



New England Fishery Management Council

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MEETING SUMMARY

Scallop Committee

Radisson, Warwick, RI

November 3, 2016

This summary consists of final Committee motions only.

Motion 1: Kendall/Hughes

Committee recommends that the Council select in Section 2.8., Alt 2 (2.8.2) – Restrict the possession of shell stock inshore of DAS demarcations line north of 42’ 20 N as preferred.

Rationale: This measure creates consistency in regulations across the fishery.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (9/0/0).

Motion 2: Kendall/Mann

The Committee recommends that the Council select in Section 2.1, Alt. 2 (2.1.2) Updated OFL and ABC for FY2017 as preferred.

Rationale: OLF and ABC based on 2016 surveys represents the most updated scientific information.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 3: Hughes/Stockwell

The Committee recommends that the Council select in Section 2.2, Alt. 2, Sub-Option 1 (Section 2.2.2.1) – 95,000 lb NGOM TAC.

Rationale: The TAC recommendation considers 2016 survey and catch information, and the Council has received a significant amount of correspondence in support of 95,000 lbs. The pound for pound accountability measure for NGOM TAC was also considered.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 4: Kendall/Hughes

The Committee recommends that the Council select in Section 2.3, Alt. 2 (2.3.2) fishery allocations based on spatial management, as preferred.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 5: Hughes/Mann

The Committee recommends that the Council set default measures at 75% FT DAS, and one 18,000 lb access area trip in Mid-Atlantic Access Area of FY2017 allocations. LAGC IFQ quota would be set at 75% of the FY2017 LAGC IFQ allocation. The number of LAGC IFQ access area trips would be set at 5.5% of the total access area allocation for default measures.

Rationale: These default measures for FY2018, and replaced upon the approval of a subsequent Council action. All access area trips allocated through default measures would only be available in the Mid-Atlantic Access Area.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 6: Hughes/Mann

The Committee recommends that the Council recommend that PT AA allocations be set at 28,800, with trips limit at 14,400 trip per trip. The PT vessels must take at least 1 trip in the Mid-Atlantic Access Area.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 7: Kendall/Sissenwine

The Committee recommends that the Council select in Section 2.3.2.2, Alt.3 (2.3.2.2.1.3), Set LAGC IFQ access area trips at 5.5% of the overall access area allocations.

Rationale: The Committee recommended moving the LAGC IFQ spatial management (5.5% of projected landings), and so allocating access area trips should be based on 5.5% of the access area allocations.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 8: Pappalardo/Kendall

The Committee tasks the PDT to analyze the NLS-ext as part of the NLS AA with the associated DAS at F=0.44.

Rationale: This would add the NLS-ext to the NLS access area and spread out effort in the NLS access area. The trip limit would remain at 18,000 lbs. Making the NLS-ext part of the access area allows for managing risk around scientific assessments. This option would allow both LA and LAGC IFQ vessels to fish in the area.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (10/0/0).

Motion 9: Pappalardo/Hughes

The Committee recommends that the Council select as preferred Section 2.3.2.1.2, Alt 2, The Basic Run with the ETC Flex Option, and incorporate a seasonal closure from July 1 – Sept. 30.

Rationale: This would convert the Elephant Rotational Closures into an access area. This new access area would be a no transit area. There would be no limit on the number of VMS declarations into the area. LA FT vessels can land up to 36,000 pounds in the MAAA, 18,000 of which can come from the Elephant Trunk Rotational Access Area. The access area pounds could be fished within the first 60 days of the following fishing year. The seasonal closure would only apply to the Elephant Trunk Rotational Access Area.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (9/0/0).

Motion 10: Pappalardo/Griffin

The Committee recommends that the Council Select in Section 2.3.2.2.2, Alt 3, Equal Split of access area trips for the LAGC IFQ component by available access areas, and split the CAII access area trips 50% to NLS, 25% to the MAAA, and 25% to the ETC AA.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (9/0/0).

Motion 11: Stockwell/Mann

The CTE recommends that the Council select in Section 2.4, Alt. 2, (2.4.2) prorate the 2017 FY by 13/12ths (+8%). The CTE also recommends that the 13 month proration would NOT apply to the NGOM TAC.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (9/0/0).

Motion 12: Kendall/Stockwell

The Committee recommend that the Council select Section 2.5.3, Alt 3, as preferred. (Alt 3 – RSA Compensation Fishing only in the Mid-Atlantic Access Area and open areas, excluding the NGOM management area).

The motion carried on a show of hands. (9/0/0).

Motion 13: Hughes/Griffin

The Committee recommends that that Council select Section 2.6.3, Alt 3. Expand CAI AA to include all of the CAI N HMA.

The motion (13) was withdrawn without objection.

By consensus (14), move Sections 2.6 and 2.7 to considered and rejected. The intent of the Committee is to have these Closed Area I carryover pounds be available for harvest in the next available action.

Motion 15: Hughes/Kendall

The Committee recommends that all runs with an $F=0.48$ be moved to considered and rejected.

Rationale: The Committee recommends removing $F=0.48$ run options to reduce impact on small scallops in open bottom that the Committee would like to protect. Reconfiguring the NLS ext as part of the NLS access area was factored into this decision. The F rate associated with DAS has been set equal to $F=0.48$ in recent years, and that the open bottom has been pushed hard.

The motion carried on a show of hands. (8/0/0).

Motion 16: Mann/Hughes

The Scallop Committee tasks the Scallop PDT to analyze northern windowpane catch in the scallop fishery. This analysis would include a review of observer data, and consider when/where the fishery is interacting with northern windowpane flounder. The Committee recommends that the Council defer final action on the Northern windowpane sub-ACL for the scallop fishery decision until the above analysis is completed.

Rationale: The Committee would like to see additional analyses of scallop fishery catch of Northern windowpane that could help inform the sub-ACL/AM decisions.

The motion carried on a show of hands 7-0-1.

By consensus, the Committee recommends that Elephant Trunk Rotational Access Area trips are tradeable with Nantucket Lightship Access Area trips or Closed Area II Access Area trips.