

SMAST Yellowtail Flounder Bycatch Avoidance System

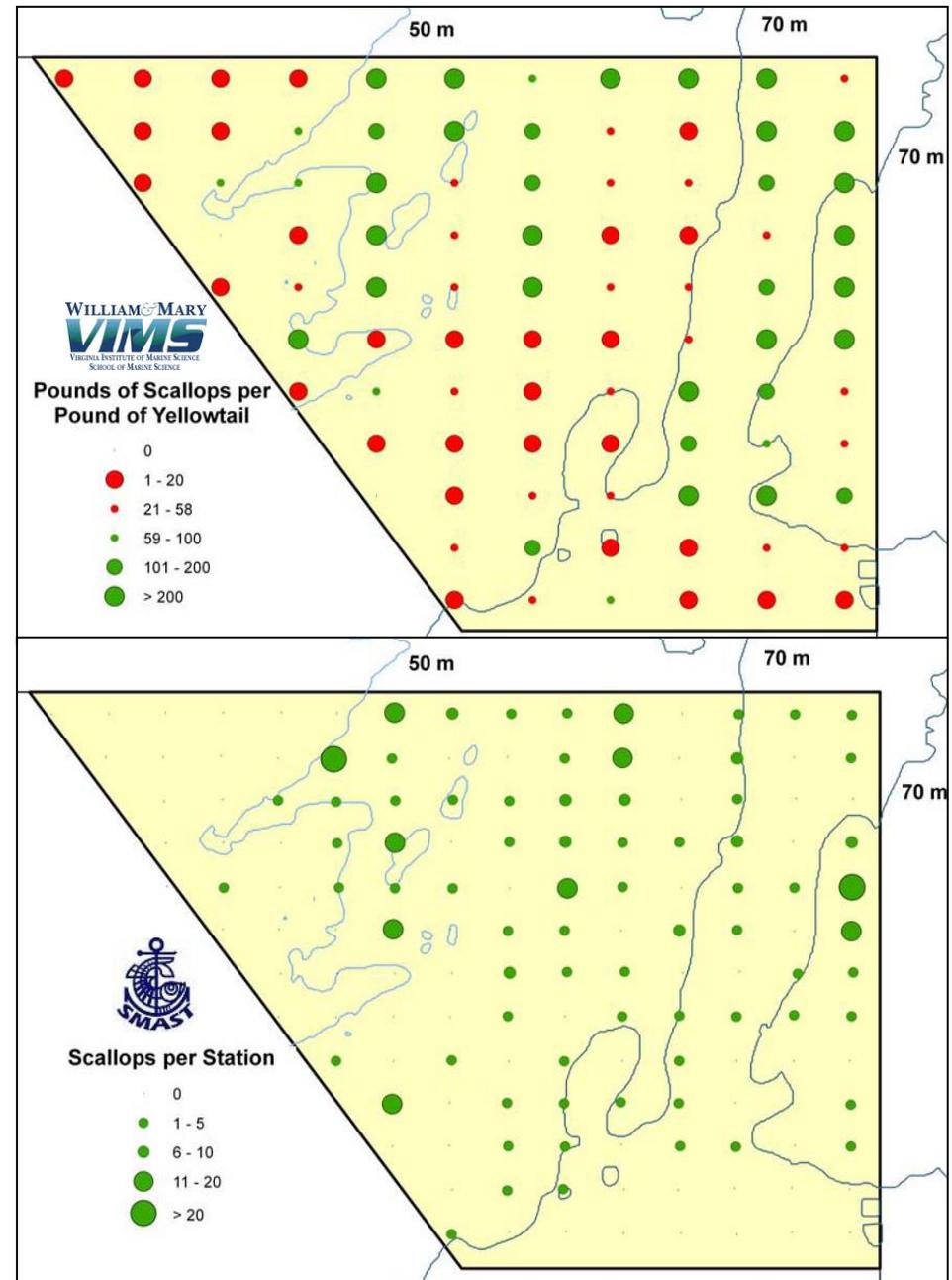
