

Potential Scallop Priorities for 2017 – Unofficial - Staff working list	
NGOM Management	By Council Action in April 2016. Language from April Council motion: “that the Council forward a potential management priority to the scallop committee to initiate a management action in 2017 to address Northern Gulf Of Maine (NGOM) inconsistent measures in place in managing the NGOM scallop management area with the intent to be in place by FY 2018. Management actions to consider could be: changing the opening date, and considering consistent gear restrictions, possession limits, and effort controls throughout the NGOM for all permit types.”
Gear modifications to protect small scallops	By Council Action in June 2016. This was a 2016 priority that the Council elected not to pursue in FW28 at June meeting. Potential approaches include extended link, 5 row apron, etc.
Measures to address high grading.	Concept Raised by Rick Robbins at June Committee meeting. Focus would be to reduce discard mortality and improve the overall economic performance and production in the scallop fishery. There are incentives in place that may be affecting fishing behavior to increase discard mortality of scallops including low fuel prices, no time constraints in access areas, and high price premiums for larger scallops. One specific idea to facilitate this topic is to convene a specific working group to discuss this issue, potentially including Scallop AP and PDT members.
Scallop RSA Program	Discussion at June Committee about developing goals for the program, basis for scaling the program, are grants the right way to administer the program, etc. Should a review of the program come before/in conjunction with Council action?
Modify GB AAs	After the OHA2 Final rule – looking at Northern Edge, Nantucket Lightship. Ongoing scallop priority – time sensitive with progress of OHA2 final rule.
Develop new flatfish AMs	By Council Action in June 2016. Develop new flatfish AMs for scallop fishery for yellowtail flounder (SNE/MA & GB) and windowpane flounder (SWP & NWP). Council interest pursuing AMs requiring gear modifications vs. current time area closures.

PDT input for July meeting (PDT will revisit priorities again in August):

- Additions to this list?
- Comments on current list