

# Yellowtail Flounder Allocations

New England Fishery  
Management Council  
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# Overview

- Amendment 16 set process to divide YTF ACL between groundfish and scallop fisheries
- Scallop allocation becomes a sub-ACL in FY 2011; AMs proposed in A15
- FW 44 allocated scallop fishery 90 percent of amount expected to be caught including a small reduction for management uncertainty
- Revised YTF catch estimates suggest sub-ACL could be smaller

# Value of YTF to Mults Fishery

- Value of yellowtail flounder
- Lack of YTF can restrict access to other stocks:
  - US/CA area
  - Sector operating rules
  - Differential DAS AM (FY 2011-FY 2012)
  - Hard TAC AM (FY 2012)

# Value of YTF to Scallop Fishery

- Access to three GB closed areas limited by yellowtail flounder incidental catches
- Scallop fishery catch of yellowtail flounder could trigger AMs that restrict scallop catches
- Estimated scallop revenues per mt of yellowtail flounder

FW 44 Groundfish No Action	Total Expected to be Caught, YTF Stock Area			Scallop Fishery ABC			Sub-ACL		
	GB	SNE MA	CC/ GOM	GB	SNE MA	CC/ GOM	GB	SNE MA	CC/ GOM
2011	Depends on Scallop FW 22 decision			207	89		201	82	
2012				317	136		307	127	

Scallop Scenario 1	Total Expected to be Caught, YTF Stock Area			Scallop Fishery ABC			Sub-ACL		
	GB	SNEMA	CC/GOM	GB	SNEMA	CC/ GOM	GB	SNEMA	CC/ GOM
2011	175.3	57.6	23.6	157.8	51.8	21.2	153.0	48.2	
2012	341.8	83.7	20.1	307.6	75.3	18.1	298.4	70.1	
2013	404.0	134.0	18.0	363.6	120.6	16.2	352.7	112.2	

**The FW 44 Sub-ABCs are more than 90 percent of the new predicted scallop catch for GB and SNEMA YTF.**

	<b>FW 44 Sub-ACL</b>		<b>Alternative 1 Sub-ACL</b>		<b>Difference</b>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>GB</i>	<i>SNE MA</i>	<i>GB</i>	<i>SNE MA</i>	<i>GB</i>	<i>SNE MA</i>
2011	201	82	153	<u>48.2</u>	- 48	- 33.8
2012	307	127	298.4	<u>70.1</u>	- 8.6	- 56.9

# Direct Impacts on Groundfish Fishery

- GB:
  - 2011: \$142K
  - 2012: \$ 25K
- SNEMA
  - 2011: \$ 99K
  - 2012: \$ 168K

# Scallop Impacts

- Assuming perfect estimates and no changes in behavior:
  - Allocating 90% of expected catch means sub-ACLs will be exceeded and AMs will be implemented in FY 2012
  - Reduction in scallop catches ~ 4 million lbs.
  - Revenues ~ \$30 million (7-9 percent)  
(FW 44 estimated \$35 million)

# Estimates of 2010 Actual Bycatch

- As of 10/15/10:
  - 18% of GB YT sub-ACL
  - 70% of SNE/MA YT sub-ACL
- Fishery not expected to exceed either sub-ACL since fishing levels are generally lower in the latter months of the fishing year (Nov–Feb).
- Bycatch in NLCA much lower than in the past (only 31% of bycatch TAC for NL used compared to 100% in the past).

# Direct Impacts on Scallop Fishery

- Higher allocation would reduce risk of triggering AM
- Estimating YT bycatch in this manner still untested
- AM is not a direct reduction of scallop catch – some catch expected to be recovered but fishing would be shifted by area or season
- GB AM likely more restrictive in years that CA2 open since it would be closed for some or all of the year if AM exceeded by a large amount
- GB:
  - 2011: \$
  - 2012: \$
- SNEMA
  - 2011: \$
  - 2012: \$

# Decision

- Change the sub-ACLs or keep FW 44?

Questions?