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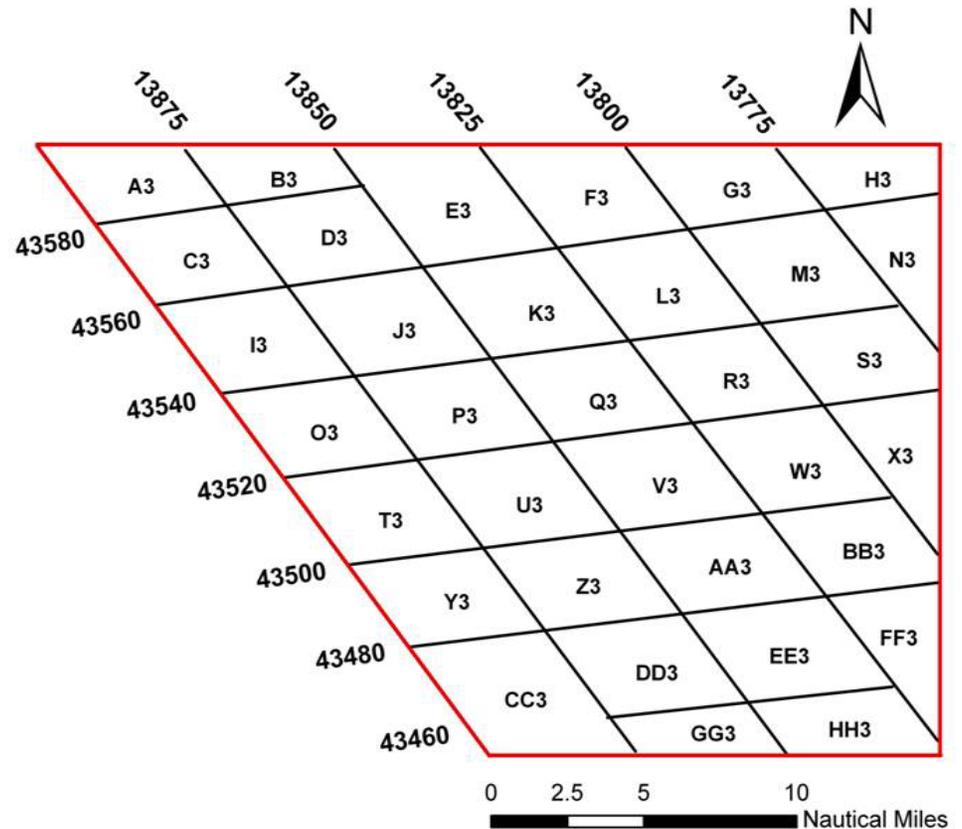
2010 Nantucket Lightship Survey Data

