

Framework 24

Sea Scallop Fishery Specifications for 2013-2015
November 2012 Council Meeting



Framework 24 - Purpose and Need

- The purpose of this action is to prevent overfishing and improve yield-per-recruit from the fishery.
- The primary need for this action is to set specifications to adjust the day-at-sea (DAS) allocations, general category fishery allocations and area rotation schedule for the 2013-2015.
- In addition, the Council added a handful of other issues to be addressed.

FW24 has been updated with motions from Sept meetings.

PDT has made several additional recommendations – in yellow.

Final preferred recommendations from November AP and Cmte meetings – Document #6

Decision 1 –specification scenario

- Specifications – Alternative 1-4
- PDT completed YT projections for Oct 9 PDT meeting
- Cmte included Alt 4 for consideration
- Summary of landings per area (mt)

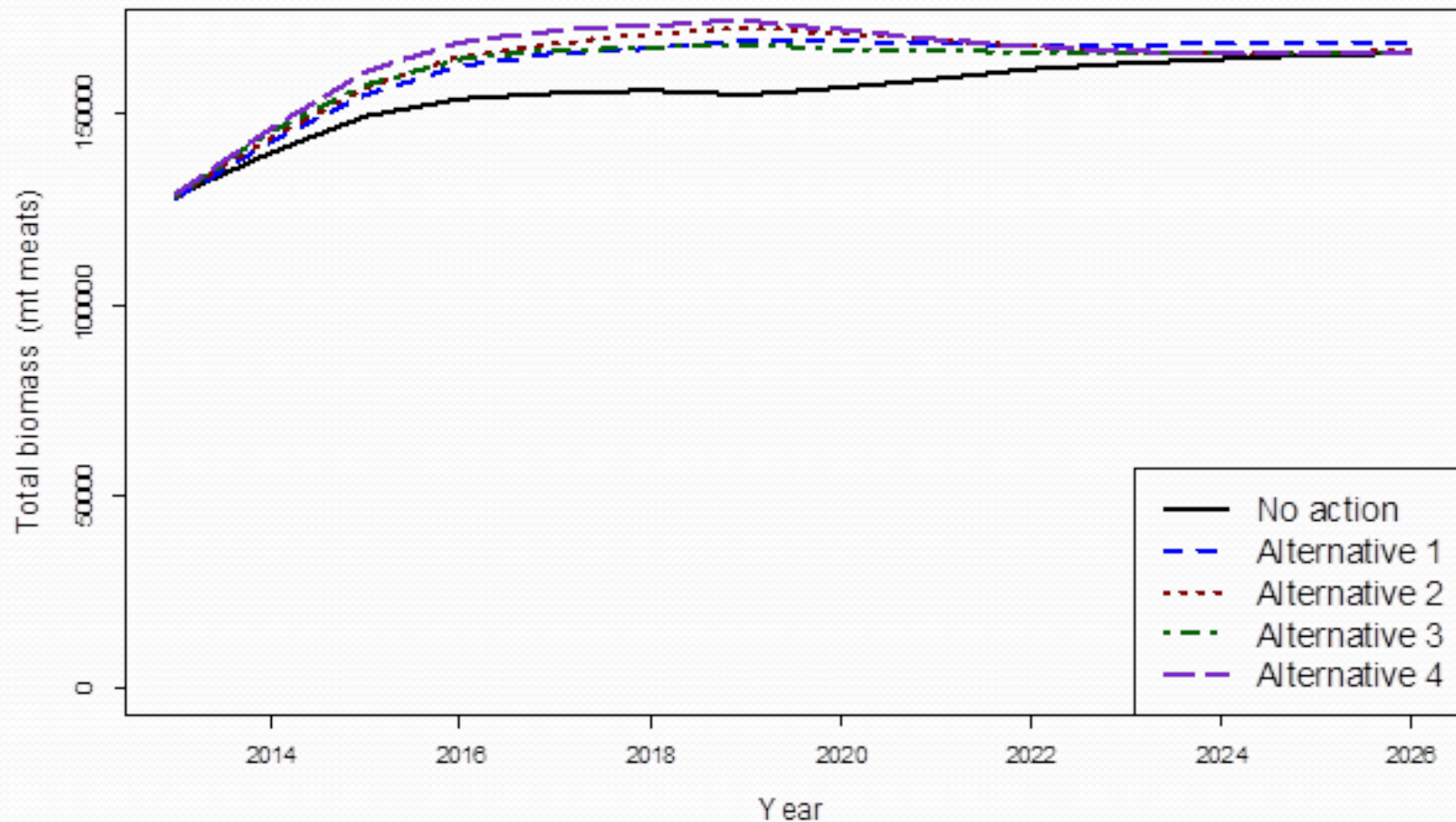
	2013	Alt 1	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4
HCS		1445	1212	1446	1060
DMV		0	0	0	0
C1		704	692	0	623
C2		1523	1072	1213	405
NLS		0	662	0	621
Total AA		3672	3638	2659	2709
Total Landings		17163	17127	16150	16209

