

A photograph of a sunset over the ocean. The sun is a bright yellow-orange circle on the horizon, with its light reflecting on the water. The sky is a gradient of orange and red, and the water is dark blue with some whitecaps.

# Framework Adjustment 46 Haddock Catch Cap Issues

Groundfish Oversight Committee

January 19, 2011

# Overview

- Council motion: *“to create Framework Adjustment 47 to address issues associated with the haddock bycatch cap in the sea herring fishery for implementation in 2011.”*
- Brief overview of existing regulations
- Sample of data reviewed
- Committee objectives for framework
- Committee options

# Framework Adjustment 43

- Redefined as exempted fishery, no longer exempted gear
- Cap set at 0.2% of the combined GOM and GB haddock ACL.
- Only haddock catches that are documented count against the cap (no expansion to an overall catch is performed)
- Only catches by Category A and B permits are counted.
- When cap is reached all herring permits limited to 2,000 lbs. in most of GOM and on GB.

# Data Review

- Estimate of total catches of haddock
- Relationship of haddock:herring
- Length frequency of haddock caught
- Patterns of occurrence
- Spatial and temporal distribution

# Estimated Haddock Catch by Herring Fishery

- Estimates provided by NEFSC
- Moderately to poorly estimated (i.e. CVs > 0.30)

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<b>Georges Bank – MWT Haddock Catch Estimates</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Observed Trips</b>	<b>Catch (mt)</b>	<b>CV</b>
2003	<b>10</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.77</b>
2004	<b>20</b>	<b>34.02</b>	<b>0.64</b>
2005	<b>37</b>	<b>52.19</b>	<b>0.35</b>
2006	<b>4</b>	<b>280.48</b>	<b>0.99</b>
2007	<b>10</b>	<b>1.62</b>	<b>0.60</b>
2008	<b>23</b>	<b>67.66</b>	<b>0.49</b>
2009	<b>39</b>	<b>56.78</b>	<b>0.30</b>

