

Overview of State Data Used in the Vertical Line Model



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Introduction and Objectives

- Vertical Line Model incorporates state-specific data to characterize certain fishing activity (primarily vessels in state waters)
- Objectives
 - Review assumptions
 - Gather suggestions for further refinement of model vessel parameters
 - Inform next round of data gathering
- More detail available in model documentation

Summary of State Data

- Availability of data varies by state
 - Since 2005, worked directly with state contacts to acquire data and refine estimation methods
 - Thanks for all the cooperation and support
- Two major categories of state data:
 - Activity data to characterize the number of vessels fishing in state waters
 - Focus on vessels holding only a state permit
 - Model incorporates data on activity in exempt waters
 - Gear configuration data to estimate the number of vertical lines typically fished by vessels in specific waters
 - Number of traps per vessel, traps per trawl, endlines per trawl
 - Number of nets per string, number of strings per vessel

Summary of State Data - Activity

STATE	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
ME							✓	✓	✓	
NH	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
MA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
RI		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
CT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
NY							✓	✓	✓	

Active State-Only Vessels (July, 2008)

State	Lobster	Gillnet	OTP
ME	2,887		
NH	205	0	
MA	790	23	51
RI	150	16	59
CT	106	20	19
NY	83		



Summary of State Data – Gear Config

STATE	SURVEY DATA	SURVEY DATA AND BEST PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT
ME	✓	
NH	✓	
MA		✓
RI		✓
CT		✓
NY		✓

