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From: Alex Todd [<mailto:alextodd207@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2014 9:21 AM
To: Deirdre Boelke
Subject: Ngom scallop quota

I understand that the quota for the northern gulf of Maine 200 lb scallop possession limit permit is potentially being lowered by 12000 pounds. I'm not sure I see the need for this reduction. The amount of scallop seed we are seeing on offshore lobster traps is new and encouraging that in at least small spots stocks are on the increase. This years renewed activity is so encouraging to me that a small decent priced fishery may be around the corner .with the closed shrimp season and shrinking ground fish quota it is a needed bandaid to hurting fishing communities .To reduce the quota at this time with so much of area un evaluated and the lack of real fishing power or current pressure seems unwarranted.

To lower the tac of such a limited permit category in its only area while a whole different permit sector with a much greater fishing capacity can still potentially remove way more biomass from that same area seems to me to have no benefit for the stock.

It's not this permit category that has the potential to quickly deplete a stock bloom.

Thank you all for listening to my concerns. Sincerely Alex Todd

F/V Jacob and Joshua