

4. Scallops – December 16-18, 2013

#4

## Framework 25

Specifications for FY2014 and FY2015 (default)

### **Council Update**

**Consider Motions from  
Nov Committee Meeting**

# Summary of Presentation

- Background: biomass results, performance of FMP under ACLs, and summary of how specs are set in this fishery
- Summary of FW25 specification alternatives
- Summary of preliminary analyses
- Review 5 Committee Motions related to FW25
  - Two related to new specifications alternatives
  - One modification to existing specification alternative
  - Two related to additional measures to reduce impacts in Delmarva
- Other Business – 2 Consensus statements related to sending letters to NMFS

# Updated Biomass Results

- Total biomass relatively stable from 2012 (2013 = 113,000mt)
- Exploitable biomass about 15% lower than 2012 (2013 = 66,000mt)
- About 36% of all exploitable biomass within EFH/GF closed areas and MA scallop access areas
- Since biomass stable and larger proportion of scallops are smaller – fishing mortality higher
- Estimate of F for 2012 is 0.377 (OFL=0.38)

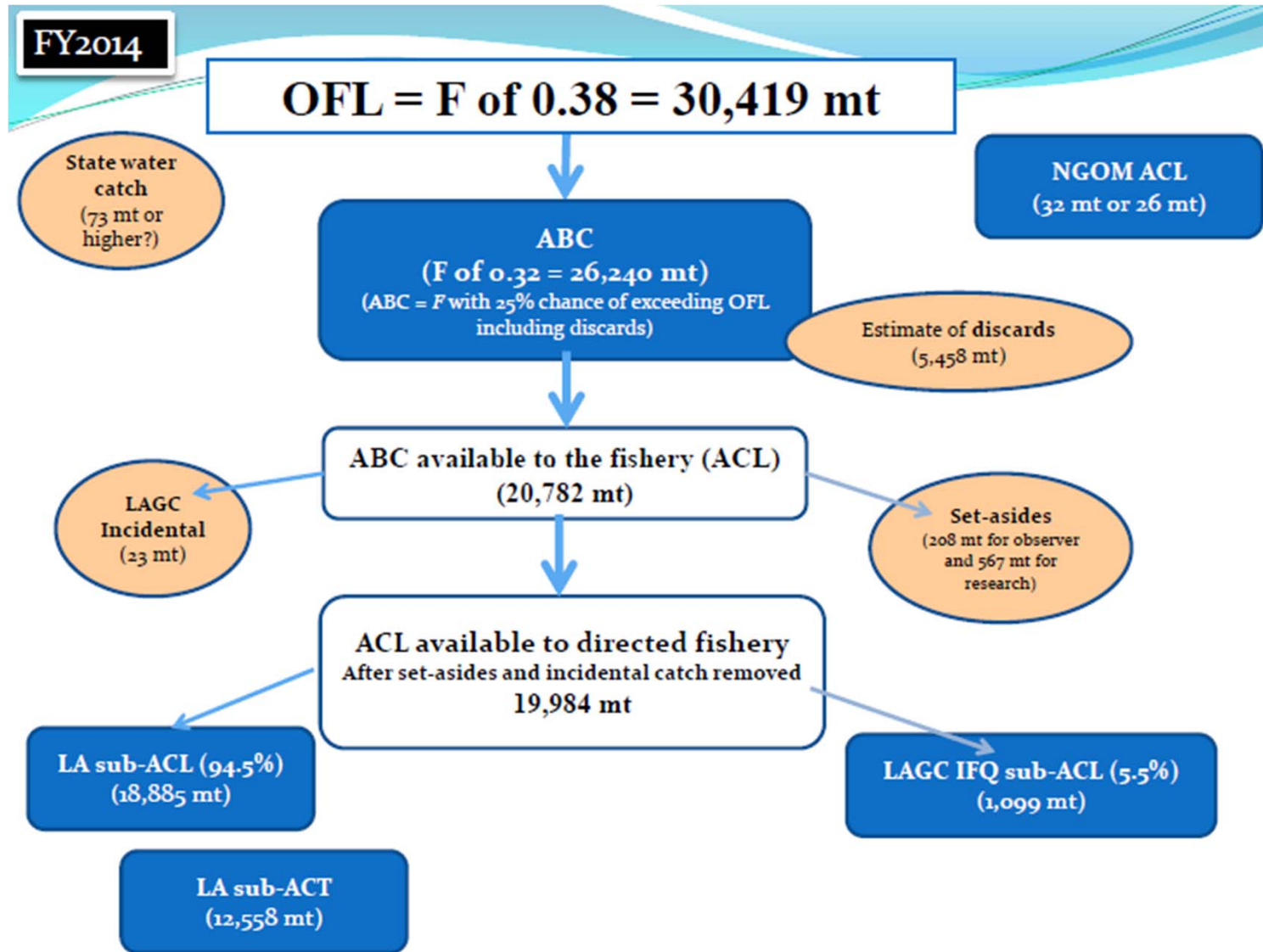
# Overall performance of FMP

- Since implementation of ACLs in 2011, fishery landings have been 90-100% of catch level associated with ACL
- However, realized F has been higher than projected. Targets have been 0.23 - 0.28, but realized  $F = 0.33 - 0.377$  (20-30% higher than target F)
- In one year mostly due to catch being higher than projected, and one year primarily because biomass overestimated
- More than random error – model too optimistic (still underestimating LPUE and fishing mortality)

# How are specs set in the Scallop FMP?

- A15 modified OFD and method for setting  $F_{target}$ 
  - “Hybrid” System adopted to protect open areas from growth overfishing
- Reference points for stock status determination the same
- But method for setting *target* fishing levels new