Decision 1 (cont.) Table 9 p.20

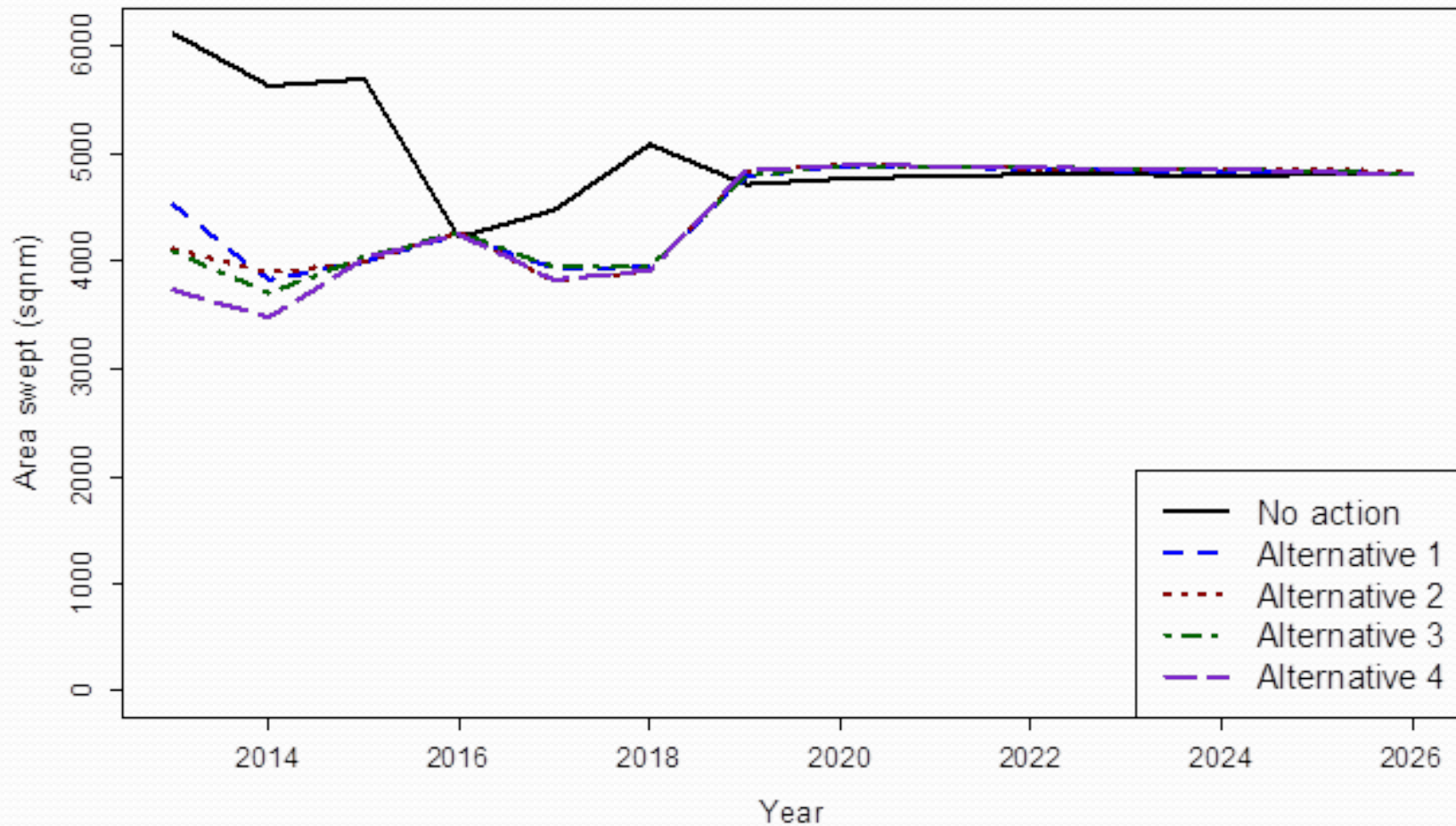
- PT and Occ vessels would be allocated 1 trip only
- Lottery system – random and one trip per area max
- Open area DAS = 33 DAS for FT vessels

		HC	Del	CA ₁	CA ₂	NL	Total # FT AA trips	FT vessel PossLimit	AA Allocation per FT vessel	Total AA allocation (mil lbs.)
No Action	2013	469	157	0	313	313	4	18,000	72,000	23.3
Alt 1	2013	245	0	119	262	0	2	13,000	26,000	7.8
Alt 2	2013	210	0	118	182	116	2	13,000	26,000	7.8
Alt 3	2013	177	0	0	136	0	1	18,000	18,000	6.0
Alt 4	2013	130	0	57	50	76	1	18,000	18,000	6.0

Projected biomass



Projected area swept



Decision 1 (cont.)

- Alt 4 lower landings, revenue, and net economic benefits in ST, but slightly higher after 2014 and over the long-term

Period	Fishing year	No Action	Status quo	ALT ₁	ALT ₂	ALT ₃	ALT ₄
2013-2015	2013	448.4	505.0	393.5	393.4	368.9	373.7
	2014	434.9	488.1	395.0	396.3	398.1	388.2
	2015	470.9	508.0	440.5	445.5	452.6	458.2
2013-2015 Total		1,354.2	1,501.2	1,228.9	1,235.3	1,219.6	1,220.2
Grand Total		6,837.0	6,887.9	6,897.2	6,923.8	6,854.5	6,924.3

Projected YT catch-Memo #3 and #8

- Oct 9 – PDT reviewed projections – similar method
- GB YT = 55.1-132 mt and SNE/MA YT = 62-66 mt

2013	No Action	Alt 1	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4
Gbop	34	34	34	34	34
GBC ₁	0	2.6	2.3	0	2.1
GBC ₂	97	70	49	56	19
GBTOTAL	132	106.6	85.3	90	55.1
% US ABC = 215 mt	61%	49%	40%	42%	26%
% US ABC = 495 mt	27%	21%	17%	18%	11%
	No Action	Alt 1	Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4
SNEMAO _p	49	62	62	62	62
NLS	15	0	4	0	4
HCS	1	0	0	0	0
ET	1	0	0	0	0
SNEMATOT	66	62	66	62	66
% US ABC = 700 mt	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%

