

Framework 25

Specifications for FY2014 and FY2015 (default)

**Scallop AP and Committee Meetings
November 2013**

Summary of Presentation

- Background on biomass results and OFD
- Summary of specification alternatives
- Summary of preliminary analyses
- Outstanding issues related to specification alternatives
 1. Unresolved issues related to Alternative 3 (p19)
 2. Input about potential boundary within NL
 3. Input about potential boundary within CA2
 4. Input about restriction on RSA within NL (p.24)
 5. Input on measures to reduce impacts in Mid-Atl AA (p.28)

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)

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Performance of OFL/ABC/ACL/ACT to date

	OFL	ABC (including discards)	Discards	ABC available to fishery = ACL (after discards removed)	Actual Landings	% of ACL (landings/ ACL)	Total Catch (landings plus assumed discards)	% of ABC (including discards)
	A	B	C	B-C = D	E	E/D	E+C=F	F/B
2011	32,387	31,279	4,009	27,269	26,795	98.3%	30,804	98.5%
2012	34,382	33,234	4,266	28,961	26,160	90.3%	30,426	91.6%
2013	31,555	27,370	6,366	21,004	21,000	100.0%	27,366	100.0%
2014 (default)	35,110	30,353	6,656	23,697				

- 2013 Actual catch is a projection only – the fishing year is only half over.
- Assumes 100% of all sub-ACLs harvested, 50 mt for incidental catch, 200 mt for state water catch, 10 mt for NGOM catch and 100% of set-asides.
- In terms of “ACL Report Card” – FMP performing very well – catch right at ACL

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Performance of Recent Projections

	Action	Projected Biomass	Projected Landings	Projected Overall F	Actual Biomass	Actual landings	Realized Overall F	Diff in biomass	Diff in landings
2011	FW22	140,000	23,723	0.26	138,700	26,795	0.33	99.1%	112.9%
2012	FW22	145,000	25,945	0.28	104,417	26,160	0.377	72.0%	100.8%
2013	FW24	130,000	17,327	0.28	113,242	21,000		87.1%	121.2%

2013 landings are an estimate only – FY only half over

- Realized F has been higher than projected (20-30%)
- 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

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Overfishing Definition

- A15 modified OFD to Hybrid Overfishing Definition
- To protect open areas from growth overfishing
- Under the old definition – the more area closed to scallop fishing the higher F in open areas to compensate.

Under 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 target F for all areas not to exceed F with a 25% chance of exceeding ABC. $ABC = 0.32$, and target $F = 0.28$

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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
TOTAL	14,359	0.17

- 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

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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	

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IFQ + LA (0.5% of ACL)= sub-ACL=ACT	220,288	lb	ACL*0.005
	100	mt	

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.

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DAS calculation

	Catch (mt)	In terms of DAS
ABC for fishery	20,782	
Total projected catch	14,455	
Open Area catch	10,712	8,836
RSA	-567	-347
OBS	-208	-127
Incidental	-23	-19
LAGC	-1099	-728
LA	12,558	7,616
OA LPUE	2,673	
# FT LA equiv.	327	23

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Specification Alternatives

- No Action (Alt 1): 2014 Default set in FW24
 - LA: 23 DAS no AA trips GC: 2.77 million lbs
- Alternative 2: 23 DAS and two 12,000 pound AA trips (NL, CA2, and Del)
- Alternative 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 lb)

AP Input Needed

1. Unresolved issues related to Alternative 3 (p.19)
2. Input about potential boundary within NL (Document 1a)
3. Input about potential boundary within CA2 (Document 1a)
4. Input about restriction on RSA within NL (p.24)

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Comparison of Alternatives

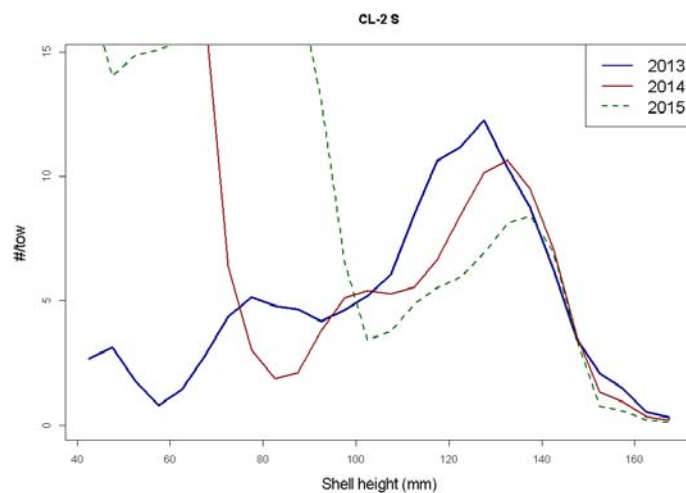
	No Action	Alt 2	Alt 3
Total landings (mt)	10,967	14,359	14,402
Total landings (mil lb)	24,178,094	31,656,173	31,750,972
Total F	0.11	0.17	0.17
Total DAS	9,070	11,715	11,786
FT DAS	23	23	28
AA landings	0	3,744	1,751
BottArea Swept	1,769	2,032	2,104
LT landings	719.9	712.5	722.9
ST Rev	311.4	401.6	402.8
LT Rev	8322.1	8259.5	8359.6

