

# **Framework Adjustment 4 to the Atlantic Herring FMP**

**Lori Steele, NEFMC Staff, Herring PDT Chair**

**Herring Committee Meeting January 14, 2014**

# Framework 4 Background

- Initiated by the Council (Nov 2013) to address disapproved elements of Amendment 5 related to dealer weighing provisions and measures to address net slippage
- Disapproved elements related to observer coverage and industry-funded monitoring to be addressed in NMFS-led omnibus amendment

# Framework 4 Timeline

- January 14, 2014 Herring Committee/  
January 22, 2014 Herring AP Meetings
- January 28-30, 2014 NEFMC  
(Initial Fw4 Meeting)
- Herring PDT/AP/Committee  
(February-March 2014)
- April 2014 NEFMC (Final Fw4 Meeting)
- Fw4 Submission and Implementation  
ASAP

# Mid-Atlantic Council Actions

- Am14 to the MSB FMP included similar measures for the mackerel fishery, also disapproved
- No action currently scheduled to address disapproved dealer weighing provisions
- Fw 9 to the MSB FMP under development to address disapproved slippage provisions (see Fw 4 Discussion Document for options under consideration in MSB Fw 9)

# Dealer Weighing Provisions

## *Disapproved (Am 5)*

Dealers required to accurately weigh all fish and document how composition of mixed catch is estimated for every submission

- Without standards, not likely to affect dealer behavior or improve accuracy of reporting; no way to evaluate sufficiency of information submitted
- NS7 (costs/duplication) and PRA (utility must outweigh burden)

# Dealer Weighing Provisions

## *Non-Preferred (Am 5)*

- 2A – Dealers required to accurately weigh all fish and annually document how composition of mixed catch is estimated
- 2C – Dealers required to obtain vessel representative confirmation of SAFIS transactions weekly using Fish On Line;  
Also VTR and dealer reports would be due within 24 hours of landing/purchase

# Dealer Weighing Provisions

## *Options to consider in Fw 4?*

Re-visit goals/objectives of Am5 catch monitoring program (Section 2.4) with particular consideration to additional dealer weighing provisions

- Option 2C (one or both components)
- Clarify/standardize methods to weigh fish
- Revise measure to better address third-party verification
- Obtain information in community profiling (?)

# Measures to Address Net Slippage

Approved (Am 5) *\*Option 3\**

- Full sampling when observer on-board
- Slippage prohibited *except* (1) safety (2) mechanical failure (3) dogfish
- If slippage occurs, Released Catch Affidavit
- 100% coverage in year-round groundfish closed areas and requirement to leave area if slippage occurs (Closed Area I provisions)
- Measures to improve sampling, including visual access to codend (p.9)



# Measures to Address Net Slippage

Dis-approved (Am 5)

Threshold of 10 observed slippage events by gear type and area, after which trip termination would be required. Slippage events that are caused by spiny dogfish (#3) would not be counted towards the trip termination thresholds.

- Data does not support proposed threshold (NS2)
- Inconsistent sanction, may impact safety decisions (APA and NS10)

# Measures to Address Net Slippage

## Non-Preferred (Am5)

- Catch deduction (for safety and gear damage) plus trip termination (two options considered – with and without full sampling provisions)
- Trip termination option after five events per gear type and management area

# Measures to Address Net Slippage

Options to consider in Fw 4?

- Measures similar to provisions for year-round groundfish closed areas, i.e., all slippage events have consequences
  - Area-based options? (stat area, other)
  - Different consequences for different events?
  - Exempt one or more slippage reasons from consequence (with justification)

# Herring Committee Meeting

- Initial meeting – provide guidance re. range of alternatives to address disapproved dealer weighing and slippage provisions
- Herring Advisory Panel meeting Jan 22
- Committee will further discuss issues once alternatives and additional analysis have been developed (March)
- Council to select final measures in April