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Received via email: October 23, 2014

From: Alex Todd <alextodd207@gmail.com>
Date: October 23, 2014 at 3:35:52 PM EDT
To: "Dboelke@nefmc.org" <Dboelke@nefmc.org>
Subject: NGOM tac

Dear Deirdre, please distribute to the members of the scallop AP and committees. Thanks Alex.
Members of the scallop advisory panel and scallop committee,

I'd like to take this opportunity to reiterate my previous statements about the NGOM TAC rules and the need for an exemption to prevent fishermen with federal permits from being excluded from Maine's important state water fishery. Under the current writing of the law a number of Maine fishermen that have been dependent on the state water fishery in recent years would be prevented from fishing in state waters once the NGOM TAC, which is based on Federal waters, is reached. The stock in federal waters is finally looking better. It doesn't make sense that a recovering federal resource should result in fishermen being prevented from participating in the state water fishery, especially since that fishery is so much larger and distinct from the Federal resource.

The only effect on the state fishery would be that it might last a day longer. There's no biological benefit from this prohibition. However the effect on a handful of main families is devastating.

Thank you,
Alex Todd
F/V Jacob and Joshua
Chairman, Maine Scallop Advisory Council