

Atlantic Herring Area 1A Fishery Performance + Alternative Management Measures

Presented to ASMFC Atlantic Herring Section October 27, 2016

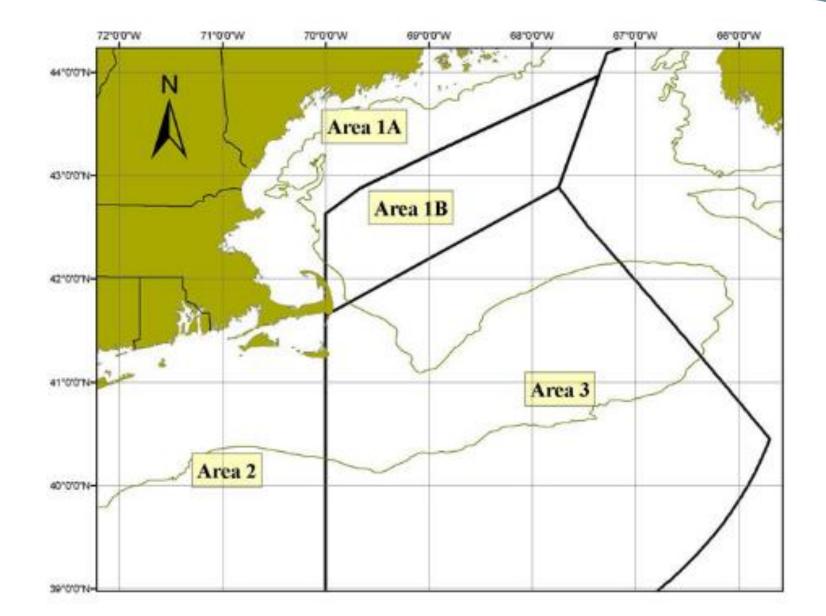
Overview

- This presentation summarizes the white paper that was included in briefing materials.
- Focal points:
 - Inshore Gulf of Maine (Area 1A)
 - 2015 and 2016 fishing seasons
 - Effort in Trimester 2 (June September)

Management Areas

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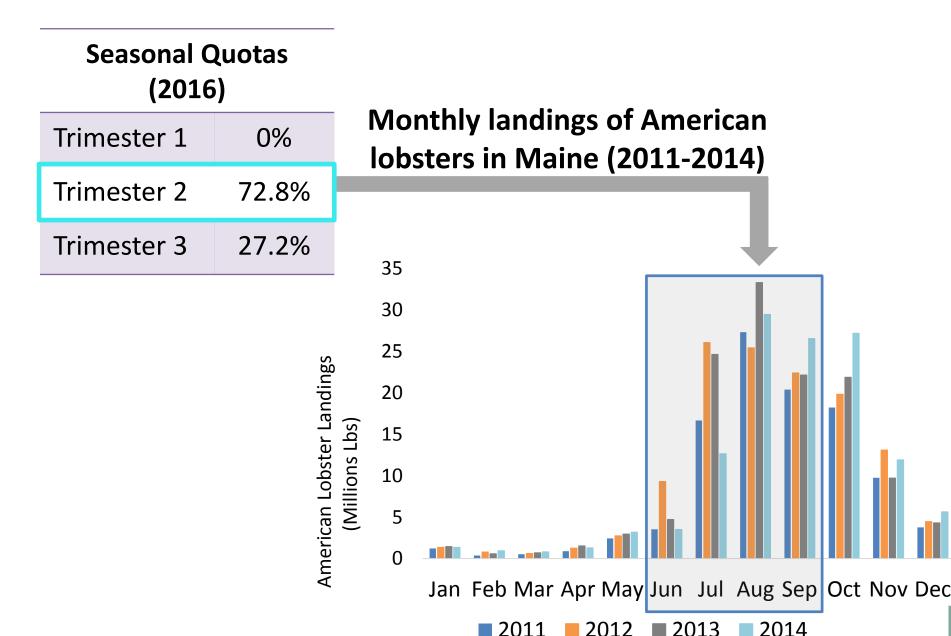
Area 1A Effort Controls



Seasonal Quotas (2016)				
Trimester 1 (Jan-May)	0%			
Trimester 2 (June-Sept)	72.8%			
Trimester 3 (Oct-Dec)	27.2%			

Days Out of the Fishery (2016)				
Trimester 2	Landing Days/Week			
June 1 – 30	3			
July 1-14	4			
July 15-23	5			
July 24 – Sept 17 (reactionary)	2			
Sept 18 – Sept 30 (reactionary)	0			

