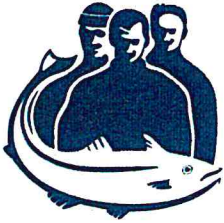
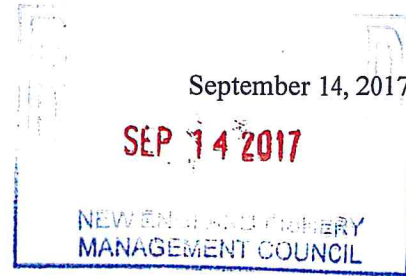


Correspondence



**MAINE COAST
FISHERMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

John Quinn
Chair, New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950



Dear Chairman Quinn:

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association on regulations for the **2018 Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop fishery.**

The Maine Coast Fishermen's Association (MCFA) is an industry-based non-profit which identifies and fosters ways to restore the fisheries of the Gulf of Maine and sustain Maine's historic fishing communities for future generations. Established and run by Maine fishermen, the objectives of the Association are to: provide a voice for our fishing communities; rebuild the Gulf of Maine ecosystem; and help build viable fishing businesses on our coast. As such, we are extremely interested in building a robust and sustainable scallop fishery in the Gulf of Maine and hope that the Council will continue to work with us towards that end.

Last year, regulatory loopholes allowed over a million pounds of scallops to be taken from the Northern Gulf of Maine more than doubling what scientists recommended could sustainably be harvested. With only a few months left to decide the regulations that should be in place for the 2018 fishing year, we ask you to not allow this type of unrestrained harvest to happen again. There are many items that need to be addressed for the long-term health of this fishery, and our hope is that those will be addressed in the upcoming amendment, but for the short-term we hope that the Committee and Council will quickly implement the following actions:

1. Establish a hard-total allowable catch (TAC) for all federal waters scallop catch within the Gulf of Maine.

To effectively manage this marine resource, the council and NOAA must be certain of what is coming out of an area. While the Day at Sea system may work for large offshore areas, the Gulf of Maine is unique and must be managed as such. To manage the limited access boats through the catch of the general category does not make sense and must be changed. This is the most important regulatory issue that we hope you will address immediately. Put a hard TAC in place for the Gulf of Maine and enforce it for all vessels.

2. Require that any trip taken within the northern Gulf of Maine is tracked and accounted for.

It is still uncertain exactly how many scallops came out of the Gulf of Maine from limited access trips last year because that category of vessel was allowed to move through different management areas on the same trip. If a boat wishes to fish within the Gulf of Maine, it must be declared to do so, the entire trip must take place within that area, and the scallops must be landed before the next trip. This goes hand-in-hand with a hard TAC and should be implemented.





**MAINE COAST
FISHERMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

3. An allocation split should be established.

The PDT has submitted a wide range of allocation splits that the committee and council can use until the next amendment is completed. For the short term, a reasonable division of allocation should be established. There is a strong history of general category landings within the Gulf of Maine and anywhere from 50% to 80% of historic landings from this area were caught by boats that had this permit or ended up with this permit. We would propose a split somewhere along those lines.

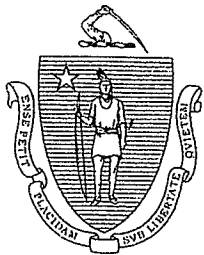
For the first time in almost two decades, scallops are rebuilding in the Gulf of Maine. While this framework will not address all the issues that must be fixed for a comprehensive and fair management plan, of the committee takes the steps outlined in this letter we will be at a much better spot to ensure a sustainable fishery as we move forward with the following amendment. We are running out of time though and I encourage the Committee to forward a set of alternatives to the Council to ensure catch and landings are controlled and accounted for in 2018.

Thank you for your support and attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

Ben Martens
Executive Director

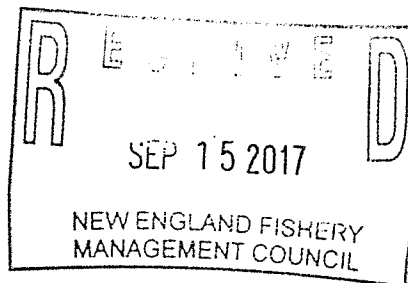




The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

WILLIAM M. STRAUS
REPRESENTATIVE
10TH BRISTOL DISTRICT
ROOM 134
TEL: (617) 722-2400

DISTRICT OFFICE
Tel: (508) 992-1260
William.Straus@MAhouse.gov



COMMITTEE
Chairman
Transportation

September 14, 2017

Dr. John Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street,
Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950

Re: Scallop Sector Proposal from East Coast

Dear Dr. Quinn, *John*

I am writing to express my concern about the consideration and possible implementation of a proposal initiated to the Council by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association. I write as a state legislator whose district includes communities on both sides of the Port of New Bedford. I have some familiarity with commercial fishing issues including those affecting the Atlantic Sea Scallop. I also serve presently as a member of the Council's Enforcement Advisory Committee.

The notion of sector style management within specific fisheries is not new to our region. I have watched with dismay the impact of this concept upon the New England groundfish industry. Markets have been disrupted under the current groundfish sector management system; in addition, perverse incentives were created which, in my view, have worked against the public's interests with little or no benefit to the natural resources whose sound management, commercial harvesters depend upon. It would be a mistake to give this proposal priority consideration at this time.

I believe that the scallop fishery is a successful one right now. It is sustainable in terms of the resource itself, and for the participants who are involved on the water and in the processing/distribution sector. As I understand the East Coast proposal, a dramatic change in ownership, management and working relationships would be guaranteed to occur. To say that little is known or understood about the consequences of this proposal would be an understatement. While no doubt certain permit holders could realize a

benefit, it remains unclear whether the broader interest of the public and the other permit holders would be well served. It is not an exaggeration (given what we have seen with the resulting consolidation in the New England groundfish sector) that similar disruptions could occur with regard to scallops.

I believe as a result that the Council should not give the sector management proposal any priority and that it not be included in future Amendment or Framework discussions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Straus', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

William M. Straus
State Representative



NORTH YARD: 32 WATER STREET, FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719
TELEPHONE: (508) 999-6266 • **FAX:** (508) 999-2513

SOUTH YARD: 50 FORT STREET, FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719
TELEPHONE: (508) 999-1600 • **FAX:** (508) 999-1650



September 13, 2017

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fisheries Management Council
50 Water St
Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950

RE: Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan

Dear Dr. Quinn,

Fairhaven Shipyard Companies, Inc serves the fishing fleet in the New England States and Mid-Atlantic States. Our services range from basic service to major refits, repairs and new construction. We employ 105 year-round full time well-paying jobs. We rely on many vendors in the Southcoast, Massachusetts and New England to provide us with materials and services to allow us to service the fishing fleet. We have invested and continue to invest in our facilities to allow us to meet the demands of the fishing fleet. We are proud of role as a fleet service provider.

Any regulation that would have a material impact on reducing the number of fishing boats will not only impact our sustainability but also impact our ability to service other customers.

As such we would be in opposition of any regulation that would result is a significant reduction in the number of boats fishing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kevin McLaughlin
President





New England Fisheries Management Council
50 Water Street
Newburyport MA 01950

September 14, 2018

Dear Chairman Quinn and Director Nies:

We are writing to ask you to ensure measures are put in place *prior to the opening of the 2018 fishing year* to ensure all removals from the NGOM management area are capped.

All of us were on the water this past March and we weren't happy to be forced to leave 20,000 pounds shy of our TAC. At the same time, we didn't want the area to be obliterated, and we were told the only tool managers had to prevent that was to close the NGOM to all boats.

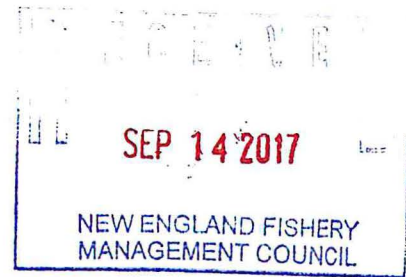
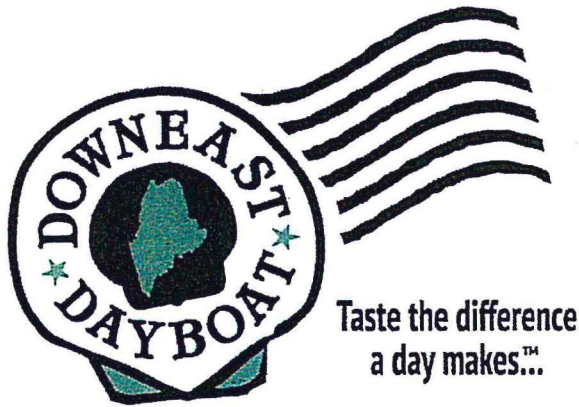
It's time for some new tools.

We hope your number one priority for this Framework will be to ensure managers have a simple effective, bulletproof method of ensuring all boats are governed by a hard TAC in the NGOM in 2018.

We hope that when determining what percentage to assign each fleet, you remember why the NGOM was created, and also recognize that the NGOM is different from Georges Bank and the Mid Atlantic. General Category vessels have always harvested a high percentage of landings in the Gulf of Maine. At some point we know the Council will develop a thorough, effective and likely complicated means for all vessel classes to fish in the NGOM. For right now, we hope your priority will be to generate a simple, effective and sustainable option for 2018, and we hope that option will allow us to fish for more than just a couple weeks.

Yours truly,

Alex Todd, F/V Jacob and Joshua, NGOM Permit # 242848
Ira Miller, F/V Julie Ann, NGOM Permit # 231459
Russell Parmenter, F/V Patricia Ann, NGOM Permit # 149915
Josh Trundy, F/V Miss Rebecka, NGOM Permit # 242851
James West, F/V First Impression II, NGOM Permit # 151983
Ben Crocker, F/V CleanSweep, NGOM Permit # 148781
Joe Mazerolle, F/V Overcurrent, NGOM Permit # 251800
James Wotton, F/V Overkill, NGOM Permit # 151564
Danna Hammond, F/V Nicole Leigh, NGOM Permit # 250716
Mike Murphy Sr, F/V Murphy's Law, NGOM Permit # 150214
Rob Odlin, F/V Maria and Dorothy, NGOM Permit # 250527



New England Fisheries Management Council
Comments@nefmc.org
September 14, 2017

Dear Chairman Quinn, Director Nies and members of the Scallop Advisory Panel and Committee:

I am writing to ask you to allocate 100% of the 2018 NGOM TAC to the Gen Cat Fleet.

The last time the Gulf of Maine was truly productive was in the late 1980's. In those pre-Amendment 4 years there was no distinction between Limited Access and General Category vessels. Any vessel with a Federal scallop permit could fish anywhere under the same rules. For a number of reasons, many Gulf of Maine vessels chose to stay close to home and target the Gulf of Maine stock exclusively rather than being mobile.


A lot has happened in the ensuing 30 years. Management has evolved and the resources on Georges Bank and the Mid Atlantic have greatly increased. Limited Access and General Category vessels that target these resources have benefited from improved management and healthier scallop stocks: the fishery has grown tremendously.

Vessels that historically targeted the Gulf of Maine scallop stock have not had the opportunity to experience this growth. The Northern Gulf of Maine Management Area was created *in recognition of this fact*. The qualifying years for Amendment 11 are some of the worst the Gulf of Maine scallop resource has ever seen. The Council had the forethought to establish the NGOM Management Area so vessels that historically targeted the Gulf of Maine stock could do so again if and when the resource recovered.