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# Context

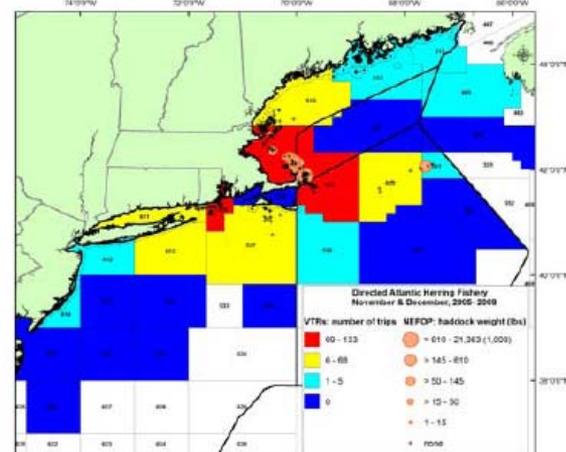
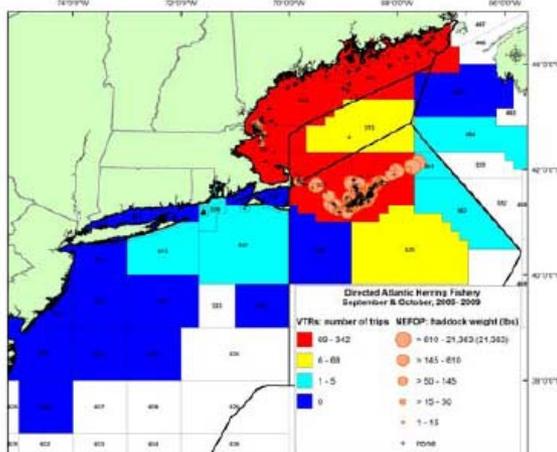
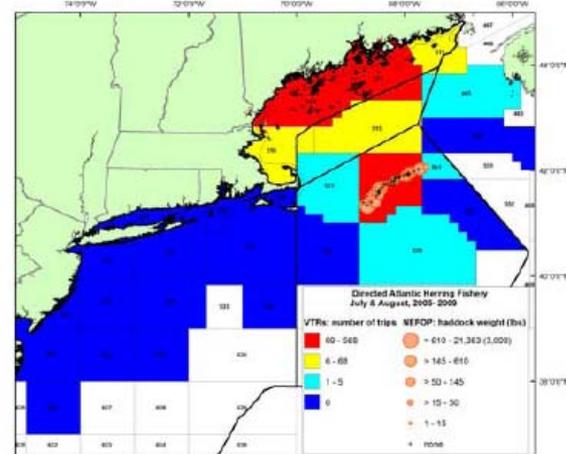
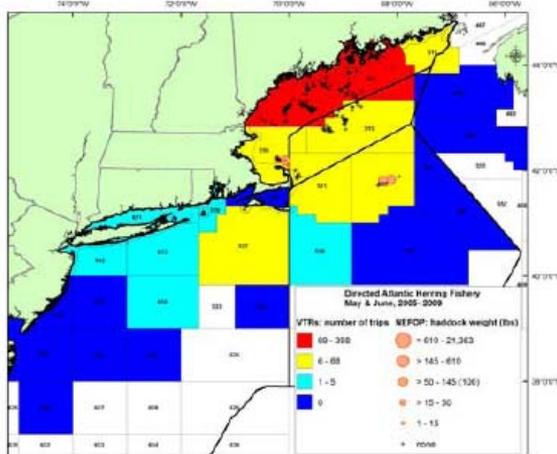
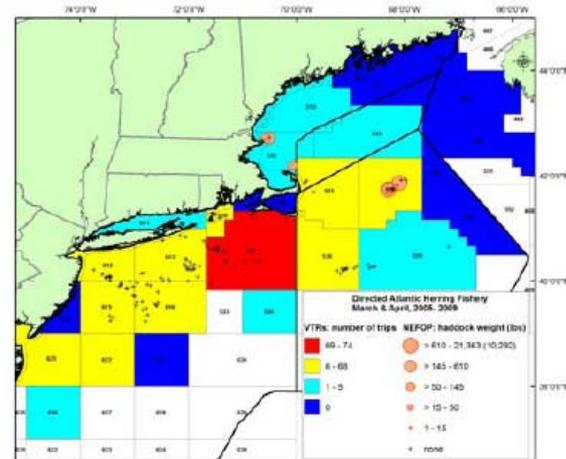
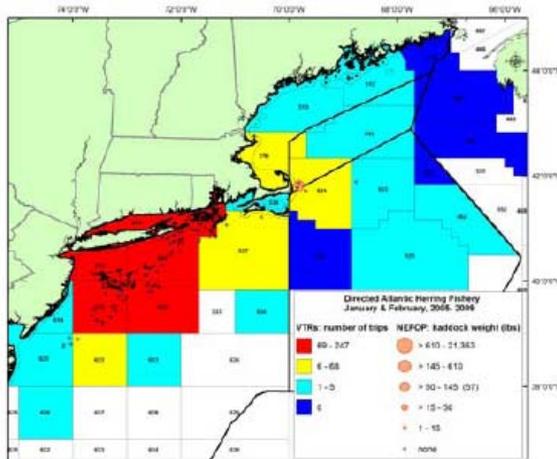
<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Estimated MWT GB Haddock Catch (mt)</b>	<b>MWT Catch % of US Catch</b>	<b>MWT Catch % of TTAC/ACL</b>	<b>US GB Haddock Catch as % of TTAC/ACL</b>
2000	0.0	0.00%	0.00%	52%
2001	0.0	0.00%	0.00%	43%
2002		0.00%		
2003	0.4	0.01%		
2004	34.0	0.40%	0.23%	56%
2005	52.2	0.72%	0.42%	59%
2006	280.5	7.12%	0.79%	11%
2007	1.6	0.03%	0.00%	5%
2008	67.7	1.11%	0.06%	6%
2009	56.8	1.04%	0.07%	7%