Seasonal Quotas

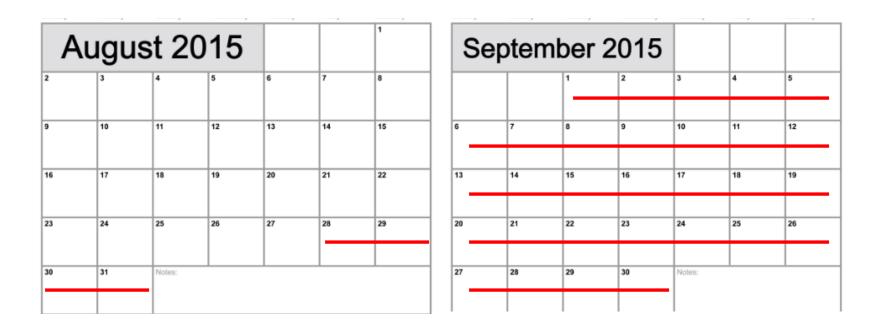


Days Out of the Fishery – Landing Days per Week

Year	Trimester 2	Landing Days	Comments
2011	June 1 – June 26	2	3 in-season
2011	June 27 – July 17	3	planned changes; 1
2011	July 18 – Aug 7	4	-reactionary
2011	Aug 8 – Sept 30 (<i>reactionary</i>)	7	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
2012	June 1 - 30	2	3 in-season
2012	July 1 – 14	4	planned changes
2012	July 15 – Sept 30	7	
2013	June 1 – Sept 30	7	1 reactionary in-season
2013	Sept 9 – 30 <i>(reactionary)</i>	0	change
2014	June 1 – July 6	5	1 reactionary in-season
2014	July 7 – Sept 30 <i>(reactionary)</i>	7	change
2015	June 1- July 5	5	2 in-season planned
2015	July 6 – Aug 27	7	changes; 1 reactionary
2015	Aug 28 – Sept 30 (reactionary)	0	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
2016	June 1 – 30	3	
2016	July 1-14	4	3 in-season planned
2016	July 15-23	5	changes; 2 reactionary
2016	July 24 – Sept 17 <i>(reactionary)</i>	2	
2016	Sept 18 – Sept 30 <i>(reactionary)</i>	0	

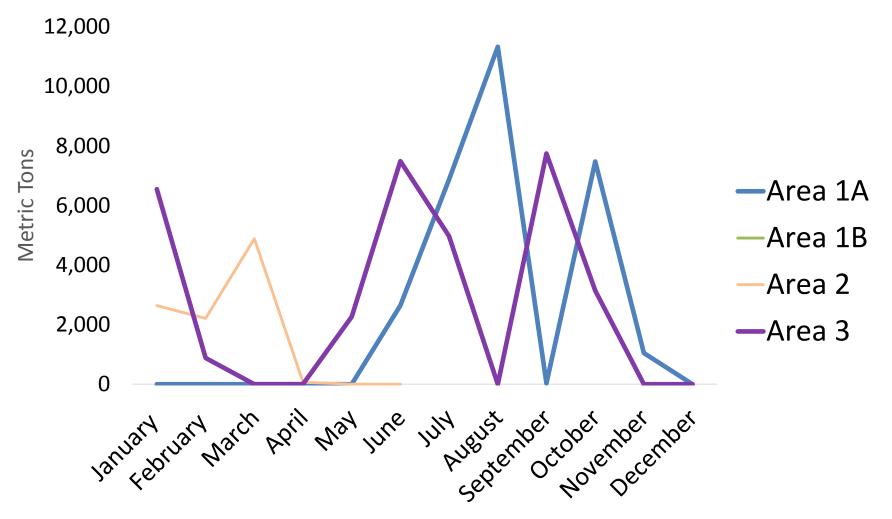
2015 Fishing Season

Concern: In Area 1A the rate of landings accelerated in August such that the seasonal quota was exceeded on August 28; triggering a zero landing day scenario for all of September.



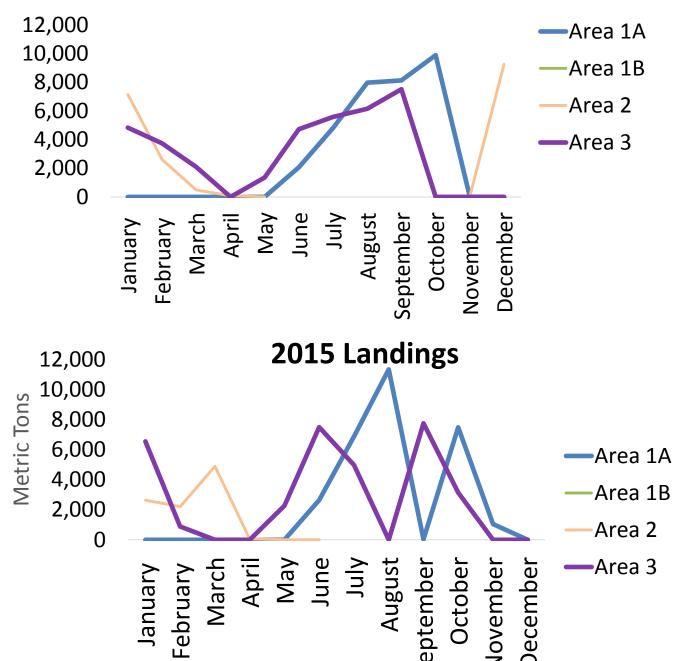
Zero landings days available

2015 Monthly Atlantic Herring Landings by Management Area. Area 1A and 3 were active in the summer/fall of 2015.



Source: NMFS. This is preliminary landings data, confidential data has been omitted

