

Summary of closed area measures under consideration in the Herring FMP

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Enforcement Committee
Meeting
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New England
Fishery Management Council

Herring actions under development

- **Framework 5** – consider modifications to the current GB haddock accountability measure that would reduce negative impacts on herring and mackerel fisheries, as well as minimize disruptions to supply of lobster bait
- **Amendment 8** – one aspect of the action is to consider measures to address potential inshore localized depletion and user conflicts between the herring fishery and other users who depend upon adequate local availability of herring.

Framework 5

- Haddock bycatch in the Herring MWT fishery is not a new issue – several actions have been taken since 2005 and currently 1% of the total GB ACL is allocated to the herring fishery
- In 2015, the GB haddock AM was implemented and most of GB closed to herring MWT fishery from late Oct – April.
- Council initiated Framework 5 in April 2016.
- Committee has been developing a range of alternatives over the summer and fall.
- Final action has shifted from November 2016 to January 2017.
- Scheduled effective date in May 2017 (may be later).

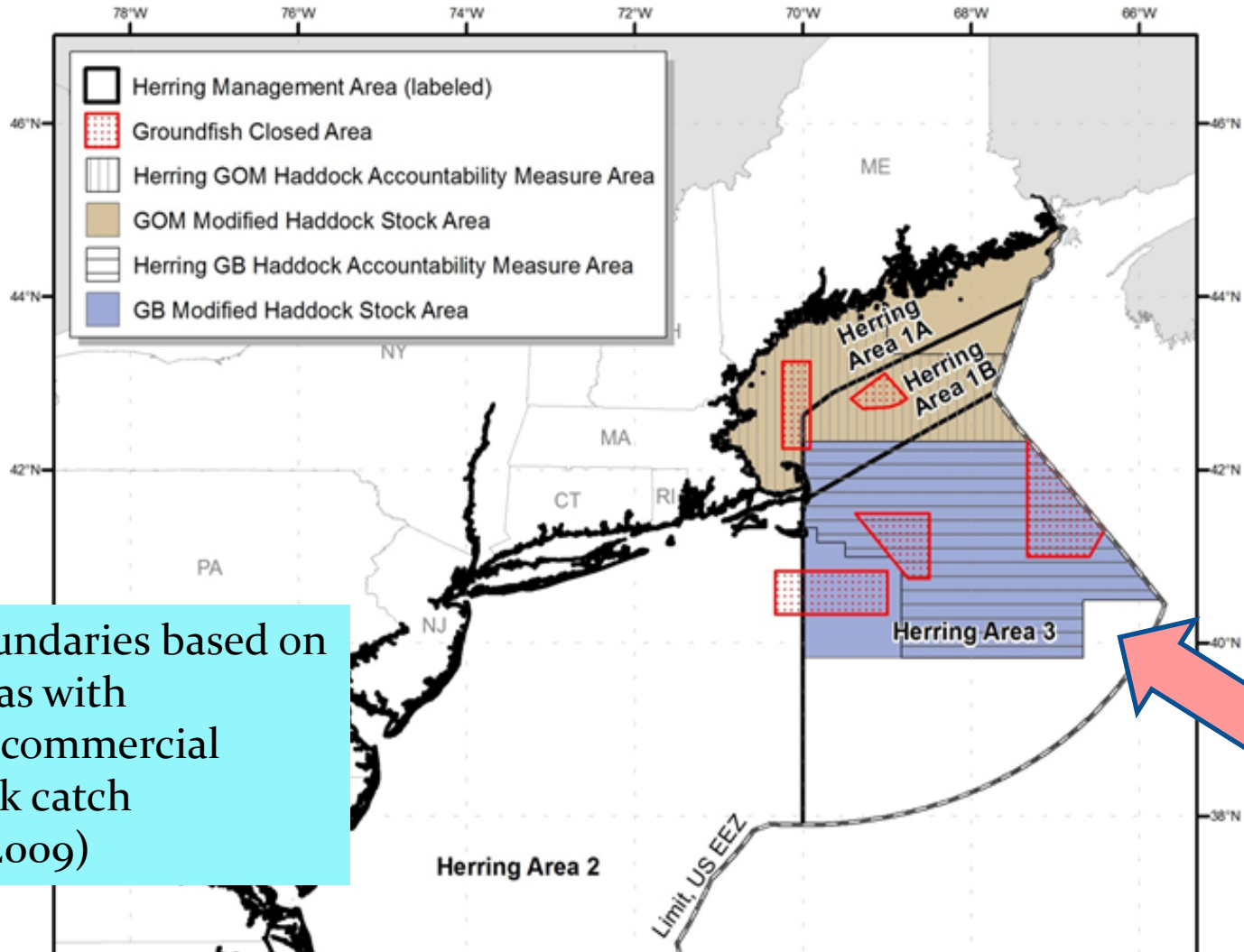
FW5 - Alternatives under consideration