Vessels that hold NGOM permits are anxious for the opportunity to finally use their permits, preferably for more than a few days. Survey results from earlier this year suggest the 2018 NGOM TAC will likely be around 200,000 pounds. At some point, the NGOM may hold a significant abundance of scallops again. But that's not where we are today. Earlier this year the General Category Fleet was shut down 20,000 pounds shy of their 73,000 pound TAC. And the Limited Access Fleet was able to remove somewhere around 1,700,000 pounds.

Eventually an Amendment will need to address how to divide the NGOM TAC amongst various components of the fleet. I think a hybrid approach will make sense at that point. But we're not at that point. We have only a few months to put regulations in place to ensure what happened in 2017 is not repeated. Foregoing an opportunity to harvest a percentage of 200,000 pounds will not represent a significant hardship for the LA Fleet. Given what happened in 2017 and the importance of ensuring what little remains of the resource in the southern portion of the NGOM is managed sustainably, I urge you to assign 100% of the TAC to the General Category Fleet. Thank you.

Yours truly,


Togue Brawn



Dr. Quinn: via email: jquinn3@umassd.edu
cc: Tom Nies via email: tnies@nefmc.org
cc: Steven Ouellette via email: smo@fishlaw.com

Dear Dr. Quinn

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to allow for the formation of voluntary associations, which would fish under output quota controls rather than DAS input controls. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessels to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018:

VESSEL NAME(S):	VESSEL NMFS Permit Number(s):
F/V Anne M.	<u>321135</u>
F/V Fair Wind	<u>330581</u>

John Murray, Owner

From: Ross Butler
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 12:16 PM
To: John Quinn
Cc: Tom Nies; smo@fishlaw.com; stephen.ouellette@fishlaw.com
Subject: East Coast Scallop Harvest Association Proposal.



Dear Dr. Quinn,

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to allow for the formation of voluntary associations, which would fish under output quota controls rather than DAS input controls. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add our following vessels to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018:

VESSEL NAME(S):

Bald Eagle II : permit number 330812
Capt Malc : permit number 410213
Frank & Maria : permit number 410153
Good News II : permit number 410593
Miss Maude : permit number 410255
Sassy Sarah : permit number 330786
Uboys permit : number 330784
Vickie II : permit number 310988
Lady Anna : permit number 410584

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Butler
CEO , Cooke Seafood USA & Wanchese Fish Company Suffolk , VA 23435

Dr. John Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water St
Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950

September 11, 2017



RE: East Coast Scallop Harvest Association Sector Proposal

Dear Mr. Quinn:

We are opposed to the recent proposition put forth to the Council by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to form a sector style management system for the Atlantic Sea Scallop fishery. It is our contention that we as a fishery have a well-managed sustainable resource that has provided substantial economic opportunities for the vessel owners, captains, crew and to the communities that support the scallop fishermen throughout the eastern seaboard of the United States and we do not feel a sector style management system will benefit the scallop fishery as whole, but will only provide an economic benefit for the largest scallop fleet owners.

In their letter to you the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association wishes you to believe that by allowing them to form a sector they will be able to reduce crew fatigue and improve safety while at the same time assuring you they will carefully monitor their landings to ensure they stay within their quota requirements thereby having a neutral effect on the resource. We the owners and operators of scallop vessels along with shore support facilities see a different narrative than what you are being told.

In forming a sector management system for the scallop fishery the Association is asking the Council to eliminate the input controls that have made the scallop fishery so successful in favor of output controls, i.e. quota allocations. Input controls such as vessel restrictions, Days at Sea and crew size limitations are calculated and monitored to ensure the scallop biomass maintains a healthy and sustainable level. Each year the scallop biomass is surveyed and the Days at Sea are adjusted up or down in order to maintain the long term viability of the resource.

By eliminating the input controls in favor of output controls (quota) the Association will wreak unexpected havoc on the scallop biomass. Part of the Association's argument for the sector management system is improved crew safety. Their contention is without the input restrictions they will be able to hire more crewmen and allow them to work less hours per shift to reduce crew fatigue. The problem we see with that scenario is that by having more and well rested crewmen it will dramatically increase fishing efficiency which will not be offset by shorter trips, but will result in massive highgrading. By eliminating input controls in favor of quota the Council will incentivize highgrading where the larger well rested crew will focus their efforts on landing only the larger high price scallops while discarding the smaller less valuable scallops. Unfortunately, most of the discarded scallops would be returned to the ocean dead further

depleting the biomass's reproduction capability while the Association can accurately declare they landed only their quota allocation.

Furthermore, the Association assures the Council that they will be self-monitoring and reporting thereby reducing the burdens on the National Marine Fisheries Service. While we recognize the Association's concerns regarding the burdens of the NMFS, we remain highly skeptical of the Association's intentions and motivations and do not believe any association or sector should be given the right to self-monitor.

We would ask the Council to remove the Association's proposal to form a sector management system from consideration in any future Amendment or Framework plans.

Sincerely,

251687	F/V Bella Rose	410174	F/V Edgartown
251730	F/V Sovereign Star	410190	F/V Hunter
310337	F/V Atlantic Prince	410200	F/V Chief & Clyde II
310909	F/V Jenna Lee	410211	F/V Stardust
310915	F/V Amanda Ashley	410214	F/V Ambassador
310927	F/V Jeffery Scott	410215	F/V Huntress
310928	F/V Cool Change	410221	F/V Justice
310941	F/V Cove	410235	F/V Elizabeth & Niki
310985	F/V Kathryn Marie	410249	F/V Westport
310986	F/V Miss Leslie	410253	F/V Settler
310998	F/V Helen Louise	410261	F/V Legacy
320394	F/V Shearwater	410282	F/V Kayla Rose
321122	F/V Miss Shauna	410288	F/V Sea Ranger
330103	F/V Discovery	410293	F/V Fearless
330126	F/V Predator	410309	F/V Bountiful II
330434	F/V Instigator	410315	F/V Devine Mercy
330489	F/V Raeleen Michelle	410338	F/V Thor
330504	F/V Linda	410341	F/V Freedom
330586	F/V Warrior	410366	F/V Act IV

330597	F/V Beachcomber	410392	F/V Majestic
330620	F/V Captain Lyman	410394	F/V Contender
330654	F/V Ian Nigel	410413	F/V Liberty
330668	F/V Beiningen	410417	F/V Atlantic
330687	F/V Sassy Girl	410420	F/V Diligence
330721	F/V Madi J	410430	F/V Sandra Jane
330794	F/V Mistress	410432	F/V Endeavor
330796	F/V Hear No Evil	410463	F/V Beth Anne
330807	F/V Dictator	410489	F/V Venture
330811	F/V Vantage	410496	F/V Kathy Marie
330817	F/V Chaz's Toy	410499	F/V Kathy & Jackie
330834	F/V Little Tootie	410507	F/V Guidance
330851	F/V Boomer Too	410575	F/V Inspiration
330896	F/V Mirage	410577	F/V Papa's Girl
330900	F/V Lady Deborah	410578	F/V Miss Georgie
330902	F/V Resilient	410586	F/V Sharon K
410019	F/V Michigan	410592	F/V Annie Elizabeth
410074	F/V Donny C	410597	F/V George's Banks
410127	F/V Independence	410600	F/V Alaska
410134	F/V Let It Ride	410607	F/V Vanquish
410156	F/V Santa Barbara	410610	F/V Concordia

Bergie's Seafood

East Coast Boat Carpenters

Marine Electrical Services

Mass Fabricating & Welding

Tempest Fisheries

Cape Fish and Lobster

Edie & Marie Boat Settlements

Mass Contracting & Construction

Solveig's Boat Settlements

W Trading, Inc.

From: Kirk Larson [<mailto:shuck1000000@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2017 4:32 PM
To: John Quinn; Tom Nies; smo@fishlaw.com
Subject: Support for ECSHA Proposal



Dear Dr. Quinn

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to initiate a scallop amendment to consider utilizing output controls rather than DAS input controls for the scallop fishery. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessel to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018.

Vessel Names	NMFS Permit Numbers
Grand Larson III	310945
C B Keane	330917
Madelyn	330922

Thank you,

Kirk Larson

JP 8/30/17

From: Mindy Silver [<mailto:silvermindy@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2017 3:28 PM
To: John Quinn
Cc: Tom Nies; smo@fishlaw.com
Subject: Support for ECSHA Proposal



Dear Dr. Quinn

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to initiate a scallop amendment to consider utilizing output controls rather than DAS input controls for the scallop fishery. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessel to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018 --- F/V TENACIOUS, NMFS Permit Number 321109.

Thank you,

Mindy Silver, President

F/V MICHELLE, INC.

Hopkinson House – Unit 3116

604 South Washington Square

Philadelphia, PA 19106

JP 8/29/17



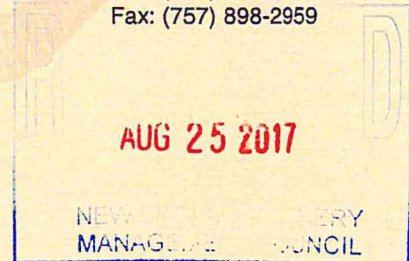
WELLS *Scallop* COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 600 • SEAFORD, VIRGINIA 23696-0600

Bill Wells, Jr.
Bill Wells III

(757) 898-8512
Fax: (757) 898-2959

August 25, 2017



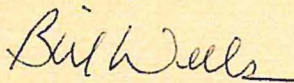
Dear Dr. Quinn,

The following vessels support the request by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association, asking the New England Fishery Management Council to prioritize the initiation of a scallop plan amendment in 2018.

We are not members of the Association, but we feel a discussion needs to occur regarding our current fishing practices under Days At Sea.

Vessel Name	Permit #
Carolina Boy	410441
Navigator	330636
Carolina Queen III	410423
Relentless	410290
Sea Hawk	410619
Italian Princess	410476
Pursuit	330895
Capt. Billy Haver	330793
Carolina Capes II	410193

Thank you,



Bill Wells

je 8/29/17



August 23, 2017

AUG 25 2017

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Dear Dr. Quinn,

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to allow for the formation of voluntary associations, which would fish under output quota controls rather than DAS input controls. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessels to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018:

VESSEL NAME:

VESSEL NMFS Permit Number:

William Lee	320634
Ryan William	251690
Redemption	149440

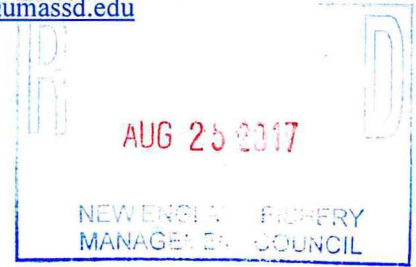
Best Regards,

Charles "Chad" Maguire
Managing Member
Tel: 401-935-1623
Email: Maguire.chad@gmail.com

JP 8/29/17

August 25, 2017
Via email: jquinn3@umassd.edu

Dr. John F Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950



Dear Dr. Quinn,

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to allow for the formation of voluntary associations, which would fish under output quota controls rather than DAS input controls. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessels to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018:

VESSEL NAME:	VESSEL NMFS Permit Number:
F/V Pamela Ann	410456
F/V Madison Kate	410419
F/V Brittany Eryn	410267
F/V Jane Elizabeth	410157

Thank you,

John Lees

cc: Tom Nies via email: tnies@nefmc.org
cc: Steven Ouellette via email smo@fishlaw.com

JP 8/29/17



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

August 24, 2017

Mr. Carl Wilson
Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
194 McKown Point Rd.
Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575

Dear Carl:

Patrick Keliher has recommended you to represent Maine Department of Marine Resources on the Council's Scallop Plan Development Team (PDT). The PDT is currently supporting the Council's work on several management priorities in 2017, including the development of fishery specifications for 2018 and 2019 (default), Northern Gulf of Maine management measures, and flatfish accountability measures. Your expertise and experience in the scientific and management process will be very valuable to the PDT.

