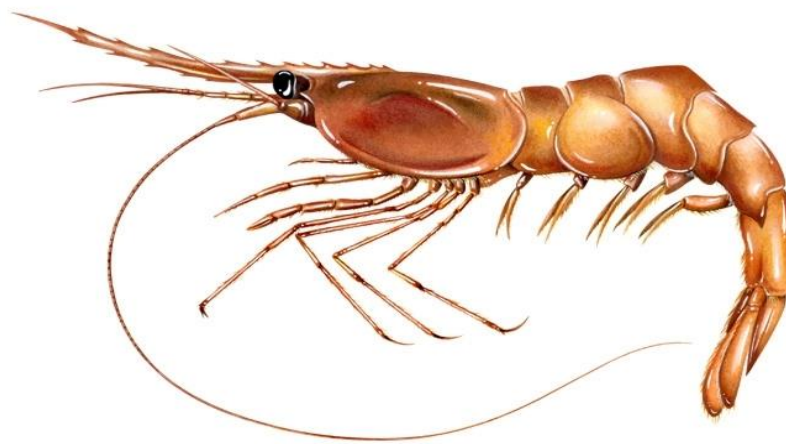


Draft Amendment 3 Management Issues/Options and Public Comment Summary



Portland, Maine
August 31, 2017

Timeline



2014	Section Initiates Plan Amendment and Tasks PDT to Develop Public Information Document (PID)
	Section Approves PID for Public Comment
2015	Public Comment on PID; states conduct public hearings
	Section Tasks PDT to Develop Draft Amendment 3
	Section postpones development of Draft Amendment 3
2016	Section resumes development of Draft Amendment 3
2017	Section Approves Draft Amendment 3 for Public Comment
	Public Comment on Draft Amendment 3; states conduct public hearings
	 Section review public comment; selects final measures
	October Business Session; Commission approves Amendment 3 to the FMP for Northern Shrimp

- Three public hearings; 29 attendees, 19 shrimp fishermen
 - Portsmouth, NH (10)
 - Augusta, ME (16)
 - Ellsworth, ME (3)
- Two written comments
 - Maine Lobstermen’s Association, Inc.
 - NEFMC



Issues in Draft Amendment 3



2.3 FMP Objectives

2.5 Definition of overfishing (BRPs)

3.1.1 Catch and Landings Information

3.1.2 Fishery-Dependent Monitoring

4.1.1 Annual Fishery Specifications and TAC

4.1.2 TAC Allocation Program

4.1.2.2 TAC Accountability Measures

4.1.3 Fishing Seasons

4.1.12 Size sorting grates and count/pound provisions



2.3 Objectives (pg 28-29)



Option A. maintain current objectives

Option B. update objectives to acknowledge and improve our understanding of changing environmental conditions and its impacts on the resource and fishery, and to provide a mechanism for unique state-level management of fishing effort

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B	✓	✓	✓



2.5 Definition of Overfishing (pg. 29-32)



Option A: maintain current BRPs

- F and B reference points were derived from failed model

Option B: provides flexibility to define stock status using the best available information

- Section can adopt new peer-reviewed BRPs via Section vote
- If stock status determination is unclear following peer-review, the Section should engage its TC to provide its consensus recommendation as to what stock status criteria should be

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B	✓	✓	✓



3.1.1 Catch/Landings Information (pg. 33-3)



Option A: weekly reporting by all dealers

Option B: weekly reporting of all sale at first point of contact

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B	✓	✓	✓



3.1.2 Fishery-Dependent Monitoring (pg. 34)



2-5% of commercial landings have been subsampled for size/sex-stage composition data since the early 1980s. The data is used for annual stock assessment

Option A: states are encouraged to subsample a target of 2% of commercial landings in that state

Option B: subsampling is required

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B	✓	✓	✓



4.1.1 Annual Fishery Specifications (pg. 38-

Option A: per Addendum I, TC to use catch equation (which requires an estimate of abundance) to recommend a TAC associated with the F reference points

Option B: revert back to the original TAC setting procedure and language of Amendment 2

- no catch equation
- TC is supposed to recommend a TAC relative to BRPs

Option C: flexible TAC setting procedure by allowing the TC to recommend a TAC based on the best available information

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B			
C	✓	✓	✓



4.1.2 TAC Allocation Program (pg. 41-43)



Option A: 87% to trawl fishery, 13% to trap fishery

Option B: no allocation of the TAC

Option C: state-by-state

- states with trap history would maintain 87/13 split

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A	x	x	
B			
C1: 90.6% (ME), 8.4% (NH), 1% (MA)			
C2: 90.9% (ME), 8.1% (NH), 1% (MA)	✓		
C3: 82% (ME), 12% (NH), 6% (MA)		✓	
C4: 80% (ME), 10% (NH), 10% (MA)		✓	✓



4.1.2 cont.