- Overall Alt 2 and 3 very similar – #3 is 43 mt higher (100,000lb)
- Bottom area swept a bit higher for #3, the rest very similar (LPUE, price, meat count, revenue etc.)

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Projected shell heights per area

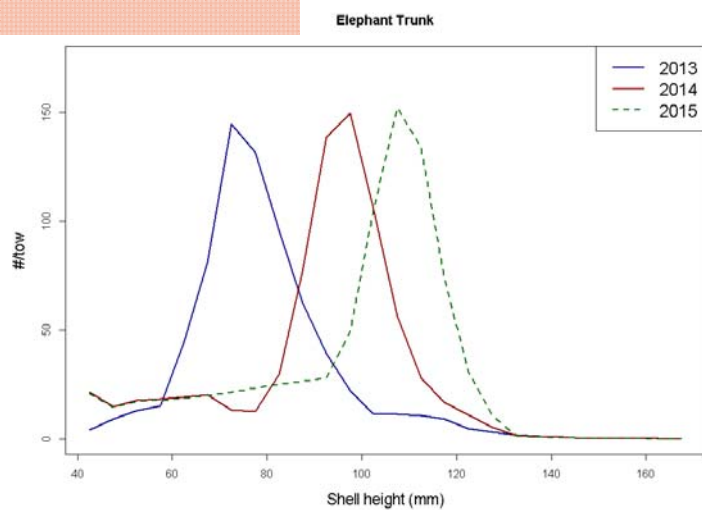
Example of an area ready for access



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Projected shell heights per area

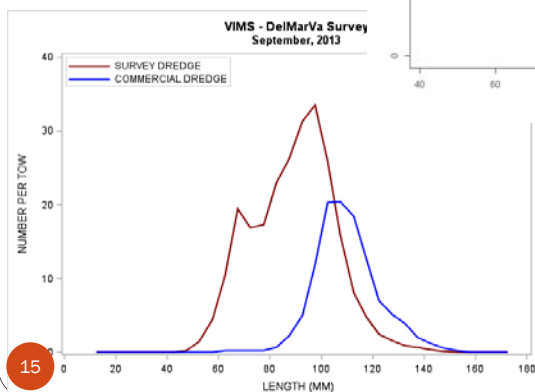
Example of an area NOT ready for access



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Delmarva

2014 Access more uncertain



Large proportion of scallops still not exploitable in commercial gear.
Increased risk of incidental mortality.


Projected bycatch (YT and WP)

- Results for Alternative 2 only – Alt 3 more uncertain
- Based on bycatch rates for 2012 as well as 2013
- Rate in CA2 half in 2013 compared to 2012

	sub-ACL	2014 Projection (2012)	2014 Projection (2013)
GBYT	50.9	96.6	55.7
SNE/MAYT	66	54.8	49.1
SNE/MA WP	183	7.4	N/A

Growth estimates per area for 2014

- A10 Area rotation guidelines
- Area closed when expected increase in exploitable biomass exceeds 30% absent fishing
- Area reopens when annual increase less than 15% absent fishing



Mid-Atlantic SAMS areas									
HCS	VB	ET	Dmv	NYB	LI	MAExt			
0.27	0.47	0.24	0.36	0.28	0.15	0.21			
GB SAMS Areas									
C1NA	C1Acc	C2NA	C2Acc	NLSNA	NLSAcc	Schpc	Sch	NEP	SEP
0.10	0.24	0.01	0.12	0.16	0.26	0.15	0.26	0.20	0.22

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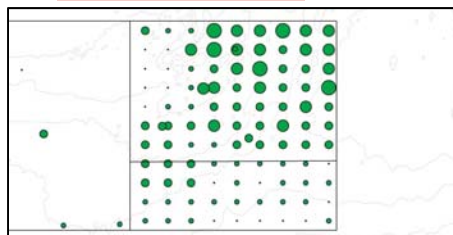
1. Unresolved issues related to Alternative 3

1. Should there be a cap on the number of DAS used in Delmarva?
2. How would the trips be monitored in Delmarva – as a Delmarva trip or open area trip?
3. If a DAS limit set per area NMFS would need to track DAS used per area real time - Feasible?
4. Would vessels have to declare in that area and only fish there? Prohibition to fish in open areas and access area on same trip?
5. DAS is not the same as access area allocation – 5DAS based on average LPUE for the fleet. There will be differential impacts on the fishery – should a different calculation be developed based on permit category?
6. This alternative would only have access areas on GB – no trips in the MA – impacts on trading that should be considered?
7. Would this alternative potentially violate the overfishing definition?

