

# Monitoring and Catch Accounting

May 8, 2018

Scallop PDT

# Update from April Council

- Presented strawman, and some VMS reporting data.
- The Council voted to send two letters to NOAA Fisheries asking the agency to do the following:
  - Letter 1 (drafted – in review)
    - Enforce regulations
    - Consider increasing the penalty schedule for VMS pre-land non-compliance
    - Pursue technical solutions to compliance assistance
  - Letter 2 (sent on April 20) – See meeting materials
    - Implement real-time online quota transfers for IFQ
- These letters should address some issues in our strawman
  - VMS reporting and quota non-compliance

# Plan for next AP/Committee

- Provide an update on progress, PDT work, including input from enforcement at May 8<sup>th</sup> PDT meeting
  - Report back on letters to NOAA
  - Report on enforcement input
  - Report on any PDT recommendations on how to proceed with monitoring and catch accounting issues.
  - Present more data if available

- **Data from Ben and OLE**

# Questions for OLE:

- Discussion with Tim and Don from OLE.
- See Document #2a – Page 4, Section 1.2.1

## 1.2.1 Questions sent to Tim Donovan ahead of May 8, 2018 PDT meeting:

1. The mechanics of the joint enforcement agreement in the Northeast region. How does it work in practice? Are all states involved? How do states communicate with NOAA? Are there state databases that track enforcement efforts? Are these compatible with NOAA enforcement databases?
2. Your thoughts on revising the VMS non-compliance penalty schedule. Will this be a deterrent?
3. Many regulations are developed without direct input from OLE (we often don't ask for input). Are scallop regulations generally enforceable? Are there policies that can be developed to improve enforceability?
4. There have been several reports of scallop violations on Facebook, and in the news. Are the number of violations consistent with past years, but we are seeing more media coverage? Are scallops more of an enforcement priority?
  - a. Can the Council do something to prevent issues that are coming up in the news (scallop overages)?
  - b. Are scallops violations more prevalent than violations in other fisheries (number)?
5. Do you have any general opinions on dock-side monitoring, electronic monitoring, and bag tags? Are there issues with any of these concepts that the Council should consider if it wants to take further action?

# Questions for OLE:

Re: The Council's motion to send a letter asking NOAA to revisit penalty schedule for VMS non-compliance

- Will this be a deterrent? Additional thoughts?

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>VIOLATION HISTORY – PENALTY AMOUNT</b>		
	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>SECOND</b>	<b>THIRD</b>
Fail to provide required pre-landing notification	\$100 per missed notification up to \$2,500	NOVA	NOVA
NOVA: Notice of Violation and Assessment			

# Unknown removals & lack of adherence to landings limits

- *Problem:* Dealer reported landings do not match actual landed catch of scallops (there are unreported landings)
  - Issue uncovered by enforcement during monitored offloads
    - Are there other ways to discern this problem? (Assume that it is unlikely enforcement can monitor 100% of offloads)
- What is the magnitude of this problem?
  - How many pounds could be unreported? – This came up at the SAW
  - Could it impact our ability to successfully manage scallops from:
    - Biological perspective?
    - Equity perspective?

# Considerations

- Unreported Landings - Dealer reported landings do not match actual landed catch of scallops
  - Issue uncovered during monitored offloads
  - Other problems we should talk about that are related to this?
- Can this be solved by additional management measures?
  - If yes, what would the measures be?
    - How would they improve upon our existing system?
    - Where would they fit into existing fishing operations?
  - **Potential approach:** Increase the management uncertainty buffer



# Assumptions – Are these valid?

- With existing reporting requirements, there should be general agreement between estimated catches during the trip, and dealer reports.
  - SUM of daily catch reports  $\approx$  VMS pre-land catch estimate
    - For multi-day trips
  - VMS pre-land catch estimate  $\approx$  VTR landings estimate
  - VTR landings estimate  $\approx$  Dealer report to SAFIS

# Assumptions – Are these valid?

- With existing reporting requirements, if all reporting is completed on time, managers should know:
  - When, where the vessel sailed from
  - Planned fishing operations
  - Daily catch (general LPUE)
  - Estimated total landings
  - When, where the vessel plans to land and estimate landings
  - Confirmation of landed catch with weights (dealer report)

# Existing reporting requirements

- In two slides, we tried to capture the existing reporting requirements in the scallop fishery.
  - Please take a look and provide feedback/corrections.

## VMS Reports

(Unit must report vessel position 24/7 every half-hour)