- 2009 Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) dredge survey
 - Ratio of scallops to yellowtail based on scallop target and yellowtail TAC
 - Stop light analogy map provided before fishery began
- 2010 SMAST scallop video survey
 - Updated distribution of scallops



Real-Time Communication for Yellowtail Avoidance

- Access area divided into cells on Loran C lines
- Fishermen report once every 24 hours on bycatch



1. Data compiled
2. Cells classified
3. Advisory sent back to fishing fleet

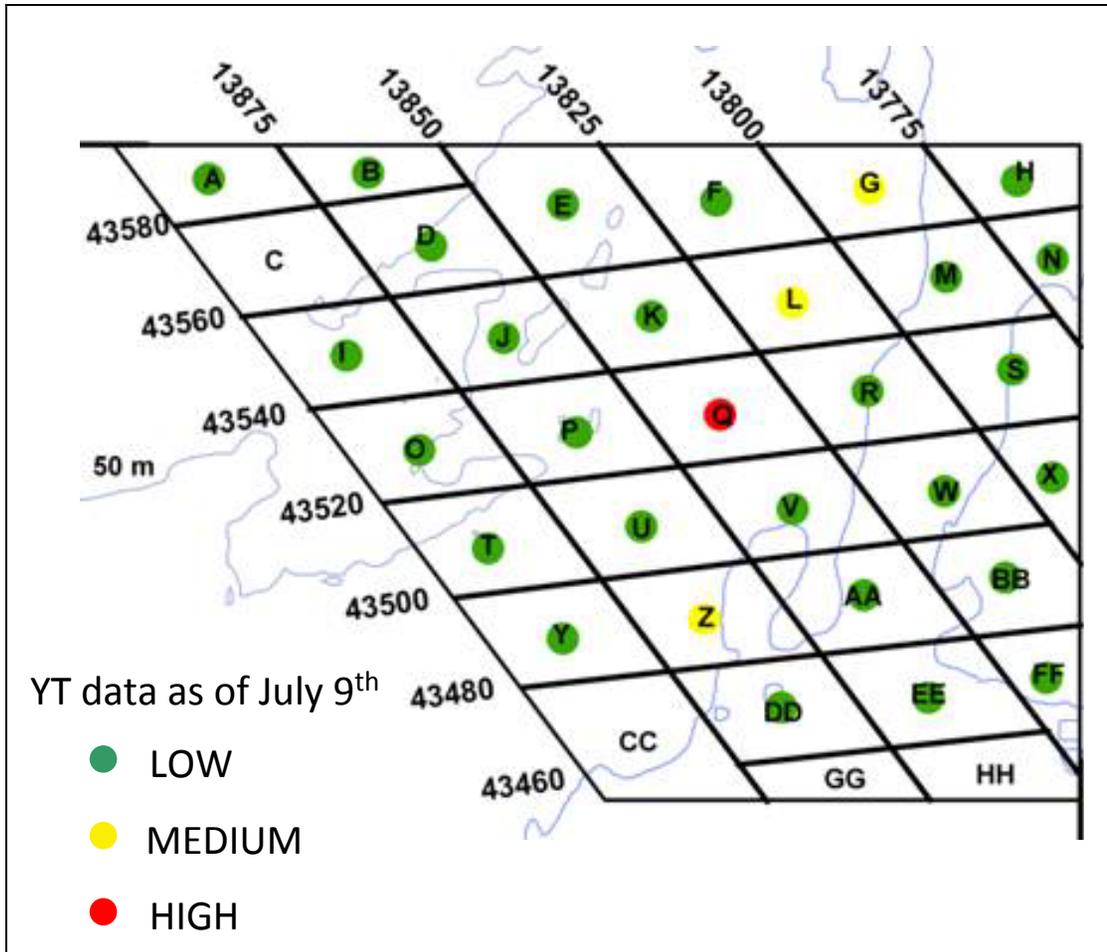
Cell:	Q3
# Tows:	6
Yellowtail lbs:	55



SMASST – SCALLOP INDUSTRY



NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP YELLOWTAIL BYCATCH ADVISORY



YELLOWTAIL UPDATE 7/9/10:

10 boats reported 129 tows

YT catch was:

HIGH: Q

MEDIUM: G L Z

LOW: All other cells

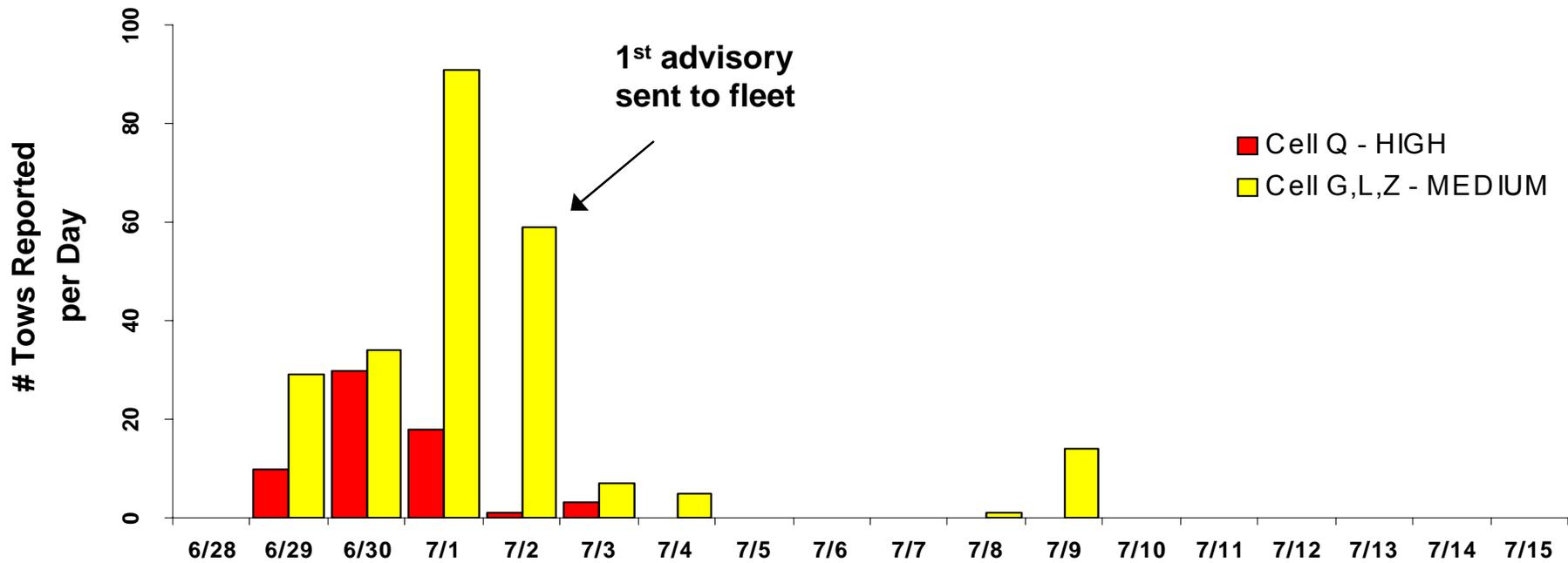
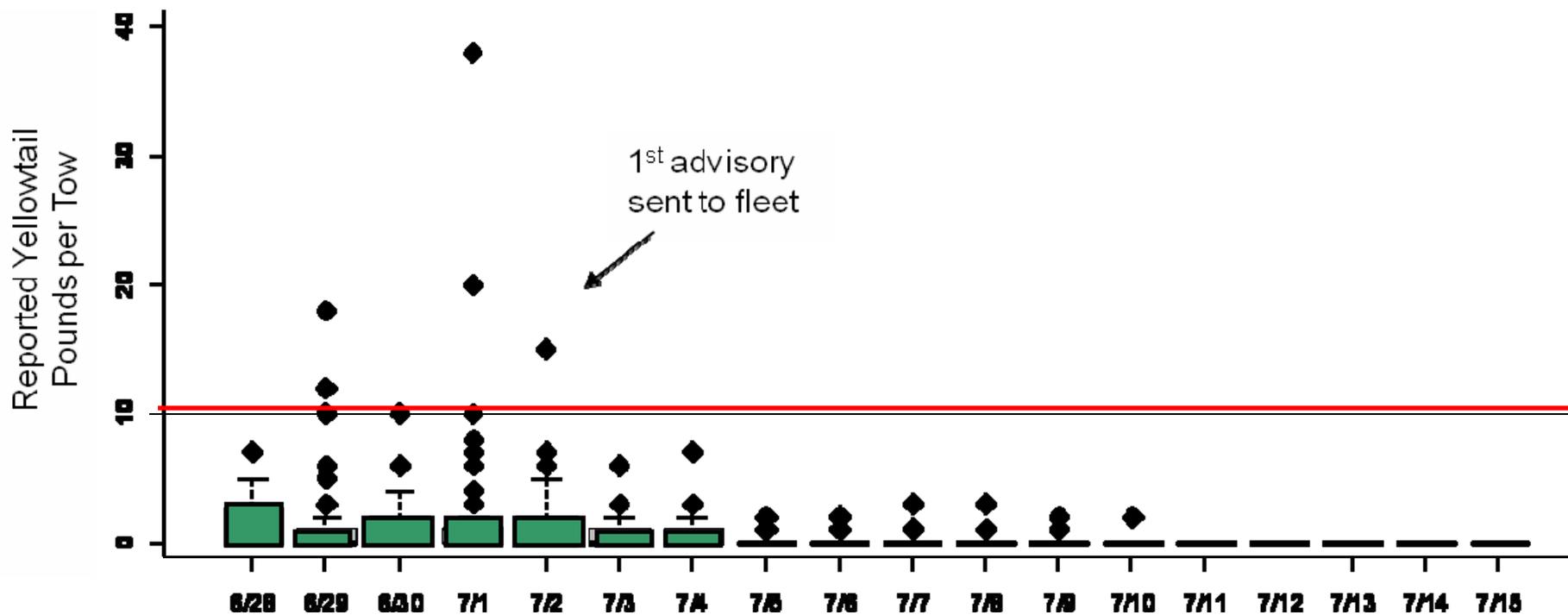
Cell Q remains a YT hotspot. Cells G L Z had high YT catch. Next report 7/10.