  - Old way— the more area closed to scallop fishing a higher  $F_{target}$  set in open areas to compensate for closures
  - Hybrid approach—  $F_{target}$  is governed by:
    1.  $F$  in open areas set no higher than overfishing threshold (0.38)
    2.  $F$  in access areas = level that results in  $F$  no higher than  $F_{msy}$  when averaged over time ( $F=0$ ,  $F=0$ ,  $F=0.4$ ,  $F=0.6$ , etc.)
    3. Combined  $F_{target}$  for all areas (open and closed) not to exceed  $F$  rate with a 25% chance of exceeding ABC.  $OFL = 0.38$ ,  $ABC = 0.32$ , and  $F_{target} = 0.28$

# How is catch allocated in the Scallop FMP?



# 2014 Projected catch and F by area

Area	Projected Landings	Target F
GB Open	5,224	0.42
MA Open	5,391	0.35
NL	632	0.40
CA2	1119	0.40
Delmarva	1993	0.40
All other areas	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,359</b>	<b>0.17</b>

- In 2014, open area F of 0.38 is the constraint (MA and GB combined)
- In 2016 when more access in MA access areas, the constraint changes to overall F target of 0.28

# Updated OFL and ABC and ACL values

	2014	unit	Description
OFL	67,062,415	lb	Output from SAMS
	30,419	mt	
ABC (after discards removed)	45,816,467	lb	Output from SAMS
	20,782	mt	
incidental	50,000	lb	Target TAC set by FW
	23	mt	
RSA	1,250,000	lb	Set allocation from A15
	567	mt	
OBS	458,165	lb	Equivalent to 1% of ACL, or ABC after discards removed
	208	mt	
ABC/ACL (after removing set-asides and incidental)	44,057,575	lb	ABC/ACL available to the fishery [ACL-(incidental, RSA and OBS)]
	19,984	mt	
LA sub-ACL (94.5% of ACL after set asides and incidental removed)	41,634,409	lb	ACL*0.945
	18,885	mt	
LA sub-ACT	27,685,651	lb	Output from SAMS - estimate of LA landings for basic scenario
	12,558	mt	
IFQ-only (5% of ACL)= sub-ACL = ACT	2,202,879	lb	ACL*0.05
	999	mt	
IFQ + LA (0.5% of ACL)= sub-ACL=ACT	220,288	lb	ACL*0.005
	100	mt	

Total 2014 projected catch is 31.7 million lbs. (LA ACT + LAGC ACL + set asides)

Total 2013 projected catch was 38.2 million pounds.