2014 Landings



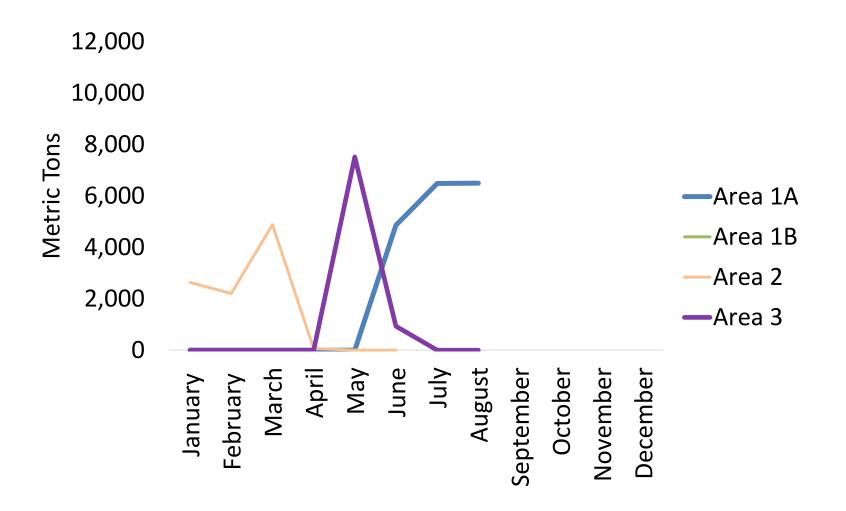
2016 Fishing Season

Concern: Above-average landings at the start of the season, and thereafter, led to emergency restrictions for vessels landing in Maine (on behalf of Maine DMR), which were more restrictive than those of the Commission.

September 2016			6	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	+
						-

- Zero landings days available

2016 Monthly Atlantic Herring Landings by Management Area. Area 1A and 3 were active in the summer/fall of 2015.



Source: NMFS. This is preliminary landings data, confidential data has been omitted



The final measures, effective July 9, 2016, included:

- Weekly landing limit of 600,000 pounds (15 trucks)
- 3 consecutive fishing days
- 2 consecutive landing days
- Harvester vessels are limited to making one landing per 24-hour period
- Harvester vessels are limited to making at-sea transfers to only one carrier per week.
- All carrier vessels landing herring are limited to receiving at-sea transfers from one vessels per week.

DMR's measures only applied to vessels landing in Maine.

Management Alternatives

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- 1. Modify the Area 1A in-season allocation.
- 2. Modify the Days Out program such that landing days are no longer consecutive days.
- 3. Modify the Days Out program to restrict fishing days, in addition to landing days.
- 4. Modify the Days Out program to create a weekly landing limit (pounds & trucks). In addition, harvester vessels are limited to making at-sea transfers to only one carrier per week. All carrier vessels landing herring are limited to receiving at-sea transfers from one vessel per week.
- 5. Restrict a vessel from operating a vessel using a different gear midseason in Area 1A.
- 6. Clarify what it means for states to "agree" on the numbers of days out in the fishery, does this mean consensus or vote? If states, cannot agree then what is the default landing day scenario, 7 landing days?

Management Alternatives (SMBT)

- 1. Modify the Days Out program such that the small-mesh bottom trawl (SMBT) could have a different allocation of landings days and times that are separate from the purse seine and mid-water trawl fleet landing days.
- Set-aside a percentage or value of the Area
 1A sub-ACL for the SMBT.

Questions



Atlantic Herring Area 1A Specifications

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Specifications

- At the 2015 Annual Meeting, the Section approved the Area 1A sub-ACL as part of the 2016-2018 Atlantic herring specifications. The Area 1A sub-ACL of 30,300 metric tons (mt) represents 28.9% of the stockwide ACL (104,800 mt).
- Since 2009, the Section has split the Area 1A sub-ACL into trimesters, where 0% is allocated from January 1-May 31, 72.8% is allocated from June 1

 September 30 and 27.2% is allocated from October 1- December 31.

2016 Fishing Season

- 95% of Trimester 2 seasonal quota was harvested
- Area 1A fishery closed on October 18, 2016

Questions