Sub-option C1: states allowed to transfer/combine quota under mutual agreement

Sub-option C2: quota underages would be pooled and allocated to states with overages to help reconcile those overages

Sup-option C3: unused quota rolled to ME by:

C3-1: February 1

C3-2: February 15

C3-3: March 1

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
C1			
C2	✓*		
C3	✓ Feb 20	✓ Feb 15	✗



4.1.2.2 TAC Accountability (pg. 44)



Option A: no payback of overages

Option B1: 100% payback when quota exceeded

Option B2: 100% payback; forgiven if annual TAC is not exceeded

Option C1: 100% payback when quota exceeded by 3% or more

Option C2: 100% payback when quota exceeded by 3% or more; forgiven if the annual TAC is not exceeded

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B1			✓
B2			
C1			✓
C2	✓	✓	



4.1.3 Fishing Season (pg. 45-46)



Option A: anytime during the year, or set a closed season

Option B: maximum fishing season, restrict season to occur between the dates specified

- e.g., B1: Dec 1-May 31

Option C: minimum core season, season would be at least the dates specified and could be longer

- e.g., C1: Jan 1-Mar 15

Option D: state-specific minimum core season

- e.g., D1: Dec 15-Feb 28 (MA/NH), Jan 1-Mar 15 (ME)

- for all options: the Section has the ability to set a closed season (i.e., moratorium) and has ability to close the fishery at any time during a public meeting or conference call.
- projected season closure provision still in effect



4.1.3 Fishing Season (pg. 45-46)



Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A: status quo			
B1: December 1-May 31	✓		✓ ^
B2: January 1-April 30			
C1: January 1-March 15			
C2: January 1-February 28			
C3: January 15-February 15			
D1: Dec 15-Feb 28 (MA/NH), Jan 1-Mar 15 (ME)	✓ *	✓ ^	
D2: Jan 1-Feb 28 (MA/NH), Jan 15-Mar 15 (ME)			✓ *
D3: Jan 15-Feb 15 (MA/NH), Jan 30-Feb 28 (ME)			

4.1.12 Size Sorting Grates and Count/lb (pg. 49-54)

Option A: double-Nordmore grate may be used

Option B: mandatory use of a double-Nordmore grate or compound grate

Option C: counts per pound in excess of [that specified] would be prohibited

– 55, 60 or 65 shrimp per pound

Option	ME-A	ME-E	NH
A			
B		✓	
C	x	x	x



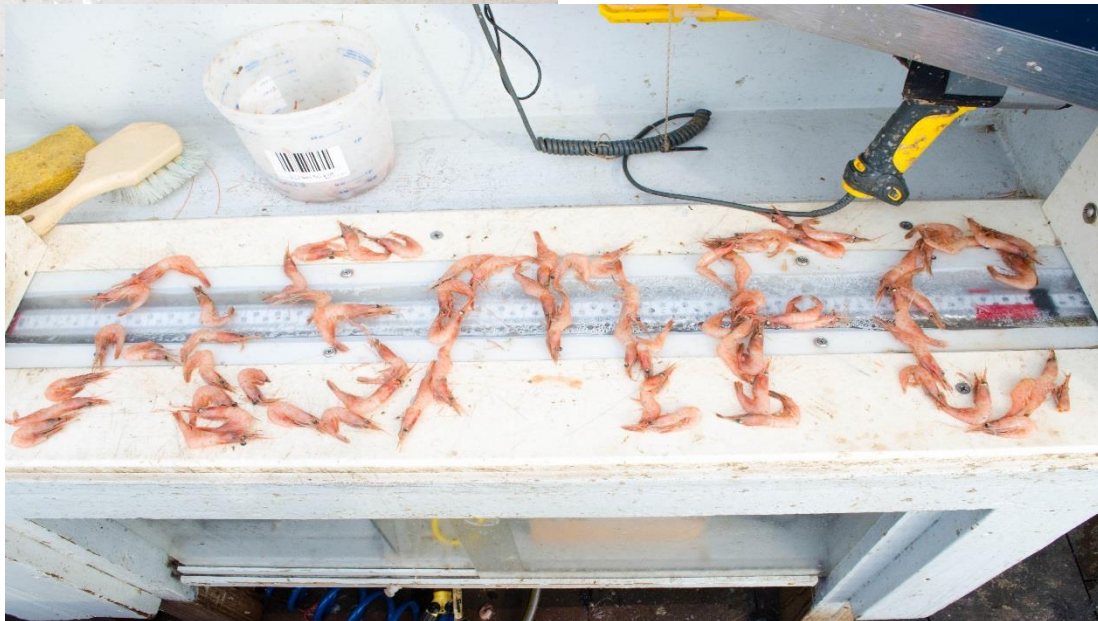
General Comments



- Commenters expressed concerns that lobster vessels have taken over the shrimp grounds
- A few commenters did not support the current days out of the fishery provision
- The Section should consider the impact of trawl versus trap gear on the resource.
- Commenters support equal fishing opportunity for fishermen across the entire range.
- Public hearing participants feel a general disconnect between fishermen, science, and management.

