

NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Scallops

I. STATUS

1. ETA: NMFS announced that the Elephant Trunk Area closed to general category fishing on March 15, 2007. The area was open for two weeks and approximately 890 general category trips were taken (72 FR 12572).
2. Amendment 13: The Council submitted Amendment 13 to re-activate the industry funded observer program on February 16, 2007. A Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on March 19, 2007 (72 FR 12749). Comments are due May 18, 2007.
3. Amendment 11: The Council is scheduled to approve Amendment 11 at this Council meeting and public hearings are scheduled for May. Final decision on Amendment 11 is scheduled for June 2007.

II. MEETINGS

- The Scallop Plan Development Team met on March 1, 2007
- Both Scallop Advisory Panels met on March 19, 2007
- The Scallop Committee met on March 20, 2007

III. COUNCIL ACTION

1. Consider selection of preferred alternatives and approval of Scallop Amendment 11 for public comment.
2. Consider initiating Framework 20 to prevent overfishing in FY2007. This action would extend measures implemented by emergency action to reduce the number of trips in ETA for January and February 2008.

IV. INFORMATION

1. Updated 2007 timeline of scallop actions
2. Amendment 11 DSEIS
3. Draft Cumulative Effects Section for Amendment 11 (*to be handed out*)
4. Decision document for Amendment 11
5. Meeting summary from Scallop PDT meeting (March 1, 2007)
6. Meeting summary from joint advisory panel meeting (March 19, 2007)
7. Meeting summary from Scallop Committee meeting (March 20, 2007)
8. Background information on initiation of Framework 20
9. Correspondence