Thank you!

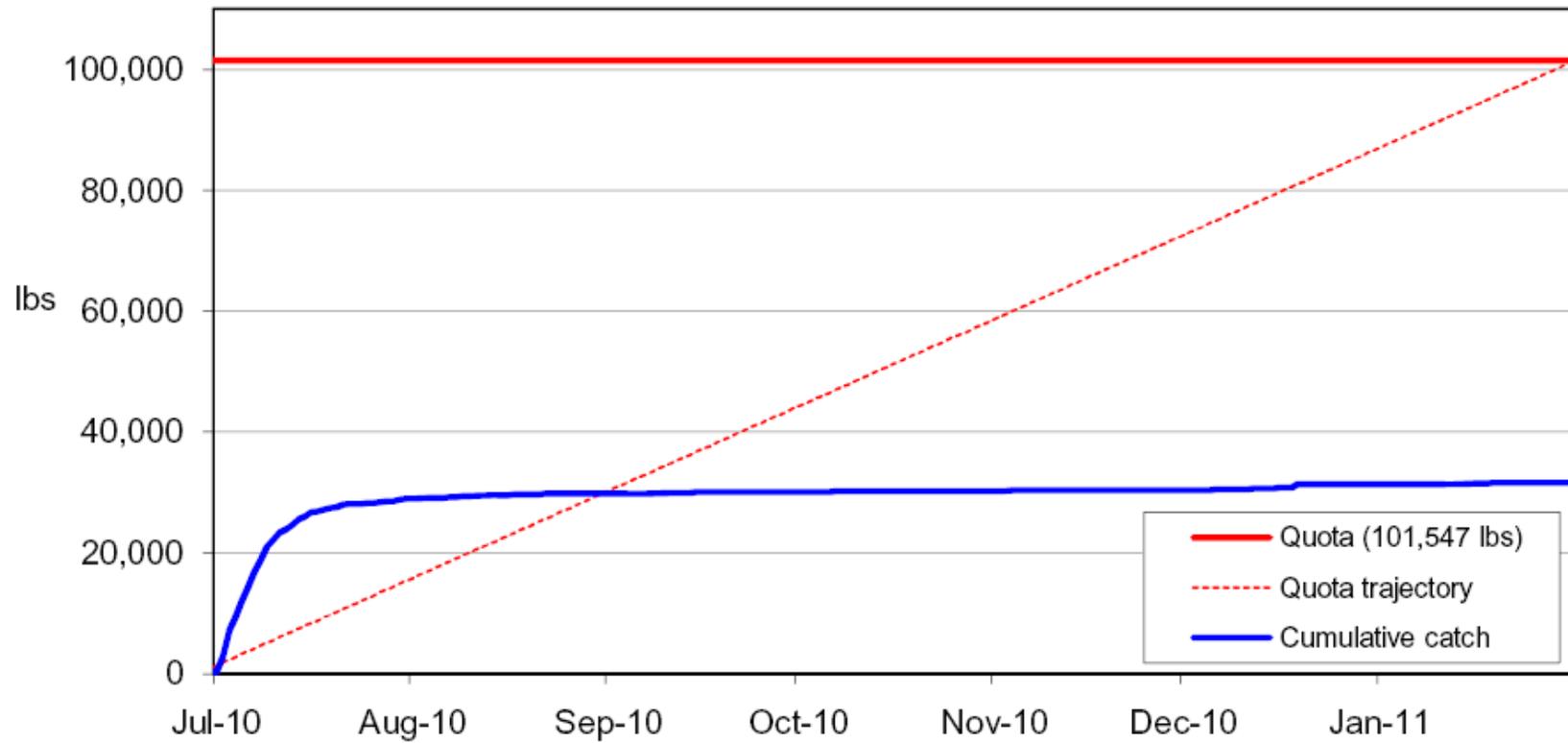
Low: areas expected to allow full scallop harvest