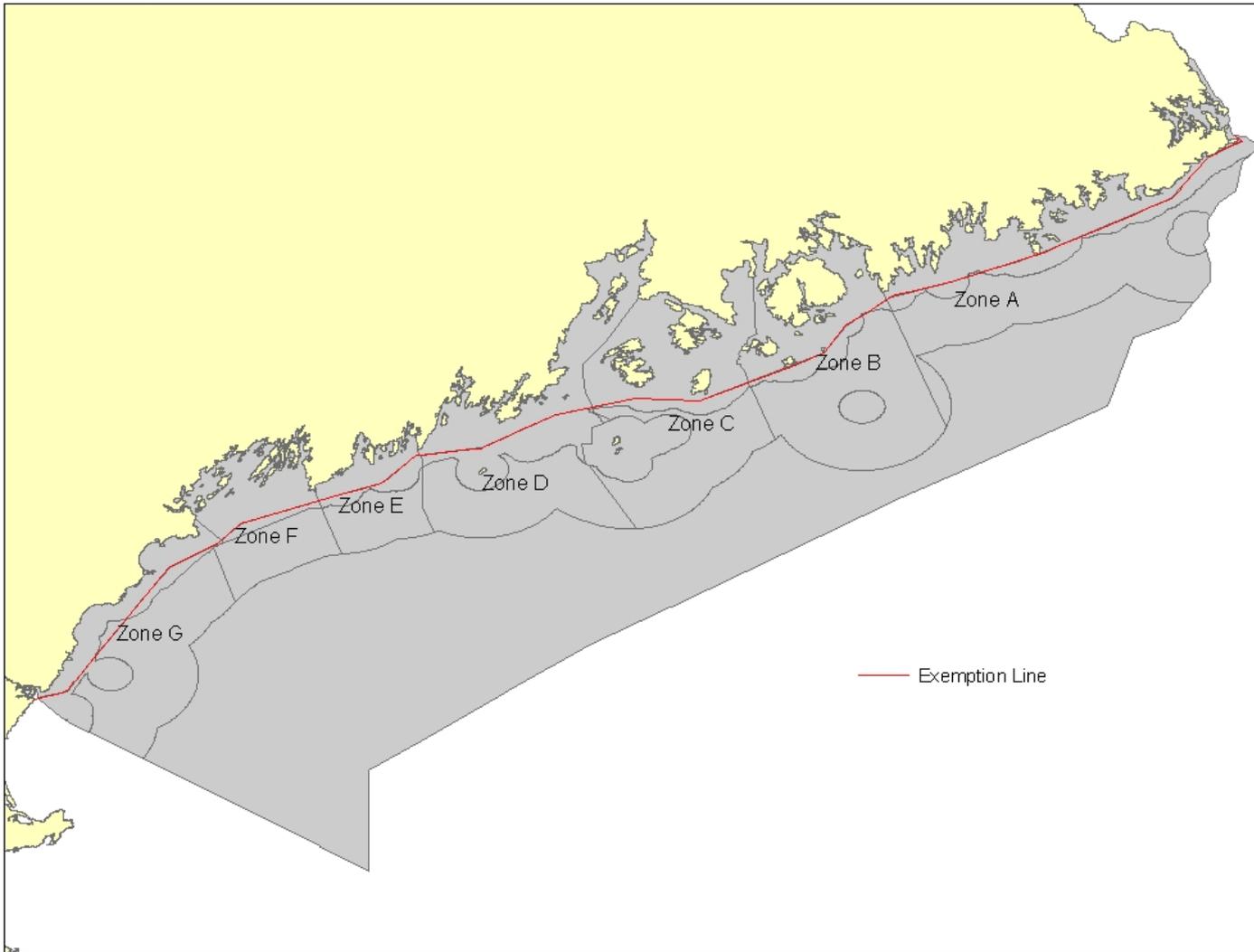
Maine

- Lobstering activity
 - Number of vessels holding only a state permit (by lobster zone) estimated from trap tag data provided by ME DMR
 - ME DMR analysis of harvester and dealer reporting provides percent of all vessels active in each month; multiply by trap tag purchasers to estimate number of active vessels in each month
 - Model assumes vessel activity is evenly distributed within the zone
- Gear configuration
 - ME DMR 2010 Lobster Gear Survey
 - Detailed gear configuration data, by month and area
 - Approximately 540 respondents
 - Conducted in 2010; responses likely reflect 2009 fishing practices

Maine (cont.)

- Use survey to estimate average traps per vessel (by area and month) and average traps per trawl (by area)
- Assume two endlines for trawls greater than four traps
- Example:
 - 91 active vessels in state waters of Lobster Zone D (non-exempt) in May (state-only and federally permitted)
 - In Zone D (non-exempt) in May: Average of 394 traps fished per vessel; average of 2.0 traps per trawl; 1 endline per trawl
 - Model calculates 17,900 endlines for this area and month
- Forthcoming changes to model will use statistical analysis to define multiple model vessel configurations for a given area, allowing more precise scenario modeling

Maine Model Vessel Areas



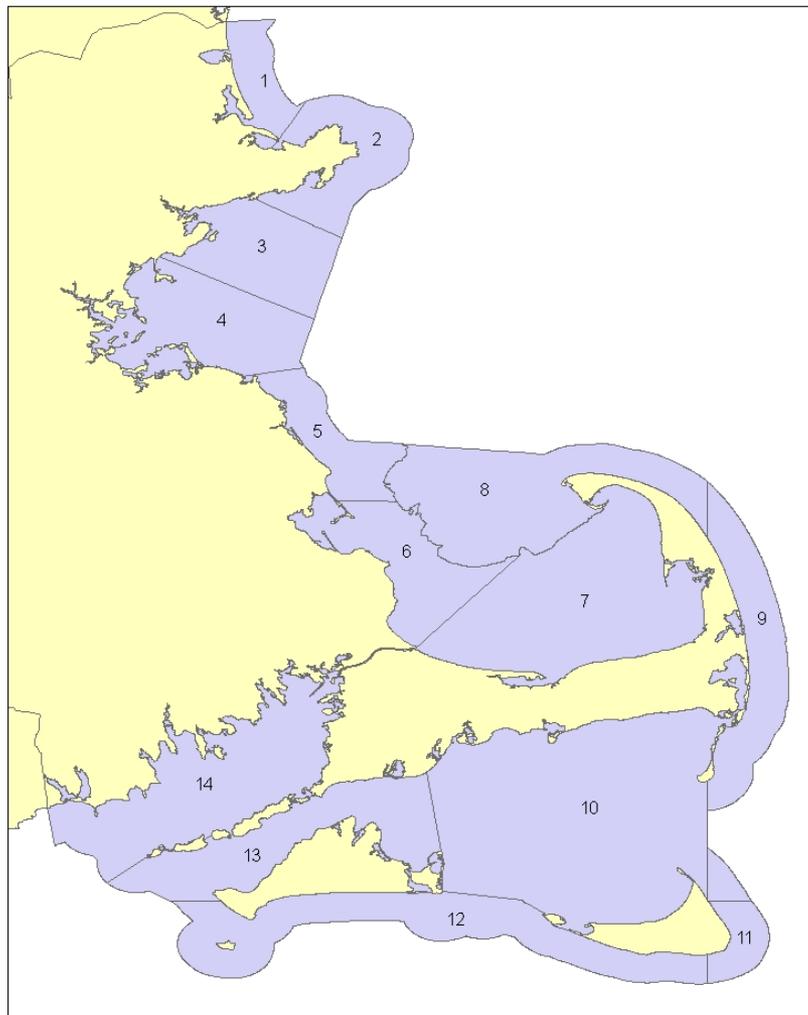
New Hampshire

- Lobster
 - Monthly activity data from Harvester Reports and Dealer Reporting Form
 - About 