Updates on Projects Related to Industry-Funded Monitoring

New England Fishery Management Council
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
January 30, 2018
List of Updates

• NE Industry-Funded Monitoring (IFM) Omnibus Amendment
• Electronic monitoring (EM) project on midwater trawl (MWT) vessels participating in the Atlantic herring and mackerel fisheries
• Introduction to potential service providers for IFM at-sea monitoring (ASM), EM, and portside sampling
Status of IFM Amendment

• NEFMC took final action on the IFM Amendment at its April 2017 meeting
• Proposed regulations were sent to NEFMC for deeming in December 2017
• Proposed rule is being reviewed by NMFS
• NEFMC will consider allowing EM/portside sampling for MWT vessels at its April 2018 meeting
• IFM Amendment implementation targeting Fall of 2018
  o Herring vessels would notify NMFS via the pre-trip notification system (PTNS) to request monitoring coverage
• MAFMC will revisit IFM in 2018
Status of MWT EM Project

• NMFS worked with Saltwater to conduct the project from August 2016 – January 2018
• 11 MWT vessels volunteered to participate in the project
• Saltwater and NMFS produced a final report on the project in January 2018
• NMFS will be conducting an internal review of the EM project in February 2018
• NMFS will release the EM project report following the review
• NMFS will present the EM project report and recommendations to NEFMC in April 2018
EM Project Goals

• Evaluate the utility of EM for monitoring catch retention and identifying discard events in the Atlantic herring and mackerel MWT fisheries
  o Document slippage events
  o Categorize types of slippage events
  o Document other sources of discards

• Inform EM cost responsibilities for the fishing industry and NMFS
Data Collected by EM Project

• 126 herring fishing trips with EM footage
• 100% video review resulted in an estimated 1,000 hours of review time
• 32 trips with both EM and a NEFOP observer
• 37 outreach meetings with fishing industry
• 11 exit interviews with vessel owners and/or captains
Purpose of Increased Monitoring in the Atlantic Herring Fishery

• Accurate estimates of catch (retained and discarded)
• Accurate catch estimates for incidental species with catch caps (haddock and river herring/shad)
• Affordable monitoring for the herring fishery
Overview of EM Presentation for NEFMC in April 2018

• Utility of EM to monitor Atlantic herring fishery
  o Document slippage events
  o Categorize types of slippage events
  o Document other sources of discards

• Inform EM cost responsibilities for the fishing industry and NMFS

• Any additional information you need in April to facilitate your consideration of EM as a monitoring option for MWT vessels?
Monitoring Service Providers

- Fishing industry would contact service providers to purchase IFM coverage
- Service providers would be annually approved by NMFS
- Service providers are attending the January 2018 NEFMC meeting
  - Including ASM, EM, and portside providers
- Opportunity for fishing industry, interested stakeholders, and the NEFMC to become familiar with service providers
Questions?