# Frequency of Occurrence

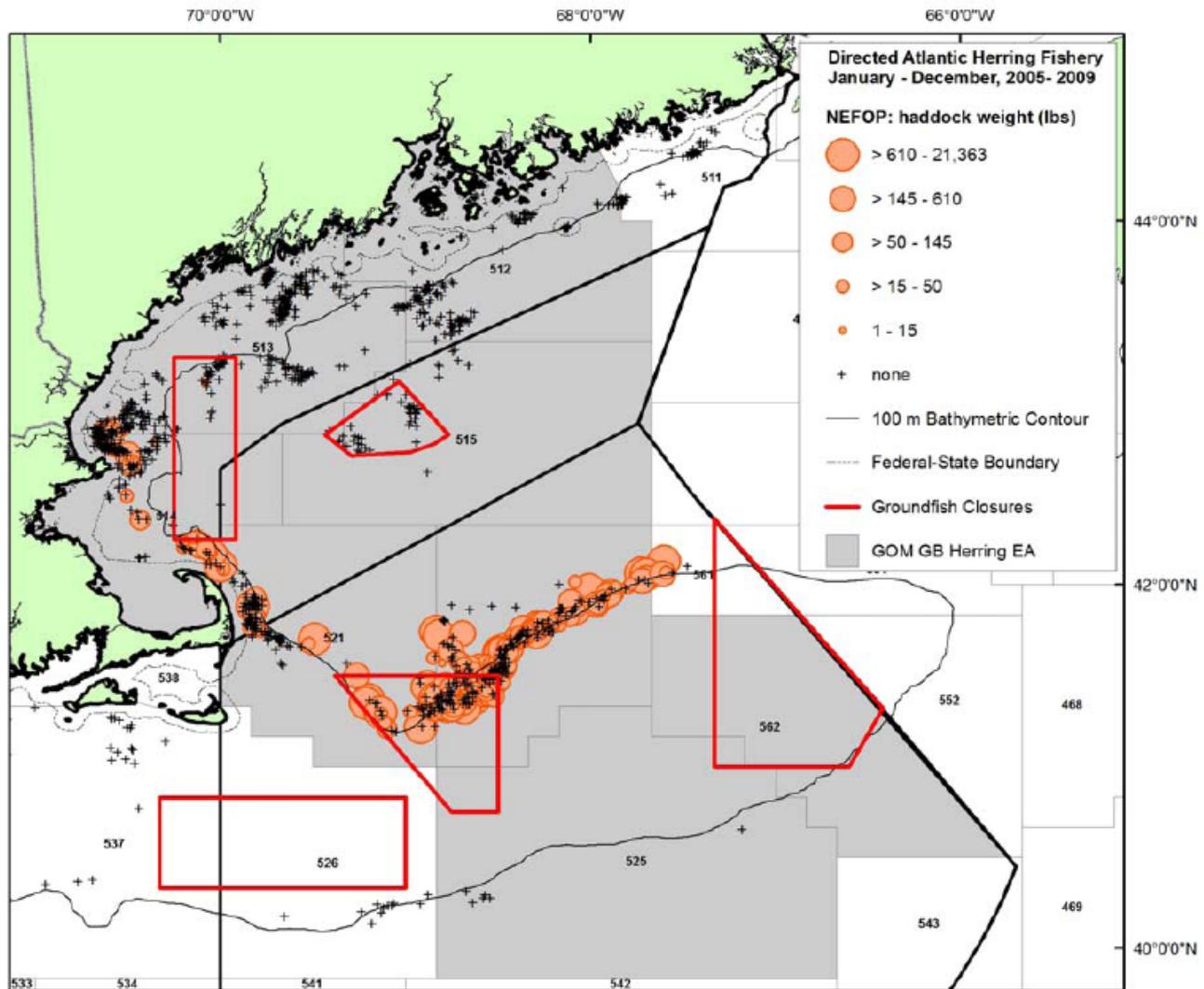
## By Gear

<i>Mar-Apr</i> Haddock Weight (lbs)		Gear Category			
		OT	PR	PS	ALL
none		4	112	0	116
1 - 15		0	2	0	2
> 15 - 50		0	2	0	2
> 50 - 145		0	1	0	1
> 145 - 610		0	2	0	2
> 610 - 21,363		0	2	0	2
maximum= 10,292	ALL	4	121	0	125