Attached you will find the Council's policy on PDTs. Please review it carefully as it concerns the process and responsibilities of the PDT. It is very important that PDTs remain impartial technical bodies. PDT members should be objective, unbiased, and not advocate for a particular management approach or interest group. For this reason, PDT members are not allowed to address the Committee or Council in order to advocate for any specific Council decisions unless they are presenting a PDT position. This task is normally the responsibility of the PDT Chair.

Jonathon Peros, Scallop PDT Chair, will be contacting you shortly with more information. Feel free to contact him at your convenience by email (jperos@nefmc.org) or telephone: 978-465-0492, ext. 117.

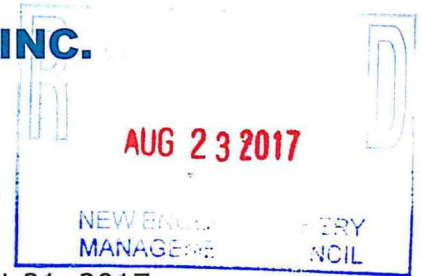
I am pleased to appoint you to the Scallop PDT. We appreciate your assistance and technical support for the Scallop Fishery Management Plan. Please contact me if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Nies
Executive Director

cc: Patrick Keliher, ME DMF

EDGAR SEAFOOD PRODUCTS, INC.
31 GREENE STREET
5TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10013



Dr. John Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street - Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950

August 21, 2017

RE: NEFMC SHOULD INITIATE A SEA SCALLOP PLAN AMENDMENT IN 2018

Dear Dr. Quinn,

Edgar Seafood Products, Inc. owns three limited access scallop vessels. We have been apprised by other limited access sea scallop vessel owners of their request to the NEFMC to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment 2018.

We understand they are proposing a scallop amendment which would allow for the creation of scallop harvest cooperatives or associations. These associations would be annually allocated and limited to harvest fixed output allocations (pounds) rather than being managed by the existing Days at Sea input effort controls (e.g. 7 men).

We support this proposal by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association. In discussion with these other vessel owners we understand our three scallop permits (vessels) could join their proposed association, if it is fully formed after approval of a scallop amendment. Or our vessels (permits) could join with other vessel owners to form a separate harvest association.

Please add the three permit permits owned by Edgar Seafood Products to the list of the vessel owners requesting the NEFMC prioritize the initiation of a scallop amendment to allow the formation of scallop harvest associations.

If the request by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association will be forwarded to the NEFMC Scallop PDT and SSC for their input to the NEFMC, I would appreciate your forwarding this letter also to the PDT and SSC.

Thank you for your attention to the above.

CAPT BOB	NMFS Permit 330331
KARINA	NMFS Permit 310918
ATLANTIC GIRL	NMFS Permit 310586

CC: Tom Nies, NEFMC Executive Director
Stephen Ouellette, Esq.

JP 8/29/17

From: ATLANTIC SHELLFISH [<mailto:atlshell@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2017 2:08 PM
To: John Quinn
Cc: Tom Nies; smo@fishlaw.com
Subject: Support for ECSHA Proposal



Dear Dr. Quinn

On August 15th the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association submitted to the NEFMC a request that the NEFMC vote to prioritize the initiation of a Sea Scallop Plan Amendment in 2018.

We support the proposal submitted by the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association to allow for the formation of voluntary associations, which would fish under output quota controls rather than DAS input controls. We recognize other ideas may also be proposed during the scoping meetings.

Please add the following vessels to the list of vessels requesting the NEFMC approve as a high priority the initiation of a sea scallop plan amendment in 2018:

VESSEL NAME:	VESSEL NMFS Permit Number:
Amber Nicole	410251
Andrea A	330907
Collin & Warren III	330828
Determination	410205
Hawk	330566
John & Nicholas	330865
Karen Nicole	330893
Leader	410239
Master James	330898
Ocean Boy	330325
Ocean Gold	330780
Ocean Pride	330742
Ocean Princess	330622
Ocean Prowler	330906
Ocean Wave	320130
Princess Scarlett	410555
Stacy Lee	330311

Thank you,
Warren Alexander
President

Atlantic Shellfish, Inc.
607 Seashore Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
609-884-1771 Phone
609-898-0175 Fax

JP 8/23/17

EAST COAST SCALLOP HARVEST ASSOCIATION

August 15, 2017

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950



Re: Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan - Proposed Amendment

Dear Dr. Quinn,

We represent the East Coast Scallop Harvest Association whose initiating members hold 67 Northeast limited access scallop permits.

We are writing to request that the New England Fishery Management Council ("NEFMC") initiate analysis and development of an amendment to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (the "FMP") that would authorize harvest associations in the sea scallop fishery (hereinafter "Association or Associations"). The NMFS annually authorized Associations would annually harvest scallops subject to management measures for an Association based on allocating scallop harvest to the Association through annual output controls versus the current annual Days at Sea input controls.

Our request that the NEFMC prioritize an Amendment to the Sea Scallop fishery in 2018 is intended to enhance the sustainability of the sea scallop fishery and promote its compliance with National Standards by allowing groups of scallop fishermen that voluntarily form a qualifying organization to receive annual scallop allocations (and associated constraining bycatch allocations). We have attached an outline of ideas for such a FMP amendment along with a bullet-pointed listing of the needs and benefits of the proposed scallop amendment arising from the basic structure of our proposal.

Scallop (and constraining species) allocations will make Associations and their members fully accountable for their catch and bycatch, which gives the Associations strong incentives to invest in effective self-monitoring and timely, accurate reporting. The combination of hard limits on fishery removals and improved fishery information will enhance the effectiveness of scallop fishery management, without imposing additional burdens on NMFS, more likely reducing the management burden for NMFS.

Anticipating NEFMC continued concern with reducing bycatch, Associations will be responsible for managing their scallop catch within the strict incidental catch limits mandated by the NEFMC for these "Constraining Species". Therefore, within an Association, Association members will have strong incentives to share real-time Constraining Species bycatch

EAST COAST SCALLOP HARVEST ASSOCIATION

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
August 15, 2017

-2-

information. Further, secure harvest share allocations within the Association will reduce incentives to hoard information that could be used for competitive advantage. One goal is to promote full attainment of scallop allocations while minimizing the take of depressed Constraining Species stocks. Our Association plans to implement bycatch management avoidance measures, if allocated an Association allocation of bycatch.

Output harvest share allocations will also relieve scallop crews from the time pressure to maximize catch per day. This will improve working conditions and safety for the crews. Without the time pressure imposed by crew and days limitations, it is likely employment in the scallop fishery will increase, as crews work less hours per day. The output controls will not only promote crew health and safety in the short run, but also will give Captains time to train new mates to become Captains and assure that scallop fishermen can have a life career.

The current DAS input controls, which limit scallop vessels to about 60 days at sea scalloping, provide little opportunity to invest in building new fishing vessels to replace an aging fleet to meet new safety requirements. Moreover, the current input controls discourage investment in new technologies to improve crew working condition (e.g. conveyors), to reduce fuel consumption, to improve US scallop harvest to be competitive with IQF sea frozen scallops from Canada, and other such benefits of maximizing harvest efficiencies while meeting the biological and environmental goals of the scallop management plan.

Finally, and most importantly, our proposal is voluntary and assures that the Associations will not increase their share of the annual harvest:

- Voluntary allows vessel owners to choose to join an Association or to fish under the current DAS management system, giving everyone flexibility and choices; and
- Since Association harvests will be limited to the hard allocation output controls, as determined by the NEFMC annually (through its PDT and NEFSC) of the projected per Days at Sea Landings per Unit of Effort ("Projected DAS LPUE") multiplied by the DAS allocated annually per permit plus managed area allocations, the non-participating owners will be assured the Associations will not increase their share of the fishery.

The NEFMC in the past 20 years has fostered the scallop fishery to be one of the most well managed and respected fisheries in the US. To respond to the changing needs we see around us, we believe the changes we are proposing to the Sea Scallop Plan will help the NEFMC prepare the scallop industry for the next 20 years.

EAST COAST SCALLOP HARVEST ASSOCIATION

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
August 15, 2017

-3-

We appreciate the opportunity to provide the Council with this request and sincerely hope the NEFMC will prioritize the initiation of a scallop amendment in 2018 to allow these ideas to have full public input and vetting.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephen M. Ouellette
Stephen M. Ouellette, Esq.
Ouellette Law Office
127 Eastern Ave., Suite 1
Gloucester, MA 01930
smo@fishlaw.com
978-281-7788

/s/ Joseph M. Sullivan
Joseph M. Sullivan, Esq.
Joe Sullivan Law Office, PC
4005 20th Ave. W., Suite 221
Seattle, WA 98199
joe@fisherylaw.net
206-817-0800

Cc Thomas Nies, Executive Director

Vessel Name:

NMFS Permit Number:

MISS SUE ANN	320306
ADRIANNA	320416
NORREEN MARIE	320422
TRAVIS & NATALIE	320657
EXPECTATION	330301
BLUE HARBOR	330378
LADY ROSLYN	330399
BLUE LAGOON	330543
BLUE STREAM	330578
BLUE COVE	330663
BLUE EASTERN	330720
ATLANTIC BOUNTY	330778
LADY EVELYN	330816
ADVENTURESS	330818
NASHIRA	410095
BLUE PACIFIC	410145
BARBARA ANNE	410147
BLUE OCEAN	410151

EAST COAST SCALLOP HARVEST ASSOCIATION

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
August 15, 2017

-4-

PONTOS	410154
BLUE CANYON	410177
FRANCIS M LEE SR	410179
ARAHO	410192
BLUE HARVEST	410219
BLUE WAVE	410238
FRONTIER	410247
MAELSTROM	410248
REFLECTION	410266
GENERATION	410268
FRIENDSHIP	410269
AMBITION	410280
SILVER SEA	410285
JERSEY GIRL	410289
BLUE NORTH	410343
BLUE WESTERN	410346
PERCEPTION	410357
THUNDER BAY	410384
DELTA BLUE	410393
NORDIC PRIDE	410416
TRADITION	410422
ANTICIPATION	410469
BLUE SEA	410508
BLUE SOUTH	410541
FJORD	410550
RANGER	410551
RESOLUTION	410553
WEATHERLY	410558
NEKONE	410572
POLARIS	410595
WISDOM	410599
HORIZON	410601
ARCTURUS	410603
ROST	410614
PYXIS	410615

EAST COAST SCALLOP HARVEST ASSOCIATION

Dr. John F. Quinn, Chairman
New England Fishery Management Council
August 15, 2017

-5-

NORSEMAN	410616
RELIANCE	410617
MONOMOY	410620
ORION	410622
MISS.SHAUNA	321122
COURAGEOUS	330703
FLAVIAN S.	330799
KELLY S	330913
AVENGER	410229
K.A.T.E.	410554
K.A.T.E. 2	410561

Draft Amendment Outline _____
to the
Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan

This amendment allows holders of limited access sea scallop permits to form cooperative harvesting associations to which the National Marine Fisheries Service (“NMFS”) would, prior to the beginning of each scallop fishing year, allocate output control scallop pounds for harvest by association members and, if appropriate, the proportionate amounts of bycatch species for which there is an incidental catch limit in the Atlantic sea scallop fishery.