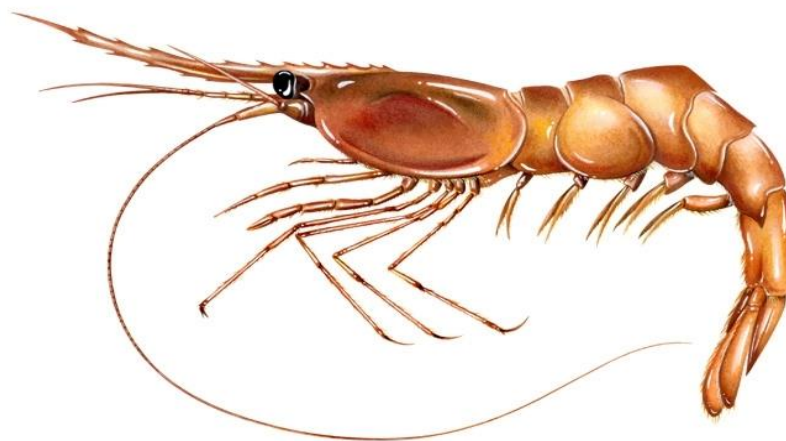


Questions?





Northern Shrimp Advisory Panel Comments and Recommendations on Draft Amendment 3



ASMFC Section Meeting
August 31, 2017

AP Recommendations



- 2.3 Fishery Management Plan Objectives: **supports Option B**
 - Should define “changing resource conditions” and viable fishery”
 - Would like to see a “law enforcement” objective
- 2.5 Definition of Overfishing (BRPs): **supports Option B**
- 3.1.1 Catch and Landings Information: **supports Option B**
 - AP discussed the use of swipe cards which would be even more timely
- 3.1.2 Fishery-Dependent Monitoring: **supports Option B**
- 4.1.1 Annual Fishery Specifications and Total Allowable Catch: **supports Option C**



AP Recommendations



- 4.1.2 Total Allowable Catch Allocation Program TAC allocation: **supports C1 and C2.**
 - Opposed to gear-specific allocations, i.e., 87/13, as specified under Options A (status quo) and C
 - Supports Sub-option C3 with a March 1 cut off date. Support C2 as a secondary choice
- 4.1.2.2 Total Allowable Catch Accountability Measures: **supports C2**
- 4.1.3 Fishing Season: **supports Option A.**
 - Timing and duration of fishing season impacted by other plan provisions
 - AP supports a guaranteed season of some length, e.g., 2-3 weeks in late January-early February



AP Recommendations



- 4.1.12 Size Sorting Grates and Count per Pound Provisions: **supports use of gears to reduce the catch of small shrimp**
 - Description/definition of a size sorting grate should be flexible
 - Some AP members supported Option A
 - Provision could be reviewed on an annual basis
 - e.g., if population is healthy with several large reproducing year classes





Northern Shrimp Technical Committee Comment on Draft Amendment 3



ASMFC Section Meeting

August 31, 2017

Draft Amendment 3 TC recommendations



- 2.3 Fishery Management Plan Objectives: **supports Option B**
- 2.5 Definition of Overfishing (BRPs): **supports Option B**
- 3.1.1 Catch and Landings Information Reporting Requirements: **supports Option B**
- 3.1.2 Fishery-Dependent Monitoring: **supports Option B**
- 4.1.1 Annual Fishery Specifications and Total Allowable Catch: **supports Option C**



Draft Amendment 3 TC recommendations



- 4.1.2 Total Allowable Catch Allocation Program
TAC allocation: no comment – the TC felt that this is more of a policy decision – however, the TC is **opposed to the current 87/13 (trawl/trap) percentage-based** gear-specific quota.
- 4.1.2.2 Total Allowable Catch Accountability Measures: **Does not support Option A: status quo.**
- 4.1.3 Fishing Season: **supports Option B over Options C and D.**



Draft Amendment 3 TC recommendations



- 4.1.12 Size Sorting Grates and Count per Pound Provisions: **supports Option B: the mandatory use of a double-Nordmore grate or a compound grate.**
- Additionally, supports the count per pound provision Options C1 (55) and C2 (60). Would allow the flexibility to explore other gear or fishing techniques (within the bounds of the FMP) to reduce the catch of small shrimp.