6.5 million less  
About 17% reduction from 2013



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LA ACT is where reduction is

Buffer between LA ACL and ACT larger than usual (35% lower compared to 10-20% in the past.

Larger proportion of exploitable scallops in closed areas (EFH, GF and MA scallop access areas.

# FW25 Specification Alternatives

- No Action (Alt 1): 2014 Default set in FW24
  - LA: 23 DAS no AA trips GC: 2.77 million lbs
- Alt.2: 23 DAS and two 12,000 pound AA trips (NL, CA2, and Del)
- Alt.3: 28 DAS and one 12,000 pound AA trip (NL and CA2 and Delmarva treated as an open area)

Same allocations for LAGC fishery under #2 and #3 (2.2 mill lbs)

AP and Cmte reviewed these November 13 and 14 –  
Passed 2 motions to include new specification alternatives  
and 1 motion to refine Alt.3

# Two Cmte Motions – New Spec Alts

## **Motion 1: Preble/Ramsden**

Add a specification alternative in FW25 to adopt AP Motion

*AP Motion 1: Gutowski/Enoksen*

*The Scallop AP recommends the Committee add an alternative to the Draft FW25 document that modifies, for the 2014 FY, the 0.38 F limit for open area fishing included in the OFD approved in A15. The OFD for open area 2014 be set at a level that, according to a model run, will allow total projected catch for FY2014 to be similar to 2013 projected catch, not to exceed an overall F of 0.28.*

Vote: 9:0:0, carries

## **Motion 3: Robins/Bullard**

Add a specific option in FW25 that includes closing Delmarva for FY2014 (in combination with higher open area F target).

Vote: 9:0:0, carries

# One Cmte Motion – Modify Alt3

## **Motion 2a: Motion to amend: Quinn/Kendall**

Modify Alternative 3 so that it would include 23 DAS per FT vessel, one 12,000 pound trip in NL or CA2 and either: 1) one 12,000 pound trip in Delmarva; or 2) 5 DAS in open areas.

Main motion: 9:0:0, carries

# PDT conference call on Nov 22

- PDT developed 3 potential alternatives based on Cmte Motions
  - **Alternative 4** – open area F set higher to increase total catch to 2013 levels (31 DAS) and access area effort the same as Alt 3
  - **Alternative 5** – open area F set higher so that open area DAS in 2015 are only reduced by one DAS to allow higher DAS in 2014 (28 DAS) and access area effort the same as Alt 3
  - **Alternative 6** – open area F set higher to increase total catch to 2013 levels but Delmarva closed, so one access area trip per vessel (37 DAS)

# Description of Alternatives (2014)

Alt #	Short name	Proj. Catch (mil lbs)	Est Revenue (mil \$)	Total F	OA F	FT DAS	# AA trips
1	No Action	23.8	280.5	0.10	0.38	23	0
2	Basic run	31.7	363.6	0.17	0.38	23	2
3	Basic run with Del option	31.8	364.7	0.17	0.40	28 (or 23)	1 (or 2)
4	Basic with higher OA F up to 2013 catch	38.0	424.0	0.21	0.52	36 (or 31)	1 (or 2)
5	Basic with higher OA F (under 0.48)	35.9	403.7	0.20	0.47	33 (or 28)	1 (or 2)
6	Higher OA F with Del closed	37.9	423.3	0.18	0.63	37	1

- Projected catch for 2013 was 38.2 million lbs. (17,327 mt)
- Alt 4-6 increase landings by 4-6 million pounds and total revenue by 40-60 million dollars for FY2014 compared to basic run projections