1. Sea Scallop Harvest Association. A sea scallop harvest association is an association comprised of at least three NE Region NMFS sea scallop limited access permits issued to at least three different persons, none of whom have any common ownership interests in the permits or vessels associated with the permits issued to the other two or more persons in that association. A harvest association may apply for and receive annual open area and managed access area scallop allocations and proportionate bycatch allocations of bycatch species with controlling incidental catch limits (“Constraining Species”). Each harvest association must identify its members and the Permits and vessels that are committed to the association for the year in its annual application to NMFS, prior to the start of that fishing year (hereinafter “Association” or “Associations”).

1.1. Member Eligibility. An individual or entity (together, “person”) that holds a limited access scallop permit (“Permit”) as of the annual Association application date is eligible to be a member of a harvesting association (“Member”).

1.2. There may be multiple Associations formed in any fishing year.

1.3. Association memberships and allocations are annual in term. Association committed Permits (“Members” or “Permits”) and Association committed harvest vessels (“Harvest Vessels”) may not be withdrawn from an Association during a scallop fishing year. Association Member agreements may specify that obligations accrued during membership survive withdrawal.

1.4. Association membership is voluntary. Permit holders are not required to join Associations, and Associations are not required to accept a Permit holder as a Member.

1.5. Permits committed to an Association may be sold or transferred during the scallop fishing year, but the Permit remains subject to Association rules as set forth in Paragraph 1.3 above, until withdrawn at the end of the fishing year or the new Permit holder, prior to the end of the fishing year in which the Permit is transferred, applies for membership for the following year, in accordance with Association Rules and regulations. Permit transferees do not become Association Members unless admitted by the Association.

2. Association Allocations. Open area allocations are to be based on average projected Landings Per Unit of Effort (“Projected LPUE”) by three limited access permit categories (Full Time, Full Time Small Dredge, and Part Time Small Dredge) annually projected by the NEFMC (and its PDT and SSC

in consultation with the NEFSC) prior to the beginning of the scallop fishing year and then multiplied by the Days at Sea ("DAS") annually allocated to each of the three limited access scallop categories; plus the total of Managed Area allocations annually allocated to each Permit.

2.1. NMFS, NEFSC, and NEFMC along with its PDT and SSC will continue to annually project and estimate, prior to the beginning of the fishing year, using currently employed best available science, the projected sea scallop landings for the next scallop fishing year (sub-ACL for harvest) for harvest in managed areas and open areas and thereafter the Projected LPUE and DAS for open areas and the allocated trips in managed areas after setting aside the appropriate allocation for general category scallop harvest and the appropriate allocation for research set-aside harvest during the annual scallop harvest allocation process, all as is currently done.

2.2. NMFS will allocate scallop pounds for the open area and each managed area to each Association that has made a timely application based on the number of Permits and category of Permits committed to that Association for the year.

2.3. For those Permits choosing not to participate in an Association, those vessels will be allocated DAS and Managed Area Trips as currently allocated. Those Permits choosing to not participate in any Association may harvest individually more (or less) pounds per DAS on average than the Projected LPUE used by the NEFMC to calculate the allocation of DAS to the Associations, while Association harvest will be fixed and will be limited to the total harvest of the Projected LPUE times the allocated DAS plus Managed area allocations.

2.4. NMFS will allocate incidental catch allowances to each Association in the proportion that its scallop allocation bears to the overall limited access scallop allocations.

2.5. An Association may transfer some or all of its annual scallop allocations and Constraining Species catch allowances to one or more other Associations. An Association may not transfer allocations or allowances to any party other than another Association. All inter-Association transfers will be made through NMFS.

3. Allocation Usage.

3.1. Association allocations may be harvested by any combination of the Association's Harvest Vessels.

3.2. An Association Harvest Vessel may only harvest scallops from its Association's Allocation (as adjusted by inter-Association transfers), and all scallop and related Constraining Species catch of an Association vessel will be charged to the Association's annual allocation.

3.3. Each Association shall be responsible for ensuring that the scallop harvest and the bycatch of Constraining Species of its Harvest Vessels do not exceed the Association's annual allocations, as adjusted by inter-Association transfers. Associations and their Members will be jointly liable for any overharvest that is not covered before the scallop fishing year ends.

3.4. Each Association is required to develop Constraining Species bycatch mitigation for Constraining Species, which may include measures such as requiring its Harvest Vessels to share

incidental Constraining Species bycatch information on a timely basis, to adopt fishing methods and means that reduce incidental Constraining Species bycatch, and to move fishing effort as appropriate to avoid incidental Constraining Species bycatch. Associations may implement enforcement measures to ensure compliance with Constraining Species bycatch reduction measures. Each Association is required to present an annual report to the Council regarding its incidental Constraining Species bycatch measures and performance.

3.5. Associations will develop measures to reduce and minimize sea scallop discard mortality.

4. Vessel Retirement and Replacement. Permits may be removed from vessels using the confirmation of permit history (“CPH”) procedure with scallop Permits in CPH being assigned allocation by NMFS on an annual basis for harvest by the Association. Permits not assigned to a vessel and in CPH may be committed to an Association and generate an Association allocation from NMFS. Vessels may be retired and not replaced or may be replaced as their Permit holders elect.

5. Association Harvest Vessel controls:

- a. All sea scallop biological and bycatch input controls (e.g. dredge ring size 4”, twine top size, and turtle gear management measures) will apply to all Association Harvest Vessels.
- b. Crew size restrictions may be altered by Association rules (removes crew limitations for Associations).
- c. Harvest Vessel size limitations may be altered by an Association for harvest of Association allocation, without baseline specifications (like general category).
- d. If at the end of a fishing year a Permit leaves the Association and chooses to resume fishing under input controls of DAS; the crew limitations and Baseline Specifications of the originating limited access scallop permit would apply to the Replacement Vessel for the Permit.
- e. Implement measures to prevent activation of latent effort in other fisheries. A Harvest Vessel may be used to harvest other Greater Atlantic Region limited access species also, if it has those permits associated with a Permit, provided that the Harvest Vessel must comply with the Baseline regulations and harvest regulations of those other species. Vessels, previously associated with a Permit, which have had scallop allocation removed to be harvested by other Harvest Vessels, cannot be used to harvest other GARFO limited access species from that Permit, unless they are for allocated species under an output control system.

Rationale and Needs for the Draft Amendment _____
to the
Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan

- Current input controls do not encourage individual responsibility in the sea scallop fishery. With DAS input controls, the crew priority is to maximize harvest in a limited Olympic style fishery taxing crews, safety, and the scallop resource.
- Output controls will provide time to minimize bycatch in the sea scallop fishery. Association Harvest Vessels will not be constrained by the time clock days at sea and will be able to move from areas with higher bycatch rates.
- Voluntary Harvest Associations promote both accountability and flexibility. Permit owners can decide to join or not. The Associations are not imposed on the fleet at large; fishermen who prefer to fish under the current DAS system can continue to operate under days-at-sea management with the knowledge that Association harvests are fixed and will not reduce their DAS allocations. In addition to improving fishery management, both accountability and flexibility are important benefits of this voluntary program.
- Because Association membership is annual in term and voluntary, this approach does not create a new governmental quota share.
- Because multiple Associations can be formed, fishermen can choose to voluntarily associate with people they know and trust.
- Annual harvest output allocations enable fishermen to end the “race for fish”, improving efficiency, enhancing crew health and safety, and reducing pressure on sensitive habitat.
- Annual harvest output allocations reduce the incentive to hoard information. Constraining Species limits provide incentives to share bycatch avoidance information. Association rules will create individual accountability to the Association. Bycatch management, like target species accountability, is becoming an important management factor.
- Basing Association allocations on Permits, rather than vessels, facilitates retirement of excess harvesting capacity and allows investment in new safer vessels; with newer advanced processing, cleaning, and storing technologies to improve quality and better new fuel efficiency; and reduces pressure on shore-side facilities to moor vessels for 300 days per year.

- Reducing the number of scallop vessels and increasing the total pounds harvested by a harvest vessel will make it feasible to replace aging hulls with safer vessels complying with new Fishing Vessel Safety Act class and new load-line requirements. Crews will no longer have to work on two or more vessels in one year. Overall crew employment will likely increase as crews return to “six on / six off” watches.
- Without the pressure of time management Captains will be able to train mates to become captains.
- Third party certifiers concerned with the social impact of crews working longer days under the pressure of an input control system will be able to “high score” the scallop fishery for social concerns for workers by going to output controls which will allow the work to be spread over a longer period and with a larger crew.
- Fishery managers may continue to advocate for increased observer coverage and electronic monitoring to increase the amount and quality of fishery data from the scallop fleet. The efficiencies gained through Association allocations will help offset that cost.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1026

July 27, 2017

Thomas A. Nies
Executive Director
New England fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950



Dear Mr. Nies,

Thank you for your letter dated June 1st, 2017, inquiring as to why the number of days allocated to the scallop fishery exceed the number of days needed to meet the SBRM.

1. What authority justifies each criteria used to determine the observer coverage levels for the scallop fishery?

SBRM estimates the number of days necessary to achieve a 30% CV in discard estimates across the two regions: New England and the Mid-Atlantic. The Scallop FMP justifies the use of observer set-aside to achieve coverage levels that exceed those required by SBRM to increase the precision of finfish bycatch estimates in the scallop fishery. Further, when set-aside is available, we prioritize additional coverage in certain areas to aid in the scallop assessment and rotational management. In the absence of specific guidance from the Scallop FMP, we also allocate observer coverage above SBRM to help cover a number of data and information needs that are not spelled out specifically in the FMP. The Scallop FMP provides no limitations on the coverage the observer set-aside can help fund and each year we strive to fully utilize the set-aside. Should the Council prefer a limited use of the observer set-aside (for example to only provide finfish bycatch data), we suggest it clarify this in the Scallop FMP. Keep in mind that this may lead to a substantial under-utilization of the observer set-aside.

2. What process is used to allocate observer sea days that exceed the SBRM requirements to the scallop fishery? Can the NEFSC provide the documentation that supports these decisions?

There are two different processes for allocating observer days to the scallop fleets. One is the Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) which is completed by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) and the other is the scallop rate compensation analysis which is initially completed by Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) to determine a set numbers of days that can be completed with the scallop compensation but then passed over to NEFSC to convert to a percentage that the Fisheries Sampling Branch (FSB) will use to target observer coverage. Although both analyses estimate numbers of sea days, the SBRM analysis and the Scallop Compensation Rate analysis have different objectives and use different stratification.



Additionally, the SBRM needed sea days represent those needed to achieve a 30% CV in the upcoming year while the Scallop Compensation Rate sea days represent days that can be funded in the upcoming year via the Industry-funded Scallop (IFS) program. The differences in analyses objectives result in different numbers of sea days. The SBRM needed sea days may be considered the minimum coverage required and the sea days determined by the Scallop Compensation Rate analysis may exceed that minimum. Prior to 2016, the SBRM determined days have been similar to the Compensation Rate determined days. In 2016, coverage needs for turtles on vessels using scallop dredge gear in the Mid-Atlantic were not estimated because the utility of observers as a monitoring tool for turtles in the fishery decreased after implementation of chain mats and turtle deflector dredges (TDDs) in the fishery (Murray 2015b, NEFSC and GARFO 2017). From 2010-2014, just 1 loggerhead turtle was observed in scallop dredge gear, so there was very little data with which to estimate variance around bycatch rates and project sea day needs. Instead, observer coverage levels in the Mid-Atlantic scallop dredge fleets in 2016 and 2017 were driven by other species groups; this ensured that some level of coverage still existed to monitor the effectiveness of TDDs and chain mats, and potential turtle interactions outside of gear regulated times and areas (NEFSC and GARFO 2016, 2017).