Medium: areas that may result in early closure

High: areas that would lead to early closure



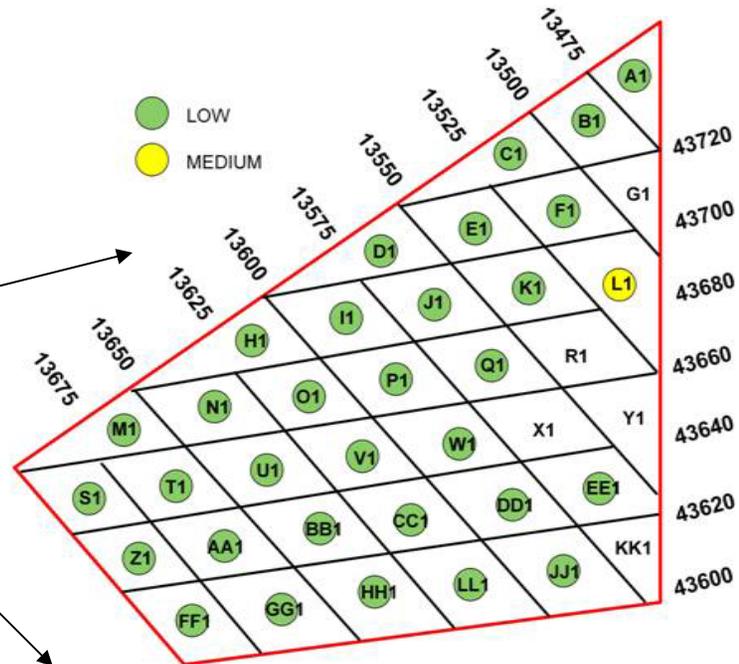
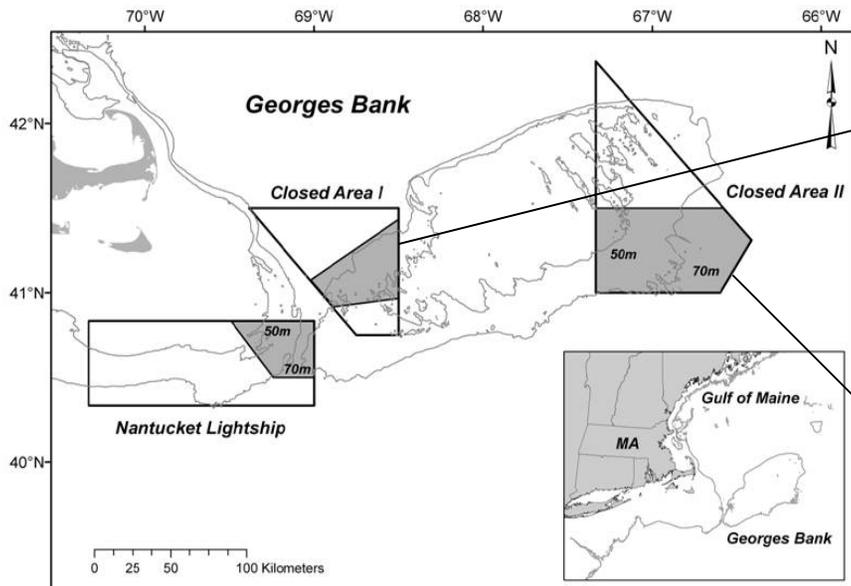
Total Yellowtail Catch Nantucket Lightship 2010