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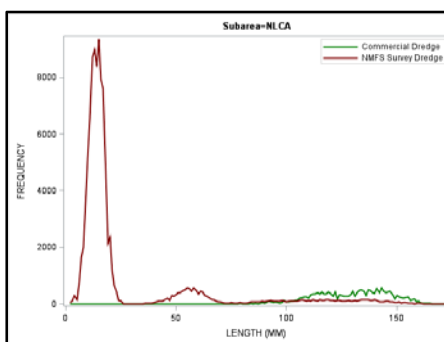
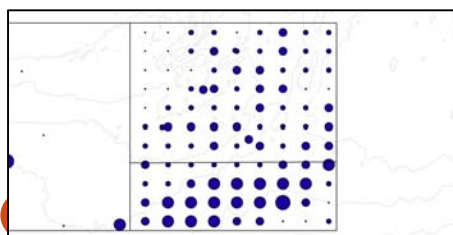
2. Boundary within NL? North of 40.5 N?

Adult scallops >80 mm



	recruits	adults
open	9%	96%
closed	91%	4%

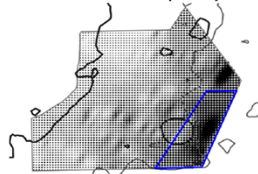
Recruit scallops <80 mm



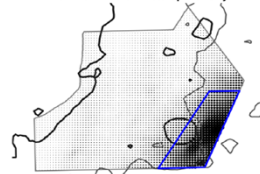
Scenario	HABCAM		SMAST	
	%Recruits Included	%Adults Included	%Recruits Included	%Adults Included
1	73	28	79.7	37.9
2	70.6	26.6	79.7	37.9
3	67.7	25.2	76.2	28.8
4	65.8	24.2	73.6	33.3
5	64	23.2	73.6	33.3
6	61.7	22.1	70.1	24.2
7	51.8	18	54.5	13.6

3. Boundary within Closed Area 2?

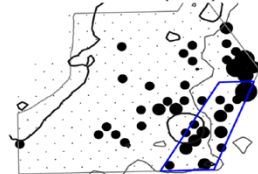
HabCam Adult Scallop Density



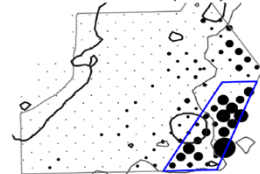
HabCam Recruit Scallop Density



SMAST Adult Scallop Density

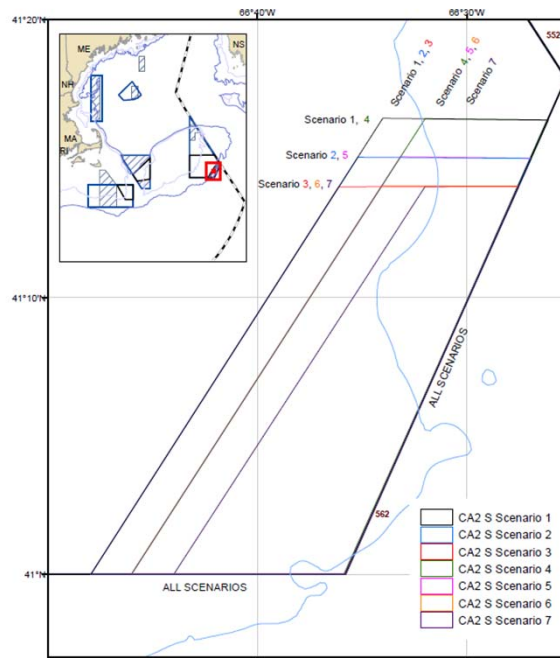


SMAST Recruit Scallop Density



Potential
boundaries
within CA2

PDT still
refining –
AP Input?



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4. Restriction on RSA in NL in 2014?

- Alternative 2.1.2.5.1 – No Action – RSA compensation fishing can occur in any area open to the fishery that year
- Alternative 2.1.2.5.2 – Prohibit 2014 RSA compensation fishing in NL
- *Agree with PDT that should be under consideration in FW25?*

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5. Measures to reduce impacts on small scallops in MA access areas

- Section 2.1.2.6.5 – page 28
- 1. Delay opening of MA access areas until June 1
- 2. Maximum crew limit for all MA access areas (7, 8?)
- 3. Prohibit RSA compensation fishing in all MA access areas