Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Northern Shrimp Section Meeting Summary
Conference Call and Webinar
November 21, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Section Members: Dennis Abbott (Chair, NH), Richie White (NH), Doug Grout (NH), Pat Keliher (ME), Steve Train (Vice-chair, ME), Terry Stockwell (ME), Mike Armstrong (MA)

ASMFC Staff: Max Appelman, Toni Kerns, Katie Drew, Bob Beal

Public: Robert Eckert, Kelly Whitmore, Maggie Hunter, Anne Richards, Joseph Jurek, Marshall Alexander, Mike Taulhouser (sp?), Patrick Shephard (sp?)

The Northern Shrimp Section met via conference call to address the concerns and questions posed by the Technical Committee regarding 2017 RSA program implementation (see motion below) and made the following consensus decisions:

- There will be three (3) trawl vessels selected to fish in western Maine, three (3) trawl vessels in mid-coast Maine, and two (2) trawl vessels in eastern Maine.
- There will be four (4) trap vessels selected to fish in mid-coast Maine, and one (1) trap vessel to fish in eastern Maine.
- Selected vessels from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and the western Maine region will being fishing January 15th for 8 consecutive weeks as specified in the motion below.
- Selected vessels from mid-coast and eastern Maine regions will begin fishing the week of January 29th for 8 consecutive weeks as specified in the motion below.
- Qualified applicants will be identified via specific selection criteria developed on a state-by-state basis. Selection criteria may include preference to volunteers willing to collect additional data on the use of double grating systems (i.e., double-Nordmore or compound grates as described in Addendum I). However, having landings history prior to the June 7, 2011, control date is a program-wide requirement.
- States will forward the names of qualified applicants to the ASMFC to be selected via blind draw. Selected names from the blind draw will be the final participants in the 2017 RSA program for northern shrimp.
- The announcement for applicants will be released to the public in early December. The ASMFC will forward each state announcement to their northern shrimp interested parties email list. Anyone contacting the ASMFC in regards to the application process will be deferred to their respective state's website.

November 10th motion:

Move to approve a Research Set-Aside (RSA) for 2017 with a cap at 53 metric tons. The RSA would have 8 trawlers fishing from Maine and one trawler fishing from MA and one trawler fishing from NH for 8 weeks and 1200 lbs per trip, Mid-January to mid-March 1 trip per week, and 5 trappers fishing 8 weeks at 500 lbs per week. 40 traps per vessel limit. Preference will be given to individuals in the lottery with double grates and having history prior to the June 7, 2011 control date.

Motion by Mr. Stockwell and seconded by Mr. Adler. Motion carries unanimously.