3. How does NMFS fund the processing of sea scallop observer sea days in excess of SBRM requirements?

With industry funded programs, the fishing industry is paying for the portion of the costs associated with the deployments at-sea, while the Government supports the shore-side infrastructure associated with the training of observers, debriefing, and data processing. The NEFSC uses four funding lines to support the SBRM (i.e., Northeast Fisheries Observer, Atlantic Coast Observer, National Observer Program, and Reducing Bycatch), and in addition the observer program receives funding through the National Catch Share and Marine Mammal Protection Act funding line. NMFS considers scallop days achieved beyond SBRM within the Scallop FMP's requirements. Therefore NMFS considers the processing of sea scallop observer data in excess of SBRM requirements within the scope of the Government's responsibilities and uses funds from one or more of the funding lines to pay for the processing of all sea scallop observer data.

4. Does the processing of sea scallop observer sea days in excess of SBRM requirements inhibit the ability of the NEFSC to process data from other industry-funded monitoring programs – either those recently approved, or that may be adopted in the future?

Currently the processing of sea scallop observer seadays in excess of SBRM requirements does not inhibit the ability of the NEFSC to process data from other industry funded program. In Fiscal Year 2017, the FSB is utilizing National Observer Program funding to support the shore side data processing associated with the expected level of coverage planned in the 2017 scallop year.

5. What is the standard used to determine the number of biological samples needed for the scallop fishery?

The number of desired biological samples is not an input or driver into the coverage analysis. Biological samples, including shell heights, shucked weights, and grey meat samples are derived benefits of the observer coverage and the information is useful for stock assessments and general management.

6. When sea days are assigned to collect biological samples, how are other sources of this information (e.g. sea scallop surveys, other research set-aside experiments) taken into account?

The Government does not assign days to collect biological samples.

7. What standard is used to determine the number of observer sea days needed for accurate scallop fishery bycatch estimates? How has actual coverage performed compared to those standards?

The SBRM Omnibus Amendment implemented a precision-based performance standard for discard estimates to ensure that the data collected under the SBRM are sufficient to produce a coefficient of variation (CV) of the discard estimate of no more than 30%. This performance standard is designed to ensure that the effectiveness of the SBRM can be measured, tracked, and utilized to effectively allocate the appropriate number of observer sea days (Federal Register Vol 80, No 125 June 30, 2015 pages 37182 – 37199). The 30% CV performance standard is used to determine the number of observer sea days needed in the upcoming year for the 56 fleets for 15 species groups within the Greater Atlantic Region. There are 12 fleets associated with the sea scallop fishery for which the resource funds the at-sea costs of the observer. A detailed description of data, stratification, and methods used to estimate the CV of the discards and the application of an importance filter to 14 fish/invertebrate species groups to determine the sample size (number of trips and days) are given in Wigley et al. 2007 and updated annually within the NEFSC Reference Document (CRD) series beginning in 2012 (Wigley et al. 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, and Wigley and Tholke 2017).

Estimates of loggerhead sea turtle interactions are calculated separately from the SBRM fish/invertebrate species groups. Sea turtle interactions are estimated by gear types typically operating in the Mid-Atlantic (i.e., Mid-Atlantic bottom trawl [including scallop trawls], Mid-Atlantic sink gillnet, Mid-Atlantic scallop dredge) and data are pooled over a 5 year period to improve precision around rare events (i.e., see Murray 2009, 2015a, 2015b). The CVs around the loggerhead interaction rates are used to estimate sea day coverage needs (Murray 2012), which are carried over each year until new bycatch estimates and CVs are calculated for the next 5 year time period. Sea days for turtles are integrated with sea days needed for fish/invertebrates for the SBRM allocation process. Annual SBRM Discard Report with Observer Sea Day Allocations documents (available on the SBRM webpage) describe the approach used to combine the sea days needed for fish/invertebrates and sea turtles (i.e., Sea Days Needed COMBINED, Step 5).

For the Observer Compensation Rate Analysis the NEFSC does not have a specific algorithm for allocating sea days, but the allocation of days among areas and fleets is based on the following considerations:

- i. Precision depends mostly on the number of trips, not the percentage of trips observed. Therefore, areas that have limited number of trips will have a higher coverage rate. As an example, this year, coverage rates were higher for the Closed Area II, Nantucket Lightship and Elephant Trunk flex areas than they were in open areas. Also, because LAGC vessels have many more trips relative to their catch than limited access vessels, they warrant a lower coverage rate.
 - ii. Some areas tend to have high bycatch rates of species of concern, and therefore should have higher coverage rates. For example, yellowtail flounder bycatch rates in Closed Area II tend to be higher than in other portions of the Georges Bank yellowtail stock area.
8. Are other factors (that is, other than bycatch or biological sampling) considered when assigning sea days, and if so, how are these determined and applied?

Other factors are NOT considered when assigning seadays. See answers 5 and 6 in reference to biological sampling.

9. How are observer sea days assigned to the various categories of the General Category scallop fishery, including the LAGC IFQ program and the Northern Gulf of Maine?

Limited Access General Category (LAGC) Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) trips do not currently have any observer coverage. They do not have call-in requirements for the IFS Observer Program and they are not assigned observer coverage within the SBRM umbrella. The NGOM scallop vessels are not a separate fleet in the SBRM analysis but their Vessel Trip Reports are included within the General Open New England (NE OPEN GEN) scallop dredge fleet; we currently do not distinguish NGOM trips from other trips within the NE OPEN GEN scallop dredge fleet.

Using NEFOP observers to cover the LAGC NGOM trips does not seem to be a reasonable option. A dock intercept methodology could create significant confusion within the scallop industry and the IFS Observer Providers as NEFOP observers are paid for by the federal government and no compensation is awarded to the vessels. Vessels in the LAGC fleet with permit category A may choose to fish within the NGOM Management Area. The NGOM Scallop Management area includes a lower catch cap (200 lbs) per trip than if fishing in the outside of the NGOM area (600 lbs daily trip limit + 200 lbs observer compensation if carrying an IFS Observer). Assigning NEFOP observer coverage to this area would result in a complicated situation because of the payment differences between NEFOP and IFS and where the vessel may ultimately decide to fish. If NGOM coverage is required, regulations should be amended and they should be included as part of the observer set-aside for scallops and have call-in requirements similar to the LAGC IFQ fleet. Overall the number of trips allocated to the

fleet is low, $90,000 \text{ NGOM TAC} / 200 \text{ trip limit} = 450$ potential trips which would produce approximately 45 observed trips (days) at a 10% coverage rate.

LAGC IFQ vessels are required to call in to the IFS Observer Program unless fishing in the NGOM Scallop Management Area. If fishing the NGOM Scallop Management Area they are not required to call into the IFS Observer Program. In general the LAGC IFQ fleet are assigned coverage based on fleet, gear and area fished (Open Area, Access Area) as determined through the SBRM Analysis and the Observer Compensation Rate Summary.

Limited Access (LA) open bottom trips are currently allowed to fish in the NGOM Management Area. The IFS Observer Program does cover these trips as LA vessels are required to call in for all open area trips, including those occurring in the NGOM management area.

10. The regulations require NMFS to provide scallop observer providers written notice of pre-determined coverage levels by permit category and area (50 CFR 648.11(3)(g)). Can you provide the Council these documents for observer years 2013 through 2017?

GARFO includes observer coverage rates (% of trips) by area in the Scallop Compensation Rate Calculation Summary, (<https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/scallop/quotas/fy17obscomratecalculation.html>). These data are openly available on the web and GARFO announcements are forwarded to approved IFS Observer Providers by Fisheries Sampling Branch staff.

The NEFSC FSB also publishes the coverage rates on our monthly summaries of observer coverage for the Industry Funded Scallop Fleet, <https://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>. FSB currently has the 2015-2017 monthly data posted on the website. 2013-2014 monthly FSB reports are attached.

11. What was the actual number of Atlantic sea scallop observer days assigned in observer years 2013 through 2016? How does this compare to the targeted number of days?

The information requested is presented in the table below:

Table 1.

Year	SBRM Analysis Minimum Seadays	IFS Allocated Seadays	IFS Completed Seadays SBRM Year (Apr - Mar)	IFS Completed Seadays Scallop FY (Mar - Feb)	
3*	201	2838	2402	2785	2823
4*	201	2433	2703	2788	2698
5	201	2156	2512	2993	3052
6**	201	1319	2850	4002	3782
7**	201	1236	2741	1275***	1602***

*No SBRM in place during these years

** Coverage needs for turtles on vessels using scallop dredge gear in the Mid-Atlantic were not estimated because the utility of observers as a monitoring tool for turtles in the fishery appears to be decreasing (Murray 2015b).

***Seadays completed through June 20, 2017

Table 2.

Area	Trip Category	VMS trips	Observed Trips	Observed Sea Days	predicted effort (days)	Tasked Cov Rate	Tasked (days)	Difference obs-tasked (days)	realized effort (days)	realized coverage
Nantucket Lightship	General Category	482	36	69	485	25%	120	-51	933	7%
MA/GB Open Areas	Limited Access	1675	158	1567	11284	12%	1354	213	13502	12%
MA/GB Open Areas	General Category	4810	218	412	4769	5%	225	187	9301	4%
M-A Access Area	Limited Access	1480	178	1613	7049	14%	963	650	11482	14%
M-A Access Area	General Category	2022	61	121	2068	9%	188	-67	4041	3%

Table 2 shows all the components that the NEFSC FSB works with. It highlights where the seaday “overages” came from when compared to tasked days in 2016 (in red). The table also shows how predicted effort was underestimated and that FSB realized coverage are either under the tasked coverage rates or meeting them exactly.

IFS seadays described in the SBRM Annual Discard Report with Sea Day Allocation document are a result of the SBRM Analysis and the Scallop Compensation Rate

Summary Analysis. These IFS seadays are partially based on the projected amount scallop effort (# of trips) and predicted LPUE for the fishing year. These estimates are variable at the start of the FY and often do not match what the fleets experience during the actual fishing year (predicted effort (trips) is too low and LPUE is too high).

- For example in the MAAA 2016 it was estimated that there would be 1007 LA trips (313 fulltime vessels *3 trips + 34 partime vessels * 2 trips) = 1007 trips. Predicted LPUE for the MAAA would allow vessels to catch their allocation plus harvesting observer compensation in 7 days at sea (1007*7), which equaled 7049 predicted total DAS for the LA fleet in the MAAA (table 2).
- 2016 realized effort in MAAA had 1480 trips equaling 11482 DAS, i.e. predicted LPUE was too high (not enough days were accounted for per trip) and effort was too low (vessels went on more trips).
- The 2016 Observer Compensation Rate Summary (OCRS) indicated 963 DAS were needed from the LA MAAA fleet. We estimated a 14% observer coverage rate (963/7049 =13.66%)
- FSB targeted 14% coverage for this fleet but the realized effort had more trips (1480) and more days at sea (11482). FSB therefore covered more IF days than what SBRM/IF predicted was needed in this fleet, 650 more (1613 total).
- The realized coverage for the LA MAAA fleet was 14% (1613/11482), which is pretty good considering we were targeting 14% for this fleet.
- Average observed trip length in the MAAA for LA vessels was 9 DAS, 2 days longer than predicted at the start of the FY.
- LA Open bottom fleet experienced a similar problem, more trips and lower LPUE. 1354 DAS were prescribed by SBRM/OCRS seadays (12% coverage) and 1567 seadays were actually observed (213 seadays over target). Estimated effort for this fleet was 11,284 DAS but realized effort was 13,502 DAS. Realized observer coverage was 11.6%, right on target for 12%.

