2589	2589	2589	2589	2589
	2029	2587	2587	2585	2584	2584	2584	2584	2585
	2030	2582	2582	2581	2580	2580	2580	2580	2581
	2031	2586	2586	2585	2584	2584	2584	2584	2585
Total		2635	2637	2628	2628	2628	2628	2627	2627
Grand Total		2665	2661	2675	2677	2680	2674	2678	2676

Table 8 - Projected Average Overall F for alternatives under consideration.

subperiod	Fishing year	SQ	1. No Action	2. Basic alt-GCSQ	3. BASIC ALT - GCP	4.OpF= 0.4	5.OpF= 0.48	6.ETC	7.ETC GCSQ
2017-2018	2017	0.08	0.05	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.18
	2018	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.14
Total		0.12	0.10	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16
2019-2021	2019	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
	2020	0.18	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
	2021	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16
Total		0.17	0.17	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16
2022-2031	2022	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
	2023	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
	2024	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
	2025	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
	2026	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
	2027	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
	2028	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
	2029	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
	2030	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19
	2031	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Total		0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
Grand Total		0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17

Swept Area:

Figure 3 - Comparison of total swept area (sqnm)



1.3.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

There would be no change to the current process of specifying allocations to the LA and LAGC IFQ components of the fishery.

1.3.1.1 Overall Fishery Specifications Under Status Quo

1.3.1.1.1 Alternative 1 – Basic Run at 30 DAS (F=0.46)

1.3.1.1.2 Alternative 2 – Basic Run with ETC Flex Option at 30 DAS (F=0.46)

1.3.1.1.3 Alternative 3 – Status Quo (FW27 measures from FY 2016)

1.3.1.1.4 Alternative 4 – No Action (FW 27 Default Measures for FY 2017)

1.3.1.1.5 Default Measures for FY2018

1.3.1.2 Fishery Allocations to the LAGC IFQ Component

1.3.1.2.1 Number of LAGC IFQ Access Area Trips

1.3.1.2.1.1 No Action

1.3.1.2.1.2 Same AA proportion as LA

1.3.1.2.1.3 5.5% of overall AA Allocation

1.3.1.2.2 LAGC IFQ Allocations by Access Area

1.3.1.2.2.1 Alternative 1 – Equal Distribution to all open Access Areas

1.3.1.2.2.2 Alternative 2 – Equal split by AA, prorate CA2 to evenly to other Access Areas

1.3.1.2.2.3 Alternative 3 – Equal split by AA, prorate CA2 trips 50% to NLS and 50% to MAAA/ETC

1.3.2 Fishery Allocations Based on Spatial Management

1.3.2.1 Overall Fishery Specifications under Spatial Management

1.3.2.1.1 Basic Run

1.3.2.1.1.1 30 DAS (F=0.44)

1.3.2.1.1.2 F=0.40 (27.56 DAS)

1.3.2.1.1.3 F=0.48 (32.44 DAS)

1.3.2.1.2 Basic Run with Elephant Trunk Rotational Flex Option

1.3.2.1.2.1 30 DAS (F=0.44)

1.3.2.1.2.2 F=0.40 (27.56 DAS)

1.3.2.1.2.3 F=0.48 (32.44 DAS)

1.3.2.2 Fishery Allocations to the LAGC IFQ Component

1.3.2.2.1 Number of LAGC IFQ Access Area Trips

1.3.2.2.1.1 No Action

1.3.2.2.1.2 Same AA proportion as LA

1.3.2.2.1.3 5.5% of overall AA Allocation

1.3.2.2.2 LAGC IFQ Allocations by Access Area

1.3.2.2.2.1 Alternative 1 – Equal Distribution to all open Access Areas

1.3.2.2.2.2 Alternative 2 – Equal split by AA, prorate CA2 to evenly to other Access Areas

1.3.2.2.2.3 Alternative 3 – Equal split by AA, prorate CA2 trips 50% to NLS and 50% to MAAA/ETC

1.4 PRORATION OF ALLOCATIONS TO ACCOUNT FOR A 13 MONTH FISHING YEAR IN 2017

1.4.1 Alternative 1 - No Action, Base Allocations on 12 month FY

1.4.2 Alternative 2 – Prorate allocations for a 13 month FY by 13/12ths (8%)

1.4.3 Alternative 3 - Prorate allocations for a 13 month FY by March data (4.7%)

1.5 ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO REDUCE FISHERY IMPACTS

1.5.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

1.5.2 Alternative 2 – RSA Compensation Fishing Available in All Areas Open to the Fishery

1.5.3 Alternative 3 – RSA Compensation Only in the MAAA and Open Area (Excluding NGOM Management Area)

1.6 MODIFICATION TO THE CA I ACCESS AREA BOUNDARY

1.6.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

1.6.2 Alternative 2 – Expand CAI to include the "sliver" area to the north

1.6.3 Alternative 3 – Expand CAI to include all of CAI N HMA ("option 2")

1.7 CLOSED AREA I ACCESS AREA ALLOCATIONS

1.7.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

1.7.2 Alternative 2 – Allocate existing LA carryover pounds to the CA I AA in FY2017

1.8 POSSESSION OF SHELL STOCK INSHORE OF THE DAS MONITORING LINE

1.8.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

1.8.2 Alternative 2 – Restrict the Possession of Shell Stock Inshore of the DAS Demarcation Line north of 42° 20' N.