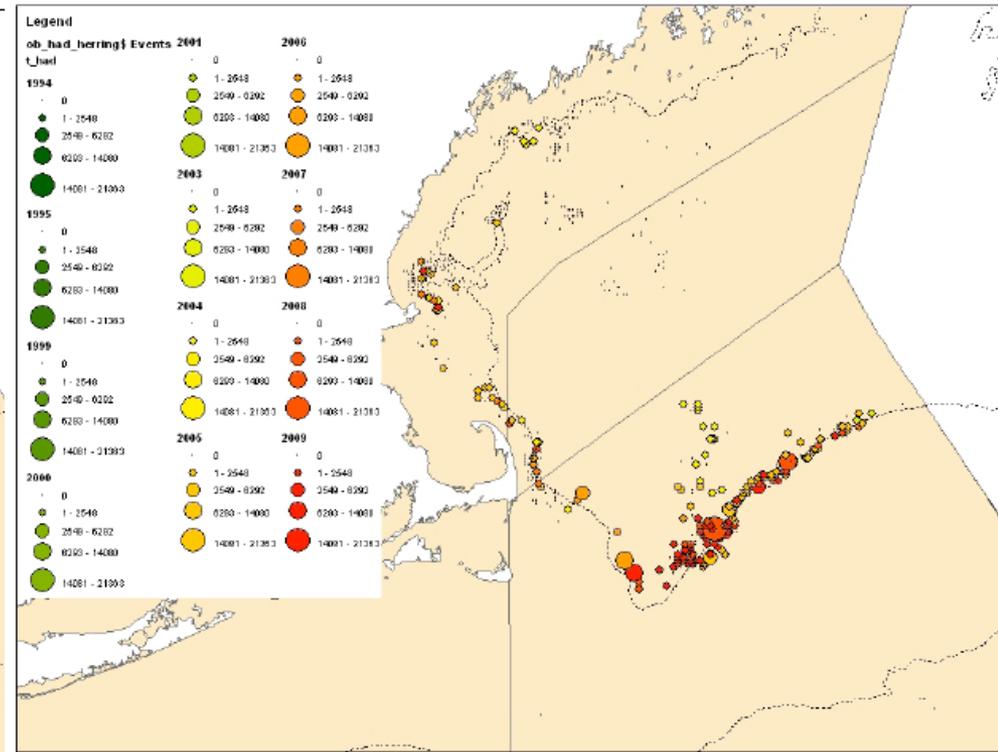
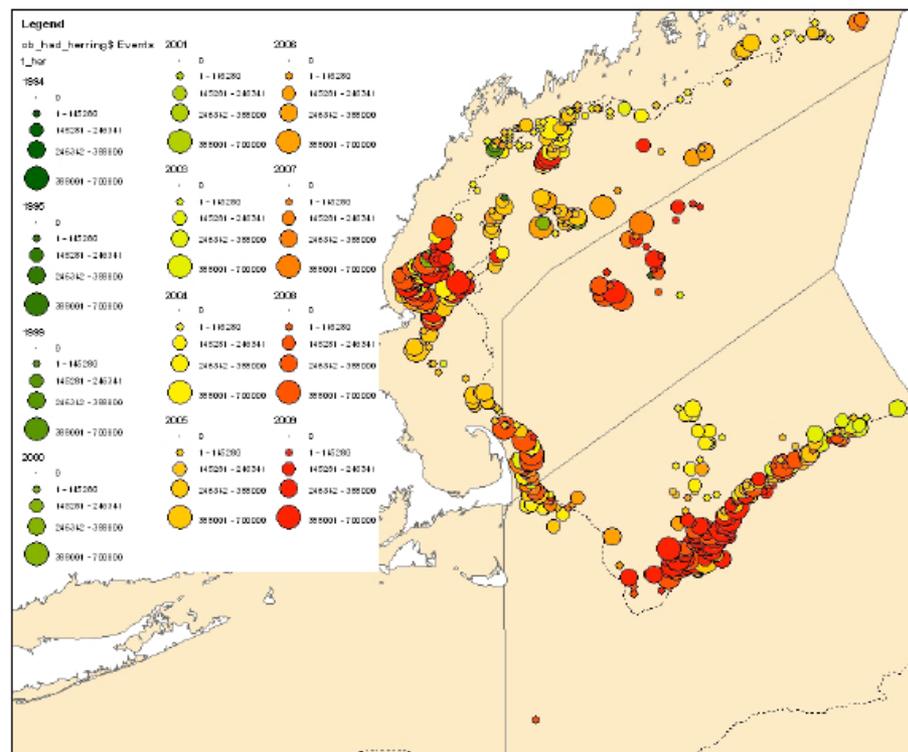
<i>Sep-Oct</i> Haddock Weight (lbs)		Gear Category			
		OT	PR	PS	ALL
none		23	266	63	352
1 - 15		1	14	0	15
> 15 - 50		1	27	0	28
> 50 - 145		2	21	0	23
> 145 - 610		0	25	0	25
> 610 - 21,363		0	29	0	29
maximum= 21,363	ALL	27	382	63	472



# Annual Summary



# Observed MWT Herring and Haddock Catches



# Preliminary Conclusions

- Cap could be applicable to MWT gear
- Narrow to GB/Herring Management Area 3
- Unlikely to be able to predict future catches (at present)
- Catches generally small compared to available or total GB haddock catch; unlikely substantial biological risk

# Framework Objectives

- Maximize the chance for GB (Area 3) herring TAC to be caught
- Provide incentive to fish offshore
- Provide incentives to fish in a manner and at times when or in areas where haddock bycatch is none to low
- Reduce the impact of a haddock cap on the entire herring fishery

# Committee Options

- No Action
- Adjust existing cap amount based on observer coverage levels
- Stock-specific cap of 1 percent of ABC, MWT fleet only, based on observed catch extrapolated to fleet by stock area
- Incorporate into “other subcomponents” and monitor for future changes

Questions?