12. What measures are in place to ensure that actual observer coverage is reasonably close to the assigned coverage? Are there measures that could be adopted to improve the assignment of observers?

FSB tracks effort by fleet and area in monthly reports on our website, <https://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>.

GARFO supplies reports that are updated biweekly on Observer Set-Aside usage, <https://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/ro/fso/scal.htm>

FSB and GARFO monitor the set aside in case mid-year adjustments are needed to compensation.

FSB could report seadays accomplished in the monthly reports. FSB could not limit accomplished seadays easily because IFS vessels have the ability to choose the IFS Observer Provider Company with little oversight by the Government. By creating a monthly seaday schedule FSB would need to allocate seadays per IFS Observer Provider (currently 3 approved providers) and therefore limit a vessels choice. For example, if Provider A has accomplished all their assigned days for the month of July we would need to limit a vessels choice to Provider B or C.



Jon Hare, Ph.D.
Science and Research Director

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
January 1, 2013 to January 31, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	16	4	25.00%	9	2	22.22%	15%

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	49	2	4.08%	18	0	0.00%	15%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	29	4	13.79%	21	4	19.05%	18%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	21	1	4.76%	20	1	5.00%	10%
General Category LA	4	0	NA	2	0	0.00%	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	65	7	10.77%	61	6	9.84%	13%

* Trips planning to sail from Jan. 1st, 2013 - Jan. 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
February 1, 2013 to February 28, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	27	3	11.11%	12	1	8.33%	10%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	0.00%	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	105	11	10.48%	99	9	9.09%	13%

* Trips planning to sail from Feb. 1st, 2013 - Feb. 28th, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
March 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	134	19	14.18%	76	11	14.47%	12%
General Category LA	1	1	NA	0	0	0.00%	12%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	142	22	15.49%	123	12	9.76%	14%

* Trips planning to sail from Mar. 1st, 2013 - Mar. 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
April 1, 2013 to April 30, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	113	12	10.62%	120	12	10.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	244	34	13.93%	173	22	12.72%	14%

* Trips planning to sail from Apr. 1st, 2013 - Apr. 30th, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 May 1, 2013 to May 31, 2013**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	27	4	14.81%	5	2	40.00%	12%

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	40	3	7.50%	9	2	22.22%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	29	4	13.79%	9	2	22.22%	20%
General Category LA	5	1	20.00%	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	41	5	12.20%	43	5	11.63%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	277	39	14.08%	286	37	12.94%	13%
General Category LA **	61	21	34.43%	222	7	3.15%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from May 1st, 2013 - May 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

** LAGC Industry funded program began May 20, 2013, so data is from 05/20 - 05/31

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
June 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	72	8	11.11%	66	8	12.12%	12%

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	41	2	4.88%	46	2	4.35%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	53	8	15.09%	48	7	14.58%	20%
General Category LA	12	5	41.67%	13	2	15.38%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	21	5	23.81%	22	2	9.09%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	205	32	15.61%	203	27	13.30%	13%
General Category LA **	185	82	44.32%	590	38	6.44%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from June 1, 2013 - June 30th, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 July 1, 2013 to July 31, 2013**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	74	10	13.51%	68	7	10.29%	12%

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	11	1	9.09%	10	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	39	6	15.38%	44	6	13.64%	20%
General Category LA	11	4	36.36%	29	4	13.79%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	24	3	12.50%	19	2	10.53%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	201	29	14.43%	169	20	11.83%	13%
General Category LA **	178	66	37.08%	590	31	5.25%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from July 1, 2013 - July 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
August 1, 2013 to August 31, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	15	2	13.33%	31	4	12.90%	12%

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	8	1	12.50%	5	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	31	4	12.90%	28	5	17.86%	20%
General Category LA	9	3	33.33%	18	0	0.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	27	3	11.11%	20	3	15.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	172	20	11.63%	174	16	9.20%	13%
General Category LA **	168	69	41.07%	538	25	4.65%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from August 1, 2013 - August 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
Septmeber 1, 2013 to September 30, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	10	1	10.00%	5	1	20.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	17	3	17.65%	17	3	17.65%	20%
General Category LA	2	1	50.00%	2	0	0.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	21	2	9.52%	25	1	4.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	111	16	14.41%	139	14	10.07%	13%
General Category LA **	175	70	40.00%	432	20	4.63%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from September 1, 2013 - September 30th, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
October 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	1	0	0.00%	4	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	22	3	13.64%	12	1	8.33%	20%
General Category LA	3	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	10	2	20.00%	10	1	10.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	60	9	15.00%	74	11	14.86%	13%
General Category LA **	115	52	45.22%	355	22	6.20%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from October 1, 2013 - October 31st, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
November 1, 2013 to November 30, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	0	0.00%	0	0	NA	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	21	2	9.52%	17	1	5.88%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	13	1	7.69%	18	3	16.67%	20%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	26	3	11.54%	16	2	12.50%	12%
General Category LA	1	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	40	6	15.00%	35	3	8.57%	13%
General Category LA **	102	24	23.53%	182	7	3.85%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from November 1, 2013 - November 30, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
December 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	1	0	0.00%	1	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	12	2	16.67%	9	0	0.00%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	5	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%	20%
General Category LA	2	1	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	12	1	8.33%	10	2	20.00%	12%
General Category LA	1	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	50	6	12.00%	46	5	10.87%	13%
General Category LA **	98	25	25.51%	181	9	4.97%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from December 1, 2013 - December 31, 2013 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
January 1, 2014 to January 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	21	1	4.76%	2	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	5	0	0.00%	5	0	0.00%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	7	1	14.29%	5	1	20.00%	20%
General Category LA	2	1	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	15	2	13.33%	10	0	0.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	75	9	12.00%	49	5	10.20%	13%
General Category LA **	80	22	27.50%	197	8	4.06%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from January 1, 2014 - January 31, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
February 1, 2014 to February 28, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	13	1	7.69%	1	0	0.00%	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	7	2	28.57%	8	0	0.00%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	7	2	28.57%	2	0	0.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	15	2	13.33%	7	0	0.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	86	11	12.79%	95	11	11.58%	13%
General Category LA **	94	32	34.04%	241	10	4.15%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from February 1, 2014 - February 28, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
March 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	1	0	0.00%	0	0	NA	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	1	50.00%	1	1	100.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	18	3	16.67%	10	3	30.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	143	19	13.29%	114	13	11.40%	13%
General Category LA **	108	50	46.30%	181	8	4.42%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from March 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
April 1, 2014 to April 30, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	0	0.00%	1	0	NA	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	5	1	20.00%	3	1	33.33%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	5	1	20.00%	5	1	20.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	9	2	22.22%	8	1	12.50%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	287	41	14.29%	241	23	9.54%	13%
General Category LA **	162	79	48.77%	419	15	3.58%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from April 1, 2014 - April 30, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
 NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 May 1, 2014 to May 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Closed Area I Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	0	0	NA	2	0	0.00%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	1	0	0.00%	1	0	0.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Hudson Canyon Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	0	0	NA	1	0	0.00%	12%
General Category LA	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	280	46	16.43%	280	33	11.79%	13%
General Category LA **	230	104	45.22%	634	33	5.21%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from May 1, 2014 - May 31, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
June 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

DELMARVA Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	78	9	11.54%	52	1	1.92%	9%
General Category LA	21	14	66.67%	49	1	2.04%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	68	10	14.71%	29	2	6.90%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	25	3	12.00%	18	2	11.11%	20%
General Category LA	2	0	0.00%	1	0	0.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	205	38	18.54%	203	24	11.82%	13%
General Category LA **	263	115	43.73%	641	32	4.99%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from June 1, 2014 - June 30, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
July 1, 2014 to July 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

DELMARVA Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	125	23	18.40%	114	10	8.77%	9%
General Category LA	40	28	70.00%	142	2	1.41%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	91	13	14.29%	71	8	11.27%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	38	8	21.05%	25	3	12.00%	20%
General Category LA	4	1	0.00%	1	0	0.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	136	17	12.50%	130	13	10.00%	13%
General Category LA **	168	77	45.83%	376	28	7.45%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from July 1, 2014 - July 31, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
August 1, 2014 to August 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

DELMARVA Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	64	12	18.75%	66	11	16.67%	9%
General Category LA	46	22	47.83%	143	3	2.10%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	40	7	17.50%	61	8	13.11%	13%

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	39	7	17.95%	40	6	15.00%	20%
General Category LA	3	3	100.00%	0	0	NA	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	116	16	13.79%	117	8	6.84%	13%
General Category LA **	195	76	38.97%	444	25	5.63%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from August 1, 2014 - August 31, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 September 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

DELMARVA Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	37	6	16.22%	49	7	14.29%	9%
General Category LA	16	3	18.75%	52	2	3.85%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	12	4	33.33%	11	4	36.36%	20%
General Category LA	6	6	100.00%	1	1	100.00%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	105	14	13.33%	145	15	10.34%	13%
General Category LA **	161	71	44.10%	345	15	4.35%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from September 1, 2014 - September 30, 2014 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
November 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	12	4	33.33%	10	1	10.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	32	6	18.75%	53	5	9.43%	13%
General Category LA **	140	56	40.00%	221	11	4.98%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	40	6	15.00%	18	3	16.67%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
 National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
 NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 November 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	12	4	33.33%	10	1	10.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	32	6	18.75%	53	5	9.43%	13%
General Category LA **	140	56	40.00%	221	11	4.98%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	40	6	15.00%	18	3	16.67%	13%

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
December 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	18	4	22.22%	14	2	14.29%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	31	6	19.35%	34	6	17.65%	13%
General Category LA **	130	52	40.00%	331	17	5.14%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	25	4	16.00%	29	5	17.24%	13%

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 January 1, 2015 to January 31, 2015**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	11	2	18.18%	11	1	9.09%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	49	9	18.37%	49	3	6.12%	13%
General Category LA **	121	44	36.36%	197	10	5.08%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	5	3	60.00%	6	3	50.00%	13%

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
February 1, 2015 to March 1, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	11	2	18.18%	8	1	12.50%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	73	19	26.03%	49	5	10.20%	13%
General Category LA **	124	53	42.74%	496	7	1.41%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	7	2	28.57%	2	0	0.00%	13%

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
March 1, 2015 to March 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	2	100.00%	1	1	100.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	155	33	21.29%	127	20	15.75%	13%
General Category LA **	142	69	48.59%	265	16	6.04%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	0	0.00%	2	0	0.00%	13%

Delmarva Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	4	1	25.00%	2	0	0.00%	14%

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
April 1, 2015 to April 30, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	2	1	50.00%	1	0	0.00%	20%
General Category LA	0	NA	NA	0	NA	NA	NA