Input from PDT, AP and Cmte

- All scenarios have similar impacts on scallop biomass and revenue.
- Alt 2 minimizes losses in the short term (2013 - 2.5 mil more catch and \$20 million more revenue than Alt 4).
- Alt 2 and Alt 4 have essentially the same long-term revenues, both slightly higher than the others.
- PDT recommends Alt 2; however, due to the very low GB YT available in 2013, PDT also supports Alt4.
- ***AP and Cmte recommend Alt 2 as preferred***

Decision 2 – only if Alt 2 or Alt 4 selected

- Alt 2 and Alt 4 include access in NL in 2013
- PDT recommends prohibition on RSA compensation fishing in NL for 2013
- 1.25 million under RSA program and NL likely area
- Concerns about precedent, but concerns about biomass in that area and impacts for FY2014
- ***AP and Cmte recommend No Action as preferred.***

Pause – Motions for Decision 1 and 2

Decision 3 and 4 – LAGC IFQ Specifications

- LAGC IFQ same allocation under each scenario
- PDT requested Cmte to consider if default for LAGC IFQ necessary for second year – 75% less ?
- ***AP and Cmte recommend No Action as preferred.***

- AA trips – 5.5% of all areas or 5.5% of all areas but prorate CA2 trips in other areas open each year
- Table 13 - p.23
- ***AP and Cmte recommend that CA2 trips be prorated as preferred***

Decision 5-8

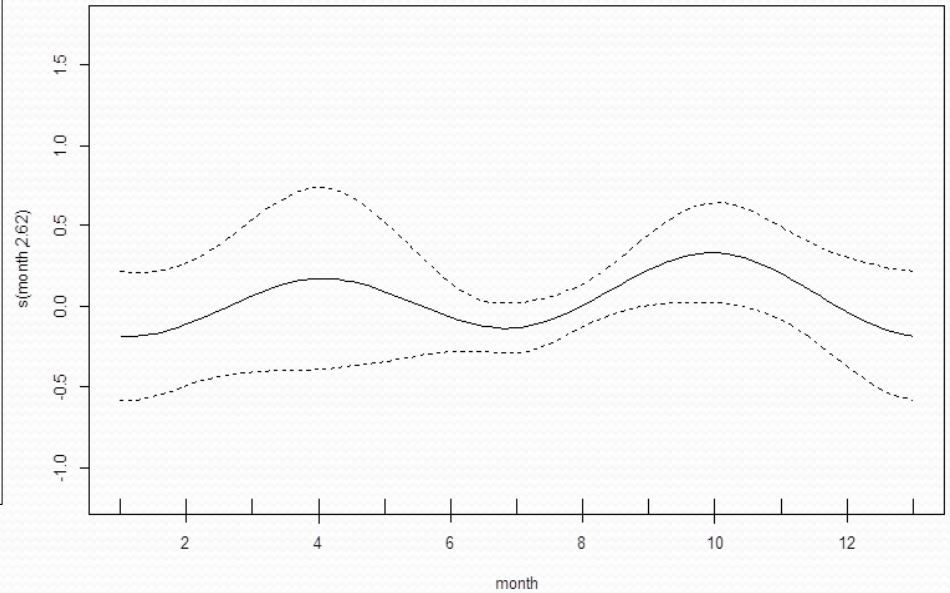
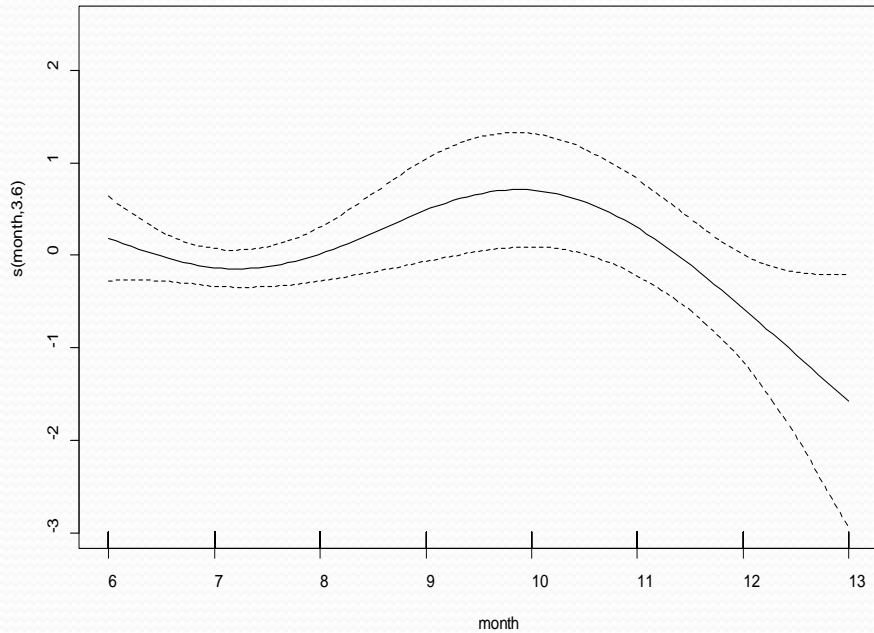
- LA payback – PDT reviewed AP recommendation and supports but suggests an even higher DAS payback could be considered for small dredge
- ***AP and Cmte recommend 12 DAS as payback as preferred***
- LAGC payback – Section 2.1.5.3
- NGOM – ***70,000 pounds*** or 58,000 pounds
- Incidental – ***50,000 pounds***