2017 Research Set Aside



Compound grate



Michael Kersula, ME DMR



2017 Research Set Aside



Trouser trawl



Michael Kersula, ME DMR



2017 Research Set Aside

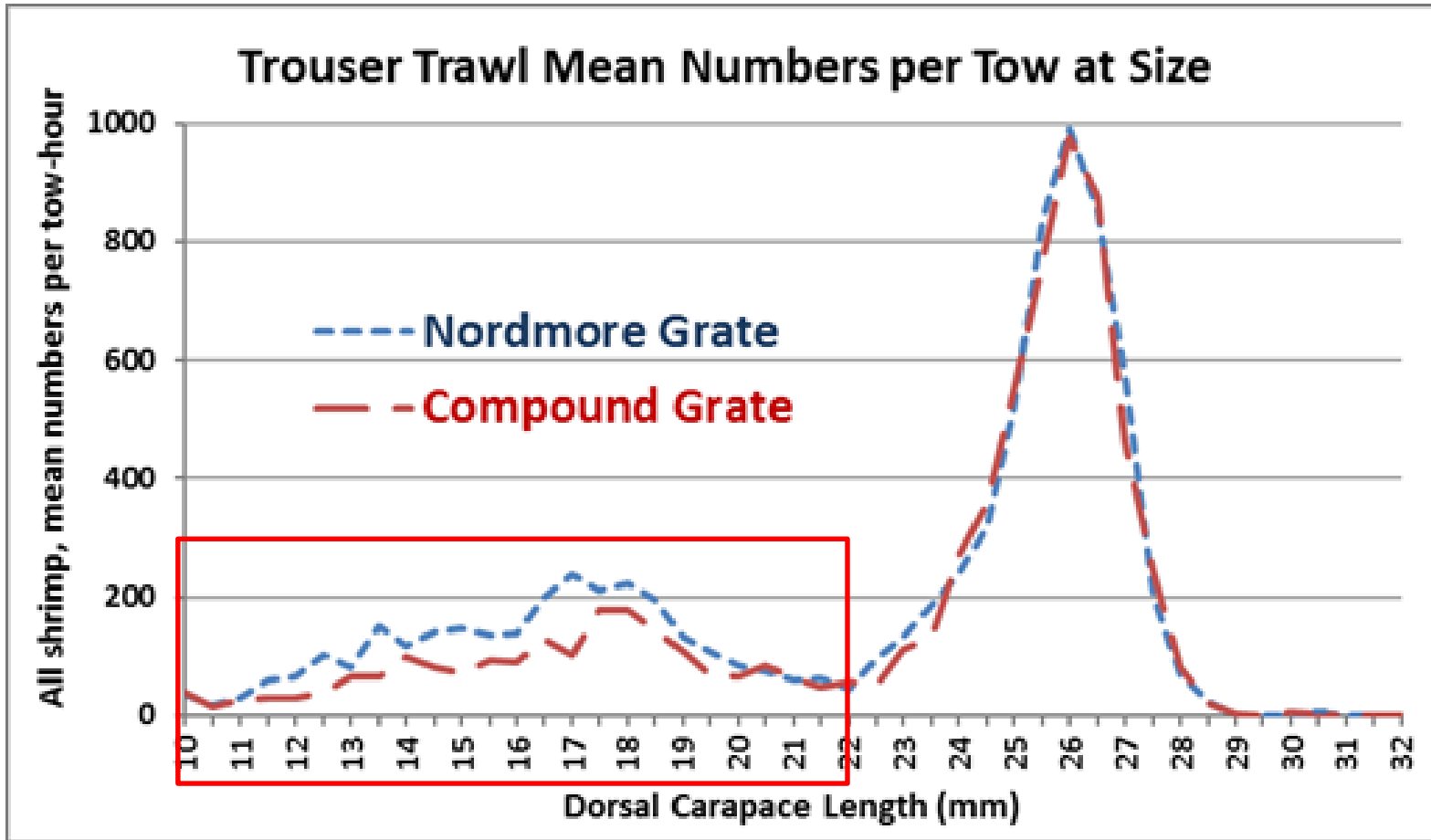


Preliminary results:

- Compound grate significantly reduced the catch of small northern shrimp by approximately **25%**
- Significantly reduced the catch of small shrimp **(all species) by about 32%**
- No significant difference in the level of bycatch of finfish or non-shrimp invertebrates.
- No significant difference in the amount of retained target sized shrimp



2017 Research Set Aside



2017 Research Set Aside



Comparing the compound grate and the double-Nordmore grate:

- Both the compound and double-Nordmore grate showed **similar reduction of small shrimp catch (32% and 36%, respectively)** and showed no significant difference in retention of large shrimp or finfish bycatch (He and Balzano 2012)



Questions?