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	227	43	18.94%	239	27	11.30%	13%
General Category LA **	168	70	41.67%	371	24	6.47%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	4	2	50.00%	4	0	0.00%	13%

Delmarva Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	4	2	50.00%	3	0	0.00%	14%

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
May 1, 2015 to May 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	264	42	15.91%	206	28	13.59%	11%
General Category LA	183	97	53.01%	534	12	2.25%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	173	27	15.61%	142	24	16.90%	13%
General Category LA **	176	67	38.07%	293	19	6.48%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from May 1, 2015 - May 31, 2015 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
June 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	199	30	15.08%	183	21	11.48%	11%
General Category LA	179	90	50.28%	582	12	2.06%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	187	27	14.44%	156	12	7.69%	13%
General Category LA **	134	45	33.58%	260	11	4.23%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
July 1, 2015 to July 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	146	30	20.55%	116	10	8.62%	11%
General Category LA	168	90	53.57%	688	23	3.34%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	211	36	17.06%	175	18	10.29%	13%
General Category LA **	121	43	35.54%	283	12	4.24%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	174	28	16.09%	120	15	12.50%	11%
General Category LA	31	15	48.39%	71	1	1.41%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	153	24	15.69%	156	10	6.41%	13%
General Category LA **	184	89	48.37%	352	21	5.97%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from August 1, 2015 - August 31, 2015 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
September 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	160	18	11.25%	148	18	12.16%	11%

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	90	19	21.11%	96	10	10.42%	13%
General Category LA **	135	76	56.30%	301	9	2.99%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

* Trips planning to sail from September 1, 2015 - September 30, 2015 unless an area opened or closed within that time frame

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
October 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	179	25	13.97%	125	12	9.60%	11%

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	70	15	21.43%	63	3	4.76%	13%
General Category LA **	131	67	51.15%	203	8	3.94%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
November 1, 2015 to November 30, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	100	14	14.00%	115	11	9.57%	11%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	36	4	11.11%	35	3	8.57%	13%
General Category LA **	143	73	51.05%	231	8	3.46%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
December 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	61	12	19.67%	75	9	12.00%	11%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	29	4	13.79%	33	3	9.09%	13%
General Category LA **	128	56	43.75%	244	18	7.38%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
January 1, 2016 to January 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	34	5	14.71%	26	3	11.54%	11%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	50	7	14.00%	31	5	16.13%	13%
General Category LA **	141	67	47.52%	189	14	7.41%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
February 1, 2016 to February 29, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	25	3	12.00%	30	2	6.67%	11%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	80	11	13.75%	83	11	13.25%	13%
General Category LA **	98	37	37.76%	198	25	12.63%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
March 1, 2016 to March 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	46	7	15.22%	37	3	8.11%	11%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	159	22	13.84%	168	11	6.55%	13%
General Category LA **	110	41	37.27%	238	22	9.24%	9%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
April 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	223	38	17.04%	167	24	14.37%	14%
General Category LA **	170	83	48.82%	517	17	3.29%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	193	26	13.47%	128	8	6.25%	14%
General Category LA **	91	36	39.56%	163	9	5.52%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.
 Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
May1, 2016 to May 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	154	27	17.53%	147	22	14.97%	14%
General Category LA **	223	116	52.02%	732	22	3.01%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	273	45	16.48%	224	22	9.82%	14%
General Category LA **	104	43	41.35%	180	12	6.67%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
General Category LA**	73	43	58.90%	206	20	9.71%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.
Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
June 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	173	28	16.18%	136	19	13.97%	14%
General Category LA **	162	82	50.62%	611	16	2.62%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	214	31	14.49%	204	26	12.75%	14%
General Category LA **	107	43	40.19%	210	8	3.81%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
General Category LA**	65	38	58.46%	265	15	5.66%	20%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
July 1, 2016 to July 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	149	22	14.77%	140	21	15.00%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	215	29	13.49%	202	20	9.90%	14%
General Category LA **	289	138	47.75%	746	31	4.16%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
August 1, 2016 to August 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	151	18	11.92%	147	6	4.08%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	162	25	15.43%	185	19	10.27%	14%
General Category LA **	248	115	46.37%	845	28	3.31%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 Septmeber 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	169	29	17.16%	147	12	8.16%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	136	23	16.91%	152	14	9.21%	14%
General Categyory LA **	205	103	50.24%	585	20	3.42%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
October 1, 2016 to October 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	193	33	17.10%	158	19	12.03%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	95	12	12.63%	86	3	3.49%	14%
General Category LA **	241	140	58.09%	420	15	3.57%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

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Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 November 1, 2016 to November 30, 2016**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	146	28	19.18%	141	11	7.80%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	38	6	15.79%	64	3	4.69%	14%
General Category LA **	179	100	55.87%	367	12	3.27%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
December 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	81	18	22.22%	89	11	12.36%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	43	7	16.28%	53	2	3.77%	14%
General Category LA **	158	85	53.80%	260	10	3.85%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

These data are the best available to NMFS when this report was compiled.

Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
January 1, 2017 to January 31, 2017

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	75	18	24.00%	73	8	10.96%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	68	15	22.06%	60	6	10.00%	14%
General Category LA **	200	113	56.50%	321	20	6.23%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

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Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
February 1, 2017 to February 28, 2017

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	65	15	23.08%	60	7	11.67%	14%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	92	17	18.48%	103	7	6.80%	14%
General Category LA **	166	92	55.42%	321	17	5.30%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

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Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips

NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
March 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>
Please note Framework 28 was activated on March 23, 2017

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	100	17	17.00%	74	7	9.46%	10%
General Category LA **	4	1	25.00%	1	0	0.00%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	158	28	17.72%	258	25	9.69%	10%
General Category LA **	116	67	57.76%	181	3	1.66%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Elephant Trunk Flex Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	55	11	20.00%	17	0	0.00%	15%
General Category LA **	30	21	70.00%	60	8	13.33%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	32	5	15.63%	14	2	14.29%	15%
General Category LA **	27	16	59.26%	60	12	20.00%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0.00%	15%

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA

**NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
 April 1, 2017 to April 30, 2017**

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	179	21	11.73%	146	9	6.16%	10%
General Category LA **	15	7	46.67%	19	1	5.26%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	71	14	19.72%	55	5	9.09%	10%
General Category LA **	70	38	54.29%	129	9	6.98%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Elephant Trunk Flex Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	115	21	18.26%	131	17	12.98%	15%
General Category LA **	148	66	44.59%	364	15	4.12%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	83	17	20.48%	86	14	16.28%	15%
General Category LA **	121	51	42.15%	398	21	5.28%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	17	3	17.65%	7	1	14.29%	15%

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
May 1, 2017 to May 31, 2017

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	99	13	13.13%	115	7	6.09%	10%
General Category LA **	12	6	50.00%	3	0	0.00%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	146	16	10.96%	154	9	5.84%	10%
General Category LA **	94	29	30.85%	187	9	4.81%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Elephant Trunk Flex Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	64	11	17.19%	72	9	12.50%	15%
General Category LA **	97	40	41.24%	186	9	4.84%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	58	12	20.69%	60	10	16.67%	15%
General Category LA **	130	45	34.62%	435	35	8.05%	10%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	74	12	16.22%	44	6	13.64%	15%

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NORTHEAST FISHERIES OBSERVER PROGRAM - INDUSTRY FUNDED SCALLOP
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Woods Hole, MA
NMFS-Received Calls, Observer Assignments and Achieved Coverage Levels for Trips Landing from
June 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017

Additional Information about the scallop observer program is available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/scallop/>

Mid-Atlantic Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	86	8	9.30%	80	8	10.00%	10%
General Category LA **	9	4	44.44%	10	0	0.00%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Open Area (Mid-Atlantic and Georges Bank)							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	168	18	10.71%	153	13	8.50%	10%
General Category LA **	163	62	38.04%	383	17	4.44%	5.5%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Elephant Trunk Flex Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	26	5	19.23%	29	4	13.79%	15%
General Category LA **	30	19	63.33%	87	5	5.75%	8%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

(Elephant Trunk Closed for General Category LA fleet on June 12)

Nantucket Lightship Access Area							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	28	4	14.29%	32	4	12.50%	15%

General Category, assigned coverage is on weekly level

Closed Area II							
Fleet	Calls*	Observer Assigned*	Assigned Coverage*	VMS Trips	Trips Observed	Achieved Coverage	Target Coverage
Limited Access	114	24	21.05%	109	20	18.35%	15%

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Final numbers may be adjusted by the NMFS NE Regional Office to account for miscoded trips and other sources of error.

Trips made reflect completed trips, for access areas include both compensation and normal trips



New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

July 7, 2017

Mr. John Bullard
Regional Administrator
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear John:

The Council discussed your June 13, 2017 letter regarding an industry request that you use your authority as Regional Administrator to expand the existing Gulf of Maine (GOM) and Great South Channel (GSC) dredge exemption areas. The Council knows that several criteria need to be satisfied for you to expand existing exemption areas. These include sufficient data or information to determine that bycatch of regulated species is less than 5 percent, by weight, of total catch, and that the exemption would not jeopardize fishing mortality objectives. After considering recent discussions by the Scallop and Groundfish Committees, the Council passed the following motion:

Motion: The Council requests that the Regional Administrator use the authority to expand the Great South Channel scallop dredge exemption area to encompass all or part of the Georges Bank regulated mesh area, not including habitat closed areas, or year round closed areas except when allowed under the Scallop Access Area Program.

The motion carried on a show of hands (15/0/1).

Your letter characterizes the potential effects of expanding dredge exemption areas as uncertain and complex, and lays out several concerns that span the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP), the Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP, and the pending Omnibus Habitat Amendment. Please consider the following responses in light of your concerns. In addition, there has been strong collaboration between NMFS and industry to create and modify exemption areas in the past. We encourage you to work directly with stakeholders on this issue.

Northeast Multispecies Interactions

At the Council meeting, your staff referenced the poor status of Georges Bank yellowtail flounder as a potential concern of expanding the dredge exemption area. Existing exemption areas frame where the LAGC vessels may prosecute the scallop fishery. These areas generally overlap with the Cape Cod/Gulf of Main (CC/GOM) yellowtail stock boundary, as well as the

Southern New England (SNE/MA yellowtail flounder stock boundary. The Council agrees that expanding the Great South Channel (GSC) dredge exemption area to the east would likely include part or all of the Georges Bank yellowtail stock area. As of the last assessment in 2015, SNE/MA and CC/GOM yellowtail stocks were overfished, and overfishing was occurring, while the status of GB yellowtail is unknown. The LAGC IFQ component operates under an annual allocation, and the harvest of scallops on Georges Bank would represent a decrease in harvest from other areas. While the expansion of a dredge exemption may lead to additional bycatch of Georges Bank yellowtail by the scallop fishery, the redirection of effort may lead to a reduction in the bycatch of other yellowtail stocks that are also in poor condition. Observer data suggests that the majority of the scallop fishery's catch of GB YT occurs on the southeast flank of Georges Bank, in and around Closed Area II. We look forward to the results of the upcoming TRAC assessment of Georges Bank yellowtail, and the operational assessments of SNE/MA yellowtail and CC/GOM yellowtail this fall.

LAGC IFQ vessels may fish outside of exemption areas if they are fishing within scallop access areas. The Council has afforded this component access to Closed Area I and the Nantucket Lightship Access Areas through the specification setting process. Both of these access areas are situated outside of the existing GSC dredge exemption area, and inside the Georges Bank regulated mesh area. The Georges Bank regulated mesh area covers at least a portion off all three yellowtail founder stock boundaries, and both windowpane flounder stock boundaries. With respect to potential interactions with key flatfish stocks in these areas, the LAGC IFQ component already has accountability measures in place for SNE/MA yellowtail and windowpane flounder. The Council will be considering accountability measures for the LAGC component for both Georges Bank and Northern windowpane flounder in Framework 29. Observer data collected on LAGC IFQ trips to these areas may be useful as you consider this request. There is also overlap in gear configurations between the LA and LAGC components – namely the use of a single 10.5' dredge by portions of the LA component – that could expand the pool of data you consider.

Scallop FMP Interactions

LAGC vessels can only fish in exemption areas or scallop access areas. There is evidence that access to other areas is needed to support a vibrant LAGC fishery. The 2016 surveys of the scallop resource in the GSC did not show signs of strong incoming recruitment or high biomass. Multiple surveys did detect substantial biomass in areas to the south and east of the GSC dredge exemption area (Figure 2). Conversely, observer data has shown a decline in open area landings per unit of effort (LPUE) in the GSC area in recent years (Figure 3). Expanding the current exemption area to allow fishing within the Georges Bank regulated mesh area could bolster LPUE for the LAGC component by allowing vessels to work on higher densities of scallops. Such an expansion may also help to reduce bycatch by reducing the amount of time spent fishing to reach the 600 lb. trip limit.

The Council was explicit in its request that you consider expanding the Great South Channel scallop dredge exemption area to include all or part of the Georges Bank regulated mesh area. This focus should alleviate your concern about creating differential access among general category IFQ and NGOM permit holders in the Gulf of Maine by expanding the Gulf of Maine dredge exemption area. With regard to the potential for some to argue for a similar expansion of the Mid-Atlantic and Southern New England exemption areas, we look forward to the opportunity to comment on such requests if they come forward.

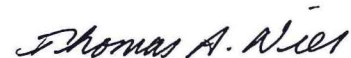
The Council prioritized work on modifying flatfish accountability measures through Framework 29. This action will likely include measures that would modify the existing reactive AM for Georges Bank yellowtail that currently only applies to the Limited Access component of the scallop fleet. The Council could elect to include reactive AMs for the LAGC component that would apply if the dredge exemption area is expanded to Georges Bank. Furthermore, the Council has been proactive in its efforts to reduce flatfish bycatch by both Limited Access and LAGC IFQ vessels across the range of the fishery by requiring the use of a 10" twine top, prohibiting the possession of key flatfish stocks, and most recently establishing a maximum number of rows that may be fished in the apron.

Habitat Amendment Interactions

The General Category Scallop Exemption Areas are defined by the Northeast Multispecies FMP. After the Omnibus Habitat Amendment is implemented, areas that are currently closed to scallop fishing will remain closed, and new Habitat Management Areas will be immediately effective. Much of the current GSC exemption area will be closed to scallop fishing as a new HMA, reducing the areas that can be fished by LAGC fishermen. The Council is planning to pursue a subsequent action to modify access areas. This action could be used as the vehicle to modify the exemption areas by drafting it as a joint groundfish/scallop action, but it would probably not be implemented until FY 2019. In contrast, expansion of the area using the Regional Administrator's authority would provide increased access nearly eighteen months earlier than through a Council action.

Once again, please consider this information as you decide whether to expand the exemption area. Thank you for considering this input. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Nies
Executive Director

Figure 1 – Existing Scallop Dredge Exemption Areas, with GOM and GB regulated mesh areas, and Council’s preferred OHA2 configuration.

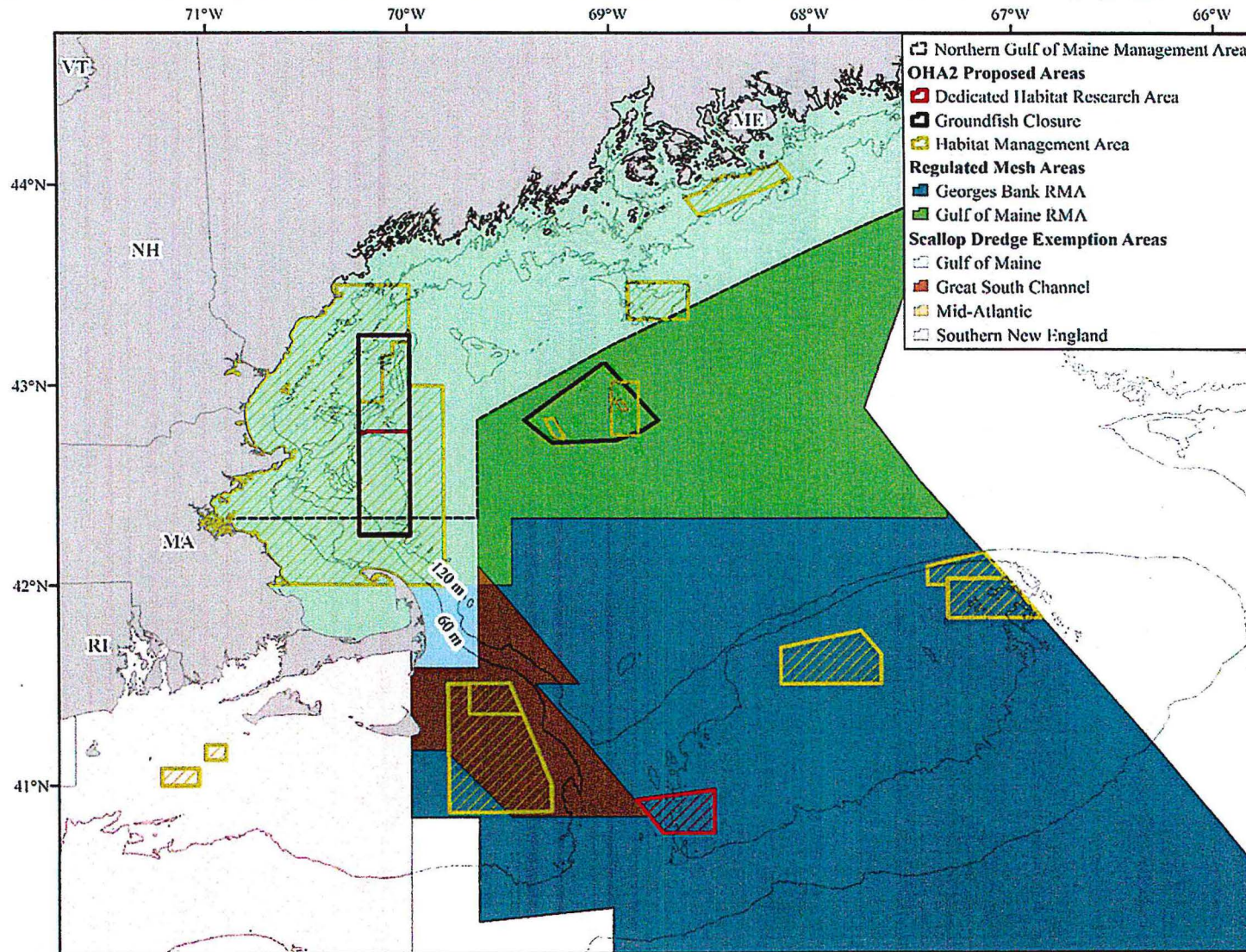


Figure 2 – Biomass estimates of the 2016 NEFSC & VIMS dredge survey of the Great South Channel and Georges Bank. (Source NEFSC & VIMS)

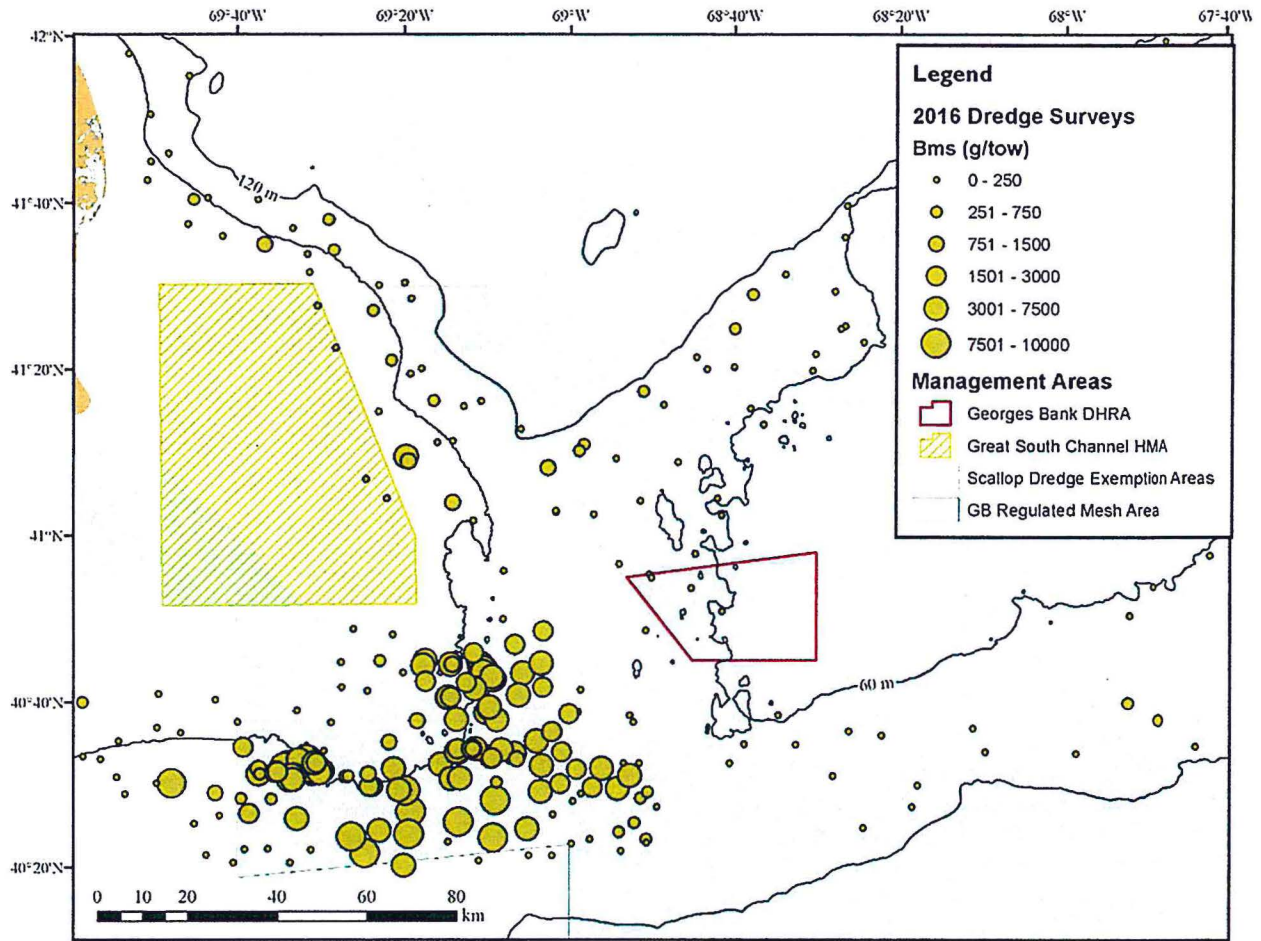


Figure 3 - Average LPUE of observed open area LAGC trips in statistical reporting areas 521 and 526.