Pause – Motions for Decisions 5-8

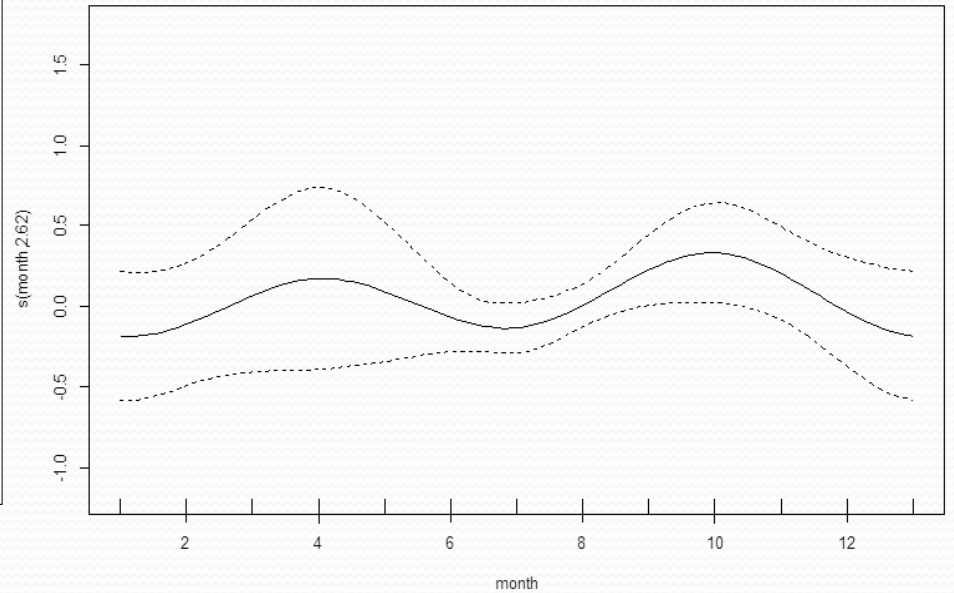
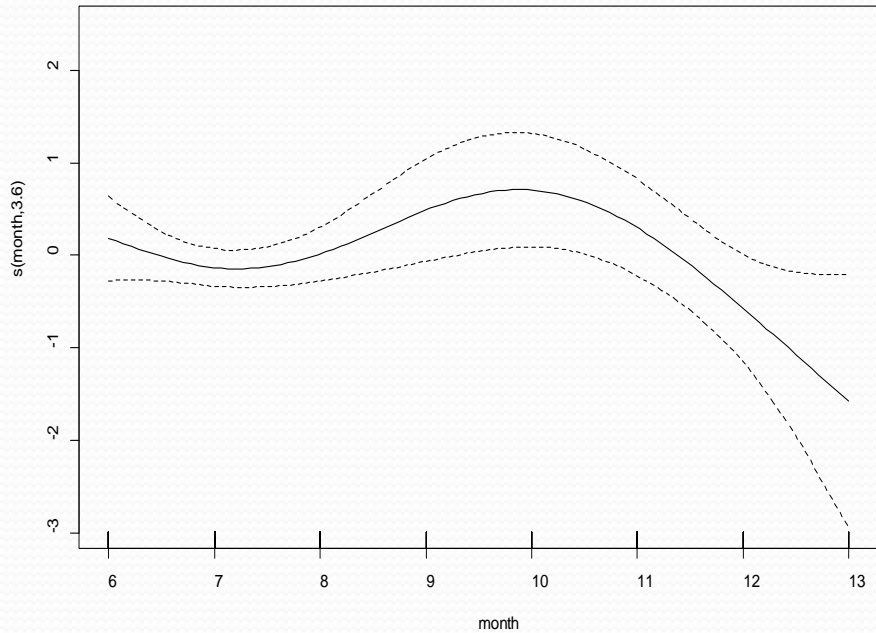
Decision 9 – GB AA Seasonal closures

- See separate document - #2A
- Scallop PDT explored observer data and seasonal bycatch study (2011 RSA award)
- GF PDT analyzed same RSA study and possible spawning impacts
- No PDT preferred alternative but additional benefits to closing the areas for more than highest YT bycatch times
- ***AP and Cmte recommend Option 3b as preferred (Close CA2 from Aug15-Nov 15 only) and not include Option 3a in FW24***