- Range of alternatives designed to prolong the fishing season on GB by either using “proactive” closures to slow bycatch during the season, or modifications to how the AM is implemented to provide a winter fishery and increase flexibility (split and/or payback). **4 alternatives developed to date.**
- 1. No Action – *in-season closure for herring vessels using MWT gear, and a pound for pound payback for any overage*
- 2. Modify the GB AM area - *(currently based on an area where 90% of commercial haddock catch came from in 2006-2009)*

FW5 includes 2 possible “proactive” AM closures that would close to the fishery for a specific length of time before the sub-ACL is caught to help slow bycatch down. If the fishery still exceeds the total sub-ACL, the current No Action AM would be implemented.



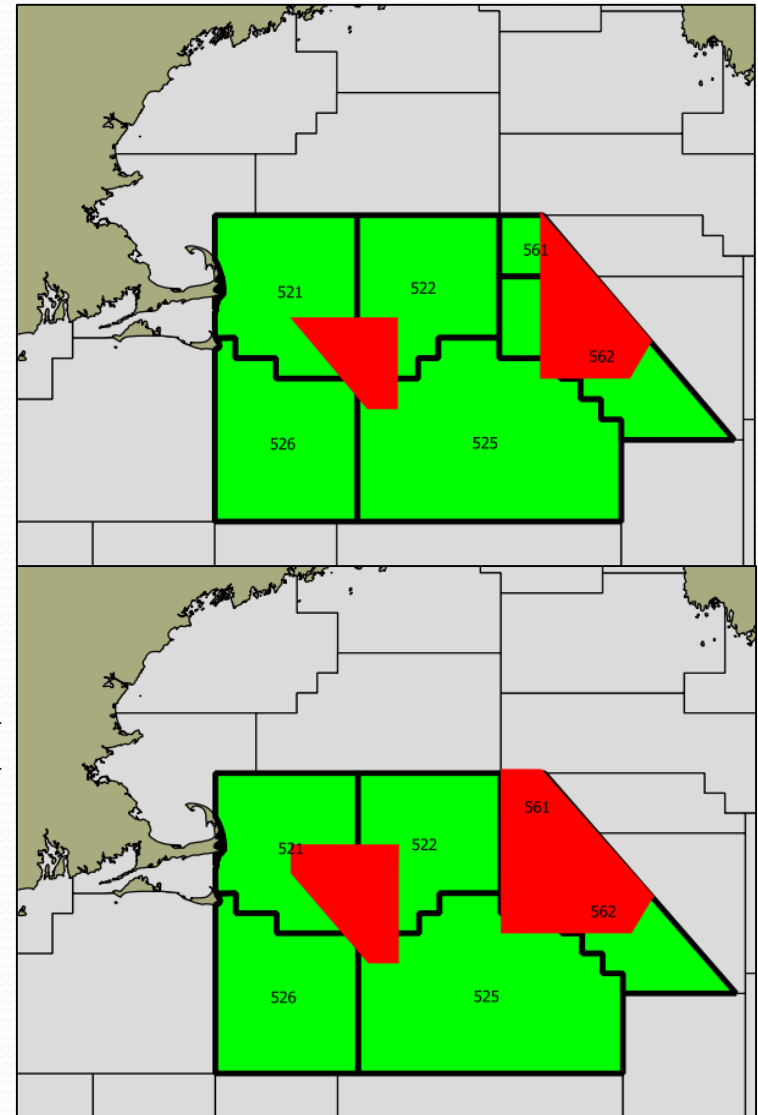
No Action Haddock AM areas



AM Boundaries based on stat areas with 90% of commercial haddock catch (2006-2009)

2 options for proactive closures

- Alt 2. Option 1 –
Closed Areas I and II
- Alt 2. Option 2 –
Closed Areas I and II with 15 nm extension N of CA₁ and W of CA_{II}
- 3 seasonal sub-options
(year-round, May-Oct, June-Sept)



FW5 - Alternatives under consideration

- 3. Seasonal split of sub-ACL

80% of sub-ACL would be available on May 1 and the remaining 20% would be added on Nov 1. AM area would close when fishery catches 80% and reopened on Nov 1 if TAC remaining.