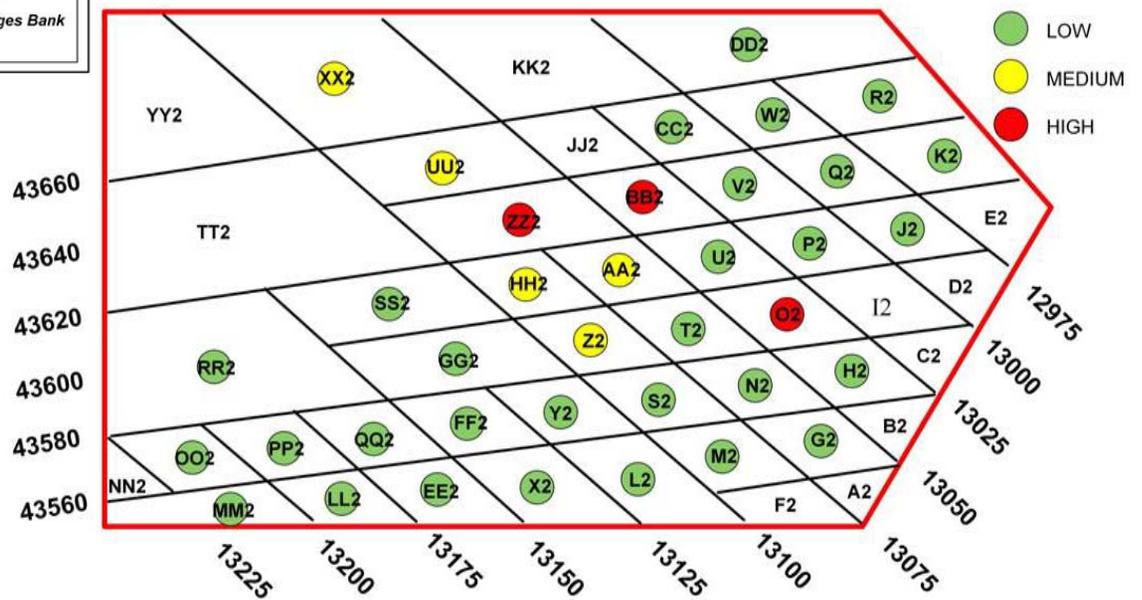
100% Scallop target harvested

31% Yellowtail TAC caught

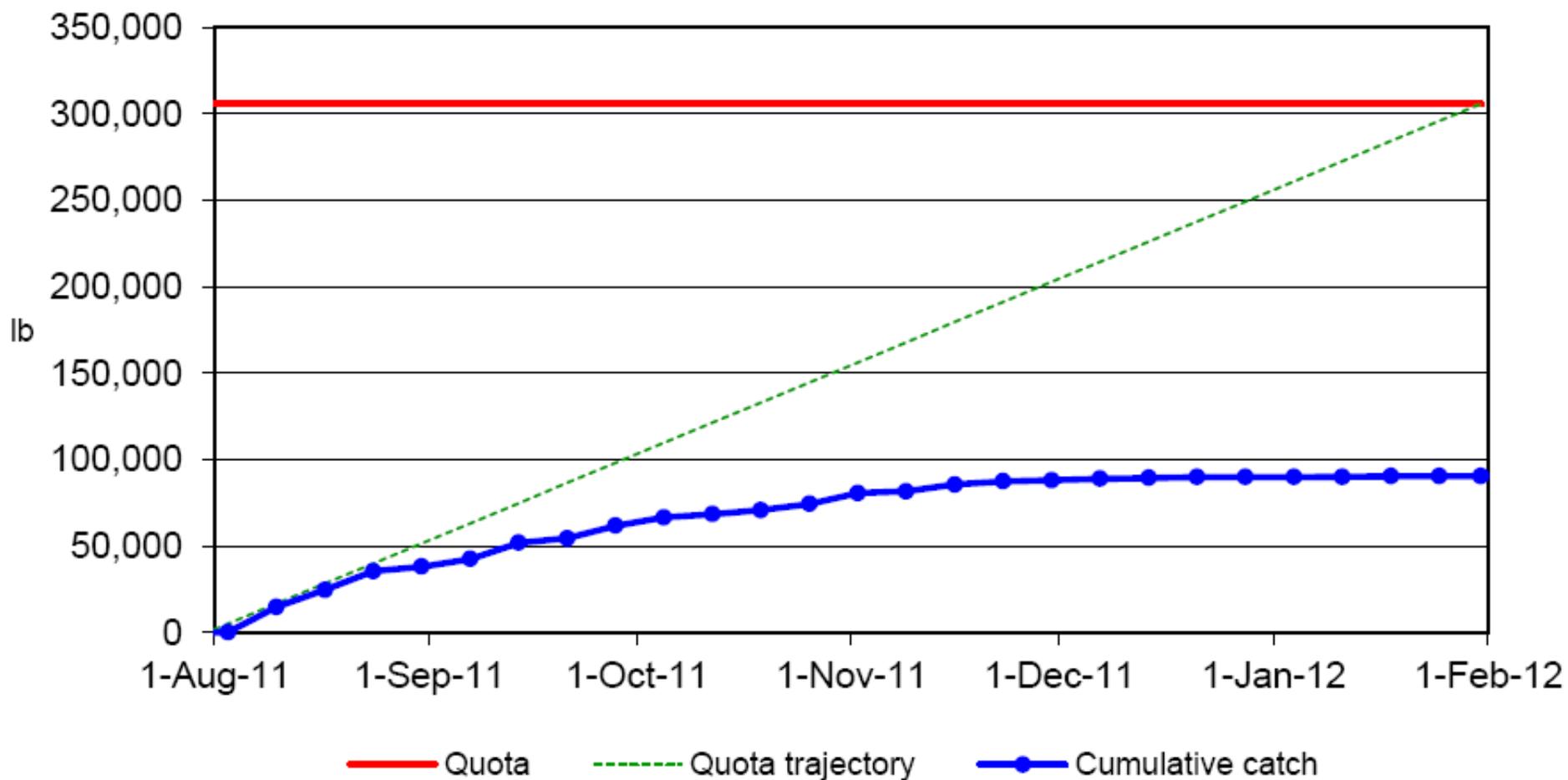
2011 Bycatch Avoidance



Closed Areas I and II



2011 Bycatch Avoidance



100% Scallop target harvested

29.5% Yellowtail TAC caught

Industry Participation



- Individual vessel data remains confidential
- 2010 Nantucket Lightship: 122 vessels signed up
 - Collection of yellowtail information only, not scallop information
- 2011 Closed Areas I and II: 211 vessels signed up
 - Data reporting included scallop catch information
- 2012 Nantucket Lightship, Closed Areas I and II: 220 vessels
 - Funding support from Fisheries Survival Fund, American Scallop Association, Research Set-Aside, individual fleet members
 - Expanded to include General Category vessels in open areas in Southern New England



Summary

- Iterative approach for bycatch reduction
- Industry identified objectives for program
- Voluntary participation
- Evidence of changes in fishing behavior
- 2010 and 2011:
 - Approximately 30% of yellowtail TAC
 - 100% scallop harvest