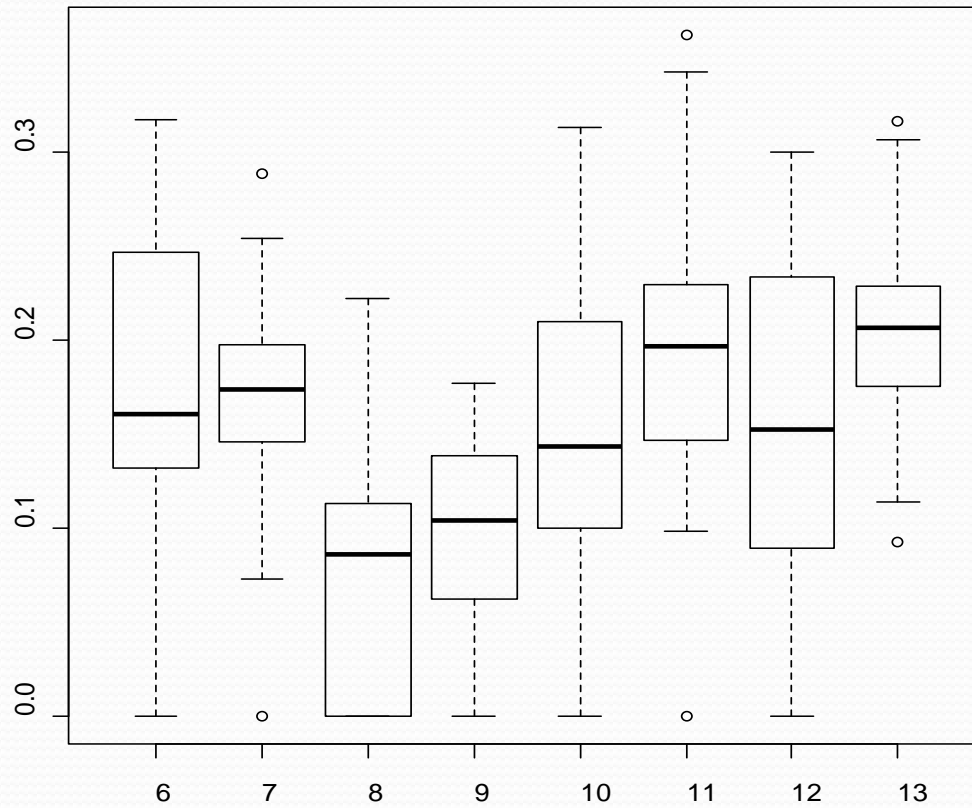
Closed Area II – inside and outside



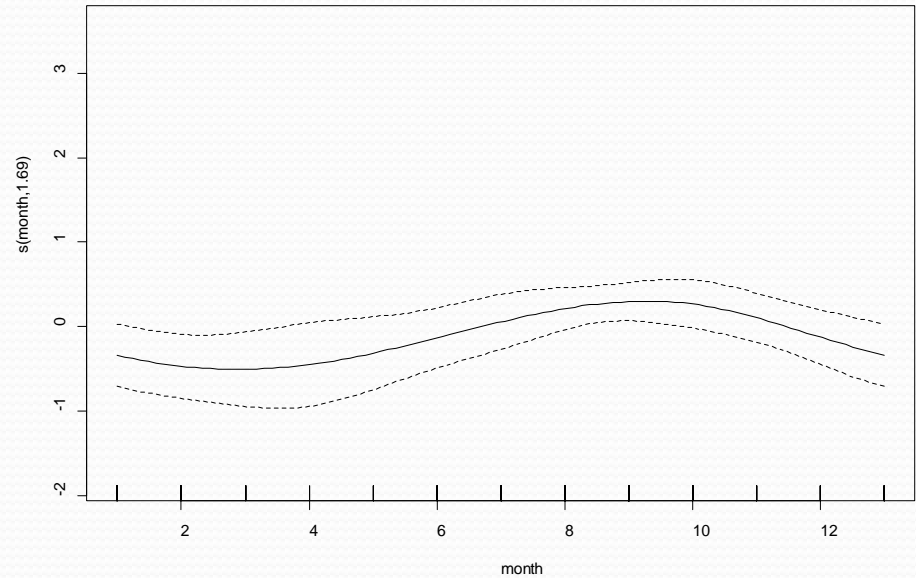
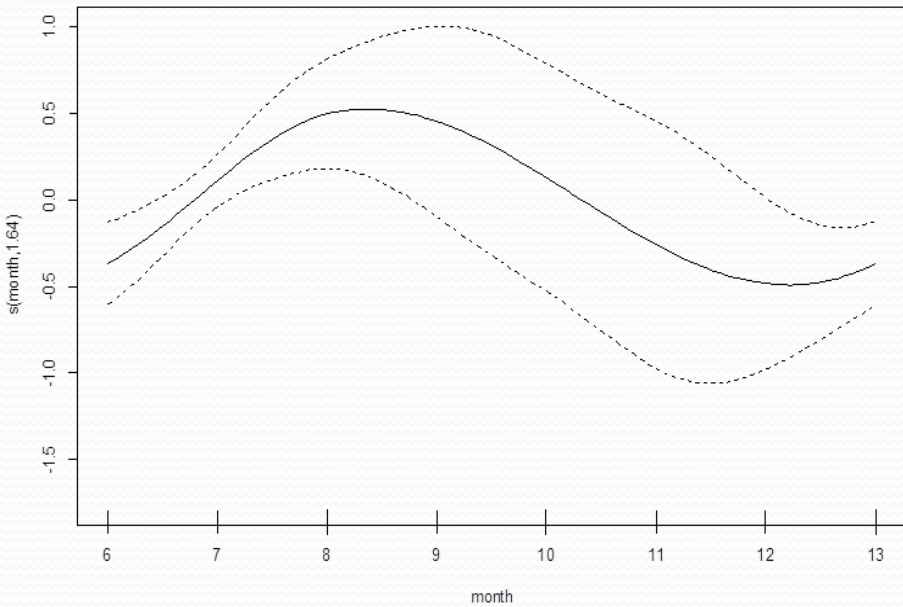
Closed Area II – inside and outside