- 4. Suspend pound for pound payback provision in Year 2 unless the entire GB haddock ACL is caught

The Herring Cmte added this alternative in October; the full Council has not yet considered whether to include it or not. Rationale: AMs should not trigger unless the full ACL is harvested, and currently the GF fishery is not utilizing the majority of the GB haddock ACL.



Enforcement Committee Charge for FW5

- Review FW5 alternatives and provide input on any enforcement related concerns.
- Specifically, are the Alternative 2 AM closed areas and seasonal sub-options enforceable? Would any new requirements or modifications be needed to improve their enforceability?
- Enforcement Cmte input will be forwarded Herring Cmte.
- Herring Cmte meeting in early January to identify preferred alternatives, and final council action in January.



Amendment 8

- This action is much earlier in the process – Council is still developing alternatives.
- Council has approved a range of alternatives and the Herring Cmte is still refining the details.
- The Council is scheduled to approve a range of alternatives to consider in January 2017, but that may be later if the alternatives are not ready.
- Analysis and public hearings expected to take about a year, with final action expected in 2018.

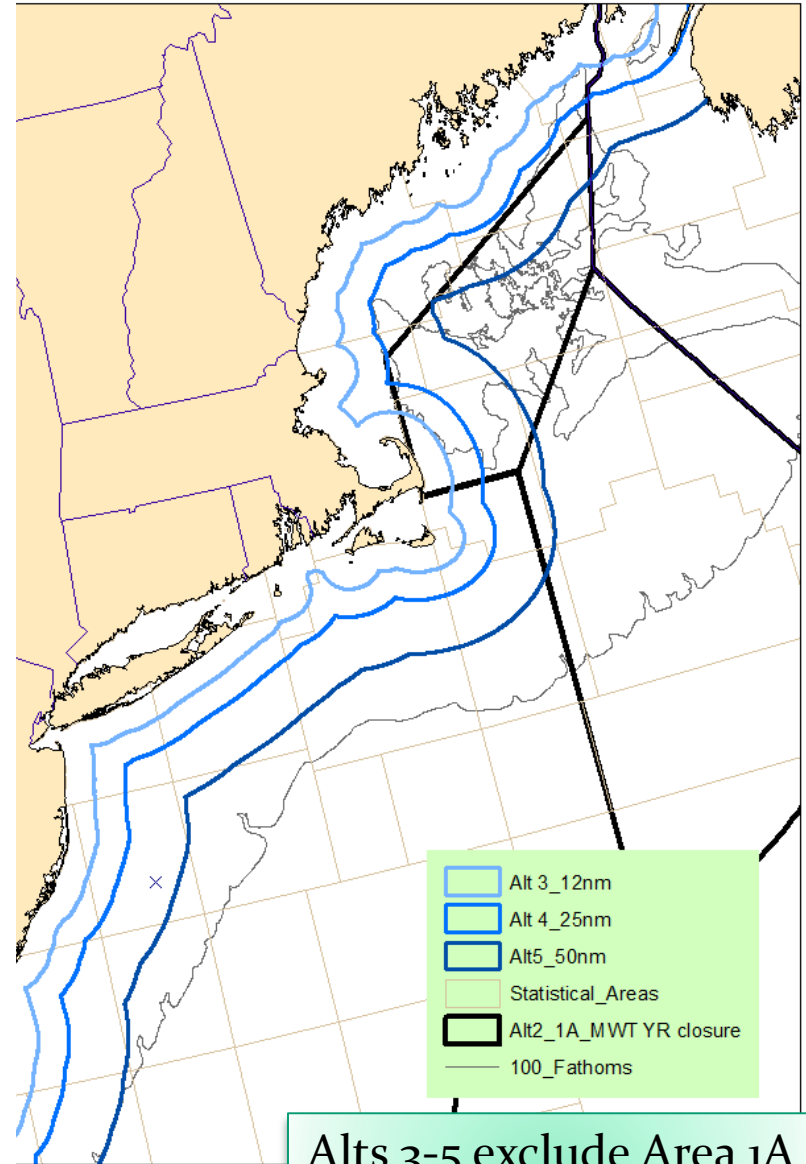
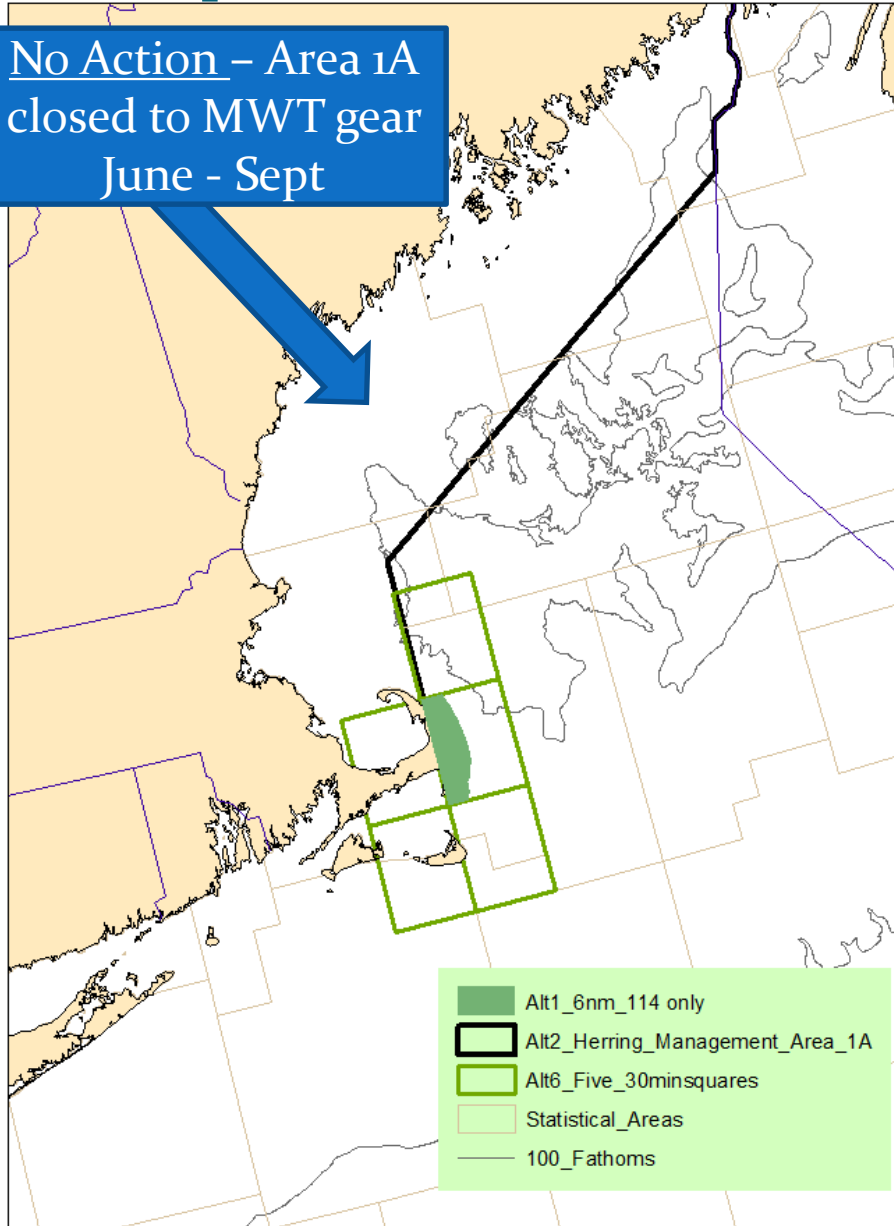
A8 - Alternatives developed to date

