

Science, Service, Stewardship



NOAA

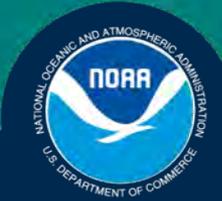
2011 ALWTRT Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Subgroup Meeting

April 6, 2011

**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**

ALWTRP Updates

- Updates on Activities since 2009 meeting
- Updates on Action Items from 2009 meeting
 - Review Concept Papers/Workshops



TRT Membership Changes

States

NJ: Peter Himchak

NH: Cheri Patterson

ME: Sarah Cotnoir

NY: Steve Heins

SC: Julia Byrd

Conservation

Ocean Conservancy: Janis Searles-Jones

Industry

Jonah Crab: Dennis Colbert

ME Lobster/Gillnet: Peter Inniss

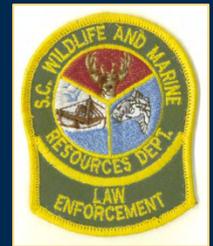
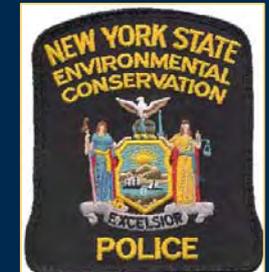
MA Gillnet: Stuart Tolley

Gillnet: David Beresoff, Carl Erickson



Enforcement

- Partnerships
 - NOAA OLE
 - USCG
 - State enforcement agencies
 - JEAs
- Enforcement Strategy
 - Education and Outreach
 - Enforcement Actions
 - Assist with Monitoring

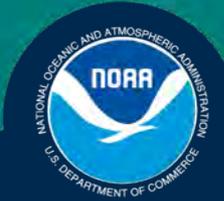


Update on State Activities

- New Jersey
- New York
- Delaware
- Maryland
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Georgia
- Florida



Update on Matrices and Research Grants



Changes to Gear and Whale Research Matrix

- Updated Status of Research column
 - Moved to right side for easier reference
- Made more user friendly
 - Re-ordered based on priority
 - Removed outdated columns
- Replaced the 2007 version online with new version
- Send comments to me



NERO Funded Research Grants

- Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction
 - FY 2009 (\$1.25 Million)
 - FY 2010 (\$1.25 Million)
- Groundline Exchange/Conversion Plan
 - FY 2009 (\$ 3 Million)
 - Ended in Jan. 2011
- Time Tension Line Cutter Evaluation (\$98K)
 - FY 2008
 - Final Report completed Nov. 2009 available online

A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the water, creating a splash. The image is in a light blue, monochromatic color scheme. The word "Questions?" is centered over the image in a dark blue, serif font.

Questions?

Review of 2009 Subgroup Meeting

- Vertical line rule development and monitoring schedule
- Action Items

Vertical Line Rule Development Schedule

April 2009

- Sinking Ground line rule
- TRT developed VL Rule Schedule

2012

- Develop alternatives proposed by TRT

2014

- Final Rule

2011

- Working to finalize Mid-Atlantic Southeast data (Spring)
- Full TRT Meeting (Fall)

2013

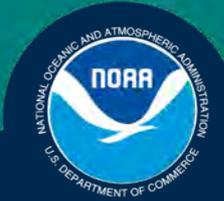
- Proposed Rule





State Data Collection Effort

- Letters from RA to ASMFC
- Request information from State fishery management agencies for use in the vertical line model
 - Location of fishing activity
 - Gear configuration



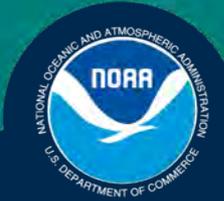
Outreach and Coordination

- NMFS should improve coordination with fishery bodies
 - April 2009— met with ASMFC Lobster Conservation Management Team
 - June 2009— met with ASMFC Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP)
 - July 2009— participated in ACCSP Bycatch Committee conference call
 - August 2009— present update to ASMFC's American Lobster Management board
 - November 2009—presented update to ASMFC Policy Board



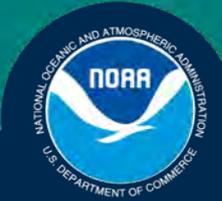
Funding Opportunities

- Requested and received funding for vertical line gear modifications
 - Issued three FY 2009 grants
 - Fishing without vertical line
 - Fishing using thwartable bottom links
 - Highly adhesive smart tape
- FFO published on Feb. 25, 2011. Applications due April 26, 2011.



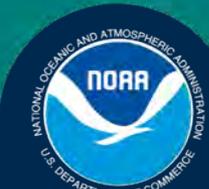
VTR Reporting Gaps

- Assess or address VTR reporting gaps
 - Met with Fishery Statistics Office
 - Issue:
 - Single page logs
 - Log books not reformatted anytime soon
 - Observer Program



Refinements to Co-occurrence model

- Refine the model to fold in additional considerations related to risk
 - Ongoing

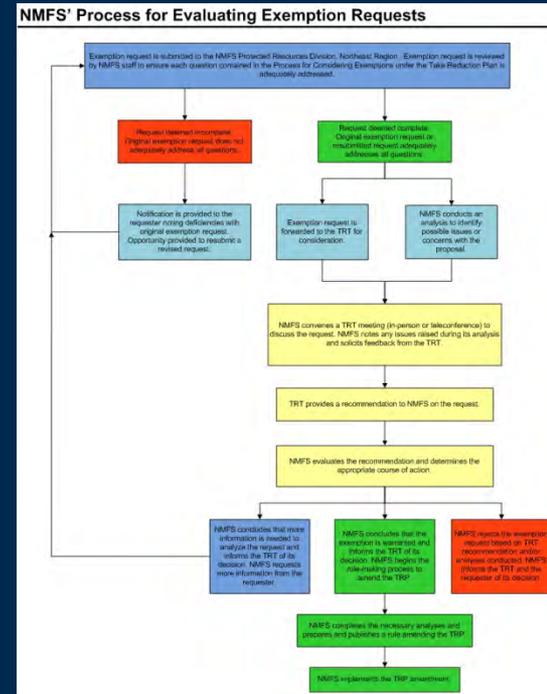


Website Updates

- New gear research and whale research matrices
- Added “Process for considering exemptions under the ALWTRP”

Summary of gear modifications and recommendations for research aimed at reducing risks associated with vertical lines and boundaries
October 2010

Modification	Description	Impact on Data	Is the technology currently available?	Cost/Research Needs	Study Area	How practical to implement (1 to 10)?	Risk reduction (1 to 10)?	Comments, Recommendations, etc.	Research Priority	Timeline of Priority
Surface Systems of the Eelby Lure	Reducing the height of the lure and the diameter of the lure to reduce the risk of entanglement in the surface system.	Reduction in the amount of data collected from the surface system.	Yes	Low	Offshore	1	1	Low risk reduction (1 to 10)?	High	Current
Surface Systems of the Eelby Lure	Use of a single lure to collect data on each other within the same stratum.	Reduction in the amount of data collected from the surface system.	Yes	Low	Offshore	1	1	Low risk reduction (1 to 10)?	Low	Current
Surface Systems of the Eelby Lure	Use of a single lure to collect data on each other within the same stratum.	Reduction in the amount of data collected from the surface system.	Yes	Low	Offshore	1	1	Low risk reduction (1 to 10)?	Low	Current
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Concept Papers and Workshops

- Scarification workshop
- Monitoring plan
- Lineless fishing concept paper
- Gear marking concept paper
- Mid-Atlantic data workshop