Closed Area I –

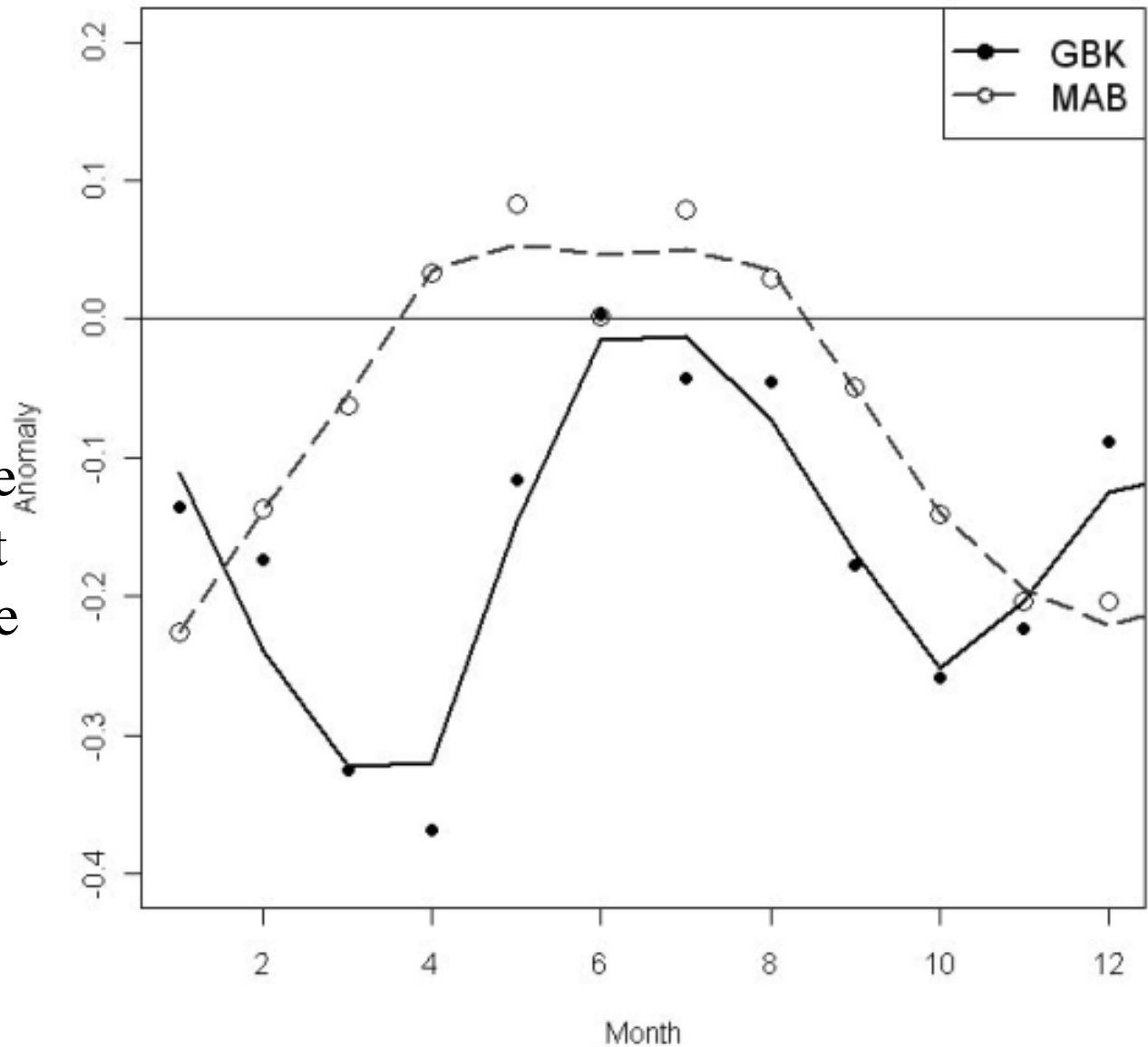


Nantucket Lightship – inside and outside



Scallop meat weight anomaly

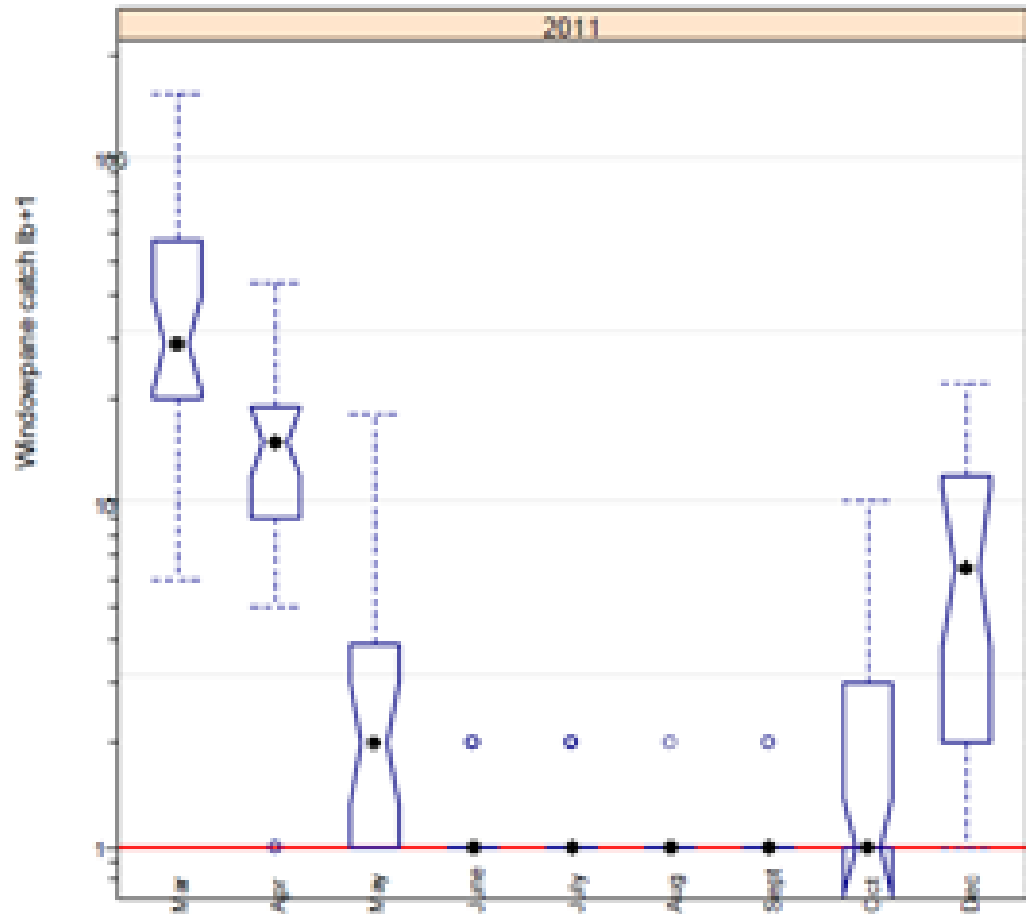
Access areas have
a possession limit
– so less incentive
to fish during
higher meat
weight months



