



New England Fishery Management Council

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2026/27 Scallop RSA Solicitation Now Open Through March 23, 2026

DEADLINE: March 23, 2026

NOAA Fisheries, in coordination with the New England Fishery Management Council, [announced](#) the solicitation for proposals for the 2026-2027 Sea Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program.

TO APPLY: see the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

The solicitation and administrative aspects of the funding opportunity are being handled by the NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO). Due to the timing of this announcement, prospective applicants should anticipate that NOAA Fisheries may not issue a 2027 Scallop RSA Notice of Funding Opportunity, and that most, if not all, of the 2026 and 2027 research set aside scallops may be awarded under this competition. Further, because applicants may not have sufficient time to prepare for field work this year, NOAA Fisheries acknowledges that field work may need to start in 2027.

PRIORITIES: All project proposals should support the New England Fishery Management Council's scallop research priorities, View the full description of "Current Scallop RSA Priorities" [here](#).

- **High Priority:** Scallop Resource Surveys
- **Medium Priority:** Scallop Biology; Sea Turtles; Commercial Fishing Gear; Bycatch Reduction; Fishing in High-Density Areas; Offshore Wind; Scallop Resource Enhancement
- **General Priority:** Habitat Characterization & Fishery Impacts

QUESTIONS: about the solicitation, please contact GARFO's Ryan Silva at ryan.silva@noaa.gov. For information about the Council's scallop management, contact Connor Buckley at cbuckley@nefmc.org