- No Action – seasonal closure of Area 1A from June 1 – Sept 30 to MWT gear only (March 2007 under Amendment 1).
- Additional closures
 1. **6 nautical miles** from shore in Area 114 between June 1 – Aug 31 to **all** Atlantic herring vessels;
 2. Area 1A year round (MWT gear only);
 3. **12 mile** inshore closure year round south of Atlantic Herring Management Area 1A (i.e., within Areas 1B, 3 and 2) (MWT only);
 4. A **25 mile** inshore closure year round south of Atlantic Herring Management Area 1A (i.e., within Areas 1B, 3 and 2) (MWT only);
 5. A **50 mile** inshore closure year round south of Atlantic Herring Management Area 1A (i.e., within Areas 1B, 3 and 2) (MWT only);
 6. Close 30 min squares 99, 100, 114, 115, 123 year round (MWT only)



Maps of alternatives

No Action – Area 1A closed to MWT gear June - Sept



Alts 3-5 exclude Area 1A

Enforcement Committee Charge for A8

- Review A8 alternatives developed to date and provide initial input on any enforcement related concerns.
- Specifically, are the closed area alternatives enforceable? Would any new requirements or modifications be needed to improve their enforceability?
- Enforcement Cmte input will be forwarded to the Herring Committee.
- Herring Cmte meeting scheduled in early January to continue development of A8 alternatives, and possibly approve a range of alternatives to consider.