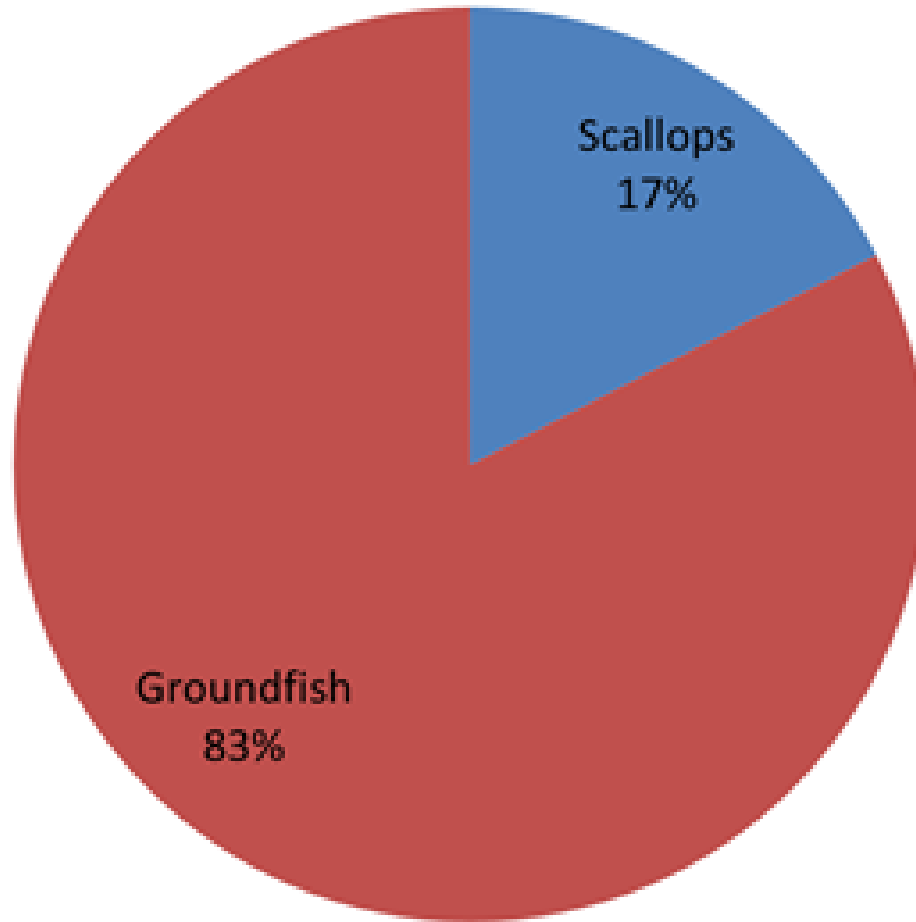
Groundfish PDT Comments

- GOM/GB windowpane and GB YT need to be considered (Option 1, 3a)
 - May/June/July minimize both
 - Avoid Aug-Nov to reduce YTF
 - Avoid March/April to reduce WPF
- GB YT F spawning peaks May/June
 - No research on dredge impacts on spawning activity
 - No specific spawning locations identified

CAII WINP Catch Per Tow, By Month



F Y2011 GOM/GB Windowpane Flounder Catches



GB AA Seasonal closure options

	No Action	Alt 2					Alt 4
		Option 1	Option 2	Option 3A**	Option 3B		
Access Area	All areas	All areas	All areas	All areas	CA2	CA1/NL	All Areas
Mar	C	C	O	C	O	O	O
Apr	C	C	O	C	O	O	O
May	C	O	O	O	O	O	O
Jun	O (6/15)	O	O	O	O	O	O
Jul	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
Aug	O	O	O	O	C (Aug 15)	O	O
Sep	O	C	C	C	C	O	O
Oct	O	C	C	C	C	O	O
Nov	O	C	C	C	C (Nov 15)	O	O
Dec	O	C	O	O	O	O	O
Jan	O	C	O	C	O	O	O
Feb	C	C	O	C	O	O	O
Total Months Closed	4.5	8	3	7	3	0	0

