



New England Fishery Management Council

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John F. Quinn, J.D., Ph.D., *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** Oct. 6, 2016  
**TO:** Scallop Advisory Panel and Scallop Plan Development Team  
**FROM:** Mary Beth Tooley, Scallop Committee Chair  
**SUBJECT:** **Purpose for Join Scallop Plan Development Team (PDT) and Advisory Panel (AP) meeting on Oct. 13, 2016**

There is a Joint Scallop PDT and AP meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Boston, MA on **Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016 at 9:30 AM.** Please note there is a Scallop Committee meeting scheduled on Oct. 17 at that same location. Paper copies will not be mailed to you before the meeting. Documents for this meeting will be e-mailed to you as they become available.

**Purpose:** The main goals of the Joint PDT/AP meeting are to:

- 1) Review 2016 scallop survey results, OFL/ABC estimates, and model runs. Discuss potential specification alternatives to be considered in Framework 28.
- 2) Review PDT progress on tasking from the Sept. Committee meeting.
- 3) Review progress on management measures in FW28, including: 1) measures to restrict the possession of shell stock inshore of 42° 20' N; 2) measures to apply spatial management to fishery specifications (ACL flowchart); 3) Measures to modify the Closed Area I access area boundary, consistent with potential changes to habitat and groundfish mortality closed areas.
- 4) Provide input on potential scallop work priorities for 2017.
- 5) Discuss fishery dependent data collection.
- 6) Discuss information on potential observer effects on LAGC trip length and grade for FY 2016.

The Scallop Committee will consider your input at its meeting on October 17, 2016. The AP and Committee will meet again on Nov. 2 and 3 in Warwick, Rhode Island to review progress on this Framework and to make final recommendations to the Council. The full Council is scheduled to take final action on Framework 28 at the November Council meeting in Newport, RI.

**Meeting Logistics:** The PDT and AP will be seated together at the meeting table and will discuss all agenda items as a group. Recommendations to the Committee may come as consensus statements from the entire group, or in the form of a motion from the AP. PDT members will not vote on AP motions, but may join in the discussion. The PDT consensus recommendations will be communicated to the Committee by Council staff and documented in the meeting summary.

**Meeting Materials:** Paper copies of the documents listed below will be provided at the meeting. A PDF of each document will be posted to [www.nefmc.org](http://www.nefmc.org). Staff will provide copies of any additional meeting materials that are not included in this package. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact Jonathon Peros ([jperos@nefmc.org](mailto:jperos@nefmc.org); 978-465-0492 ext. 117).

**Documents:**

1. Framework 28 Action Plan v3
2. Draft Framework 28 management measures, dated October 6, 2016 (*may be updated before mtg*)
3. Scallop Committee Motions, Sept. 14, 2016
4. Scallop Advisory Panel Motions, Sept. 13, 2016
5. Northern Gulf of Maine Documents
  - a. Northern Gulf of Maine TAC options
  - b. Draft Northern Gulf of Maine Fishery Data Discussion Document
6. Closed Area I Carryover Trip Discussion Document
7. Scallop PDT Meeting Summaries
  - a. Scallop PDT Summary – July 21, 2016
  - b. Draft Scallop PDT Summary – August 30/31, 2016
  - c. Draft Scallop PDT Summary – September 29, 2016
8. Scallop PDT memo to the SSC re: 2017 and 2018 (default) OFLs and ABCs
9. Potential 2017 work priorities for the Scallop FMP
10. Correspondence
11. Presentation on potential observer effects on LAGC trip length and grade for FY 2016.
12. Presentation on real-time electronic data logging (Mr. Ronald Smolowitz)

**2016 Scallop Survey Results and Specification Alternatives in FW28**

**Recent Activity:** The Scallop PDT has met in person and by conference call several times to review updated 2016 scallop survey results and SAMS model results. The PDT discussed 2017 and 2018 (default) OFL and ABC recommendations to the SSC on Oct. 6 by conference call. The scallop Committee tasked the PDT to develop specifications alternatives at its Sept. 14 meeting (Doc. 3).

**Next Steps:** Council and NEFSC staff will review updated 2016 scallop survey estimates, and present information on potential specification alternatives to be considered in Framework 28. The AP may wish to develop additional specification alternatives for the Committee to consider. The Scallop Committee will meet on Oct. 17 to discuss recommendations from the PDT/AP meeting, and potentially task the PDT to develop additional specification alternatives in FW28. The AP and Committee will have the opportunity to select preferred alternatives at their meetings on Nov. 2 and 3 in Warwick, RI.

**Committee tasking re: NGOM TAC alternatives and Closed Area I Carryover Trips**

**Recent Activity:** In September the scallop Committee tasked the PDT to analyze a range of NGOM TAC alternatives to include additional options, and evaluate how CAI carryover trips could be taken in FY2017 and look into how to access area and open area fishing would impact the specifications setting process. The PDT discussed these issues on Sept. 29, 2016 in Boston, MA.

**Next Steps:** Council staff will update the group on progress to-date. The AP may also wish to provide guidance to the Committee on the development of the current draft management alternatives.

**Review progress on management measures in FW28**

**Recent Activity.** The Scallop AP and Committee reviewed and refined FW28 management measures at their September meetings in New Bedford, MA. In some cases, the AP and Committee indicated support for management measures. The Committee also recommended that some items be moved to the considered and rejected portion of the framework. Management measures in FW 28 include: 1) measures

to restrict the possession of shell stock inshore of 42° 20' N; 2) measures to apply spatial management to fishery specifications (ACL flowchart); 3) Measures to modify the Closed Area I access area boundary, consistent with potential changes to habitat and groundfish mortality closed areas. The PDT has updated FW 28 to reflect the Committee's work.

**Next Steps.** Council staff will update the group on the current status of management measures. Note that measures to apply spatial management to fishery specifications will be discussed in the context of the 2017 and 2018 fishery specification process, and that decisions on this management measure may impact the allocation associated with specification alternatives, particularly for the LAGC IFQ component. The AP and Committee will have the opportunity to select preferred alternatives at their meetings on Nov. 2 and 3 in Warwick, RI.

### **2017 Scallop Work Priorities**

**Recent Activity.** The Council identified a list of potential work priorities for 2017 at its September meeting. The scallop PDT discussed 2017 work priorities at its meetings on July 21, 2016 and Aug. 31. The AP and Committee reviewed preliminary lists at their meetings in September.

**Next Steps.** Staff will review potential work priorities for 2017. The AP should be prepared to provide input on the current list of potential 2017 work priorities, and rank them (if possible). The Council will be setting 2017 work priorities at the November meeting.

### **Industry Data Collection/Fishery Dependent Data**

**Next Steps:** Mr. Ronald Smolowitz will present information on real-time electronic data collection. The AP should review his presentation and be prepared to discuss the utility of this approach to the scallop fishery and potential next steps.

### **Potential observer effects on LAGC trip length and grade for FY 2016.**

**Recent Activity.** The PDT reviewed analyses on potential observer effects on LAGC trip length and grade at its meeting on Sept. 29. The PDT has discussed this issue several times in 2016.

**Next Steps:** Analyses on potential observer effects on LAGC trip length and grade for FY 2016 will be presented to the group. The AP may wish to make a recommendation about next steps (priority, management measure, no action, etc).

Please review all documents before the meeting.

If you have any questions about these enclosures please contact Jonathon Peros (978-465-0492 ext. 117).