# Quick Comparison of Alternatives

Alt #	Short name	FT DAS (2015)	LT FT DAS (2014-27)	ST Land (2014-15)	LT Land (2014-27)	ST Rev (2014-15) (3% disc. rate)	LT Rev (2014-27) (3% disc. rate)
1	No Action	25	392	68.9	718.4	\$720.1	\$5,880.7
2	Basic run	25	398	75.3	727.9	\$789.4	\$5,961.1
3	Basic run with Del option	26	409	76.0	742.1	\$796.0	\$6,051.5
4	Basic with higher OA F up to 2013 catch	23	398	79.7	721.9	\$831.7	\$5,936.7
5	Basic with higher OA F (under 0.48)	24	393	78.1	722.7	\$817.3	\$5,942.3
6	Higher OA F with Del closed	22	395	79.5	717.3	\$830.0	\$5,908.4

- Alt 4-6 reduce DAS in FY2015 compared to Basic runs (1-4 DAS)
- ST(2014-2015): Alts 4-6 are 2-4 million lb higher than basic runs
- LT (2014-2027): Alt 3 performs better; About 10 DAS, 20 million lbs, and \$90-150 million dollars higher than other alternatives (based on 3% discount rate)

# Area swept and Bycatch projections

- Estimate of 2014 area swept for basic runs is about 2,050 nm<sup>2</sup>
- Alt 4 = 2,747 nm<sup>2</sup>; Alt 5 = 2,482nm<sup>2</sup>, and Alt 6 = 3,244 nm<sup>2</sup>
- PDT estimated bycatch ofYT using 2012 and 2013 rates
- 2014 projected catch of GBYT is above the sub-ACL for all FW25 scenarios, for SNEYT some are above, and for SNE WP all scenarios are below the sub-ACL

	GBYT	SNE/MAYT	SNE/MAWP
<b>2014 sub-ACL</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Alt1</b>			
<b>No Action</b>	22.4 - 26.6	42.4 - 45.6	25.2
<b>Alt2</b>	58.2 - 96.6	49.1 - 54.8	67.2
<b>Alt3</b>	59.2 - 97.7	50.9 - 56.7	69.4
<b>Alt4</b>	64.2 - 103.7	61.1 - 67.7	74.4
<b>Alt5</b>	62.2 - 101.3	57.0 - 63.2	71.8
<b>Alt6</b>	68.2 - 108.5	69.3 - 76.5	79.1



# Council Action on FW25 Specs

- The Council does not need to pick a preferred alternative at this meeting.
- Should new specification Alternatives 4, 5, and 6 be included based on Cmte Motions #1 and #3?
- Should Alternative 3 be modified based on Cmte Motion #2?

# Measures to reduce impacts on small scallops in NL and Delmarva

## Motion 4: Robins/Ramsden

Include AP Motion 5 as well as PDT recommendation to prohibit RSA compensation fishing in NL and Delmarva.

*AP Motion 5: Fletcher/Enoksen*

*AP recommends that the RSA related measures be modified so that if a vessel is conducting research and compensation on the same trip they would not be restricted by area, but if compensation fishing only, fishing would be excluded from NL and Delmarva.*

Vote: 9:0:0, carries

## Motion 5: Robins/Kendall

Include 1) seasonal limitation on Delmarva access area trips from June 1- August 31, or three months after implementation of FW25, and 2) restrict crew limits to be consistent with open area limits.

Vote: 9:0:0, carries

## Other Business

- *By consensus the Scallop Committee requests the Council draft a letter regarding AP Motion 12 – add dredge type to paper and electronic VTRs.*

*AP Motion 12: Marchetti/Hansen*

*Request that NMFS add to paper and electronic VTRs a field for “dredge type”.*

*Options could be added such as: a) standard NB dredge, b) turtle style dredge, and c) low profile, and d) other.*

*Vote: 10:0:0, carries*

- *By consensus the Scallop Committee requests that the Council consider drafting a letter to NMFS requesting they reconsider the ESA ruling on the chain mat line to be consistent with the turtle deflector dredge boundary.*