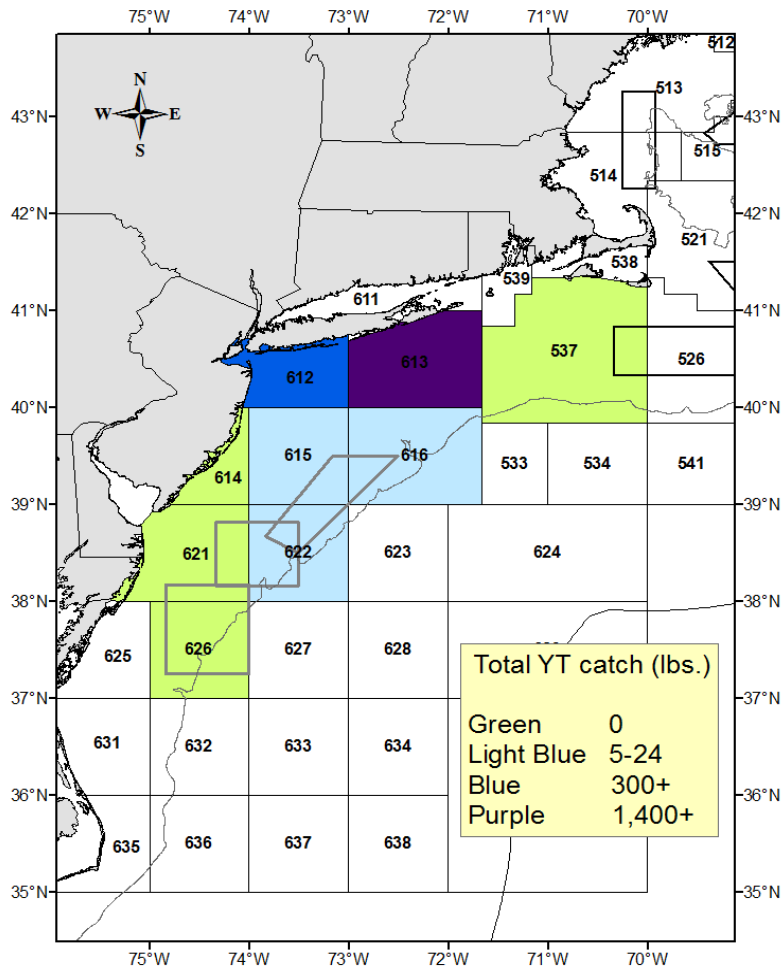
NOTE – MTE DID NOT ADD OPTION 3A BACK IN THE DOCUMENT – NOT CURRENTLY AN ALTERNATIVE

Pause – Motion for Decision 9

YT AMs for LAGC IFQ fishery

- See separate document -Doc #2A
- LAGC trawl – SNE/MA only – Decision 10
 - Option 1 – Prohibit trawl gear in 612 and 613 – same schedule as LA vessels but only up to 15%. LAGC trawl vessels may NOT convert to dredge
 - Option 2 – Prohibit trawl gear in 612 and 613 – same schedule as LA vessels but only up to 15%. LAGC trawl vessels could switch to dredge gear.
 - Option 3 – Prohibit trawl gear in the SNE/MA YT stock area. Vessels could switch gear.

LAGC Trawl AM in SNE/MA



Overage	AM Closure
2% or less	Mar-Apr
2.1-3%	Mar-Apr, and Feb
3.1-7%	Mar-May, and Feb
7.1-9%	Mar-May, and Jan-Feb
9.1-12%	Mar-May, and Dec-Feb
12.1-15%	Mar-June, and Dec-Feb
15.1-16%	Mar-June, and Nov-Feb
16.1-18%	Mar-July, and Nov-Feb
18.1-19%	Mar-Aug, and Oct-Feb
19.1% or more	Mar-Feb

No AM for July-Nov
regardless of overage

New Cmte Motion – LAGC trawl

- Adopt Motion 12 from the AP meeting related to LAGC trawl AM for SNE/MA YT if reliable data available to make an in-season projection of YT catch.
- AP Motion 12- If the in-season estimate of projected LAGC YT trawl scallop catch exceeds 10% of the total SNE/MA YT scallop fishery sub-ACL then:
 - Prohibit trawl gear for LAGC vessels for the remainder of and the following fishing year.
 - Vessels could switch to dredge gear at any time.
 - If YT catch remains high for the LAGC trawl fishery then a future amendment should be developed to prohibit trawl gear.)
- Could reliable data be available in-season?

LAGC dredge YT AMs – Decision 11

- SNE/MA – Same AM as LA fishery but only if catch by that segment is more than 3% of sub-ACL. Also, schedule is different – table 23 page 47
- GB – Same AM as LA fishery
- ***AP and Cmte support SNE/MA AM for dredge and No Action for GB AM***
- Decisions 12 – timing of AMs – page 47
- ***AP and Cmte support 2.2.3.2 (Year 2 if reliable)***

Pause – Motions for Decisions 10 - 12

2. Improve flexibility of LAGC IFQ – Decision 13

- Allow leasing/transfer after fishing year has begun
- Allow leasing/transfer after vessel has started fishing

Consider new PDT language – Yellow highlights

- ***AP and Cmte recommend 2.3.2 as preferred***

3. Expand current observer set-aside program to include LAGC trips in open areas – Decision 14,15

- Under the same industry funded program
- Observer set-asides would not longer be area specific
- ***AP / Cmte recommend 2.4.2 and 2.4.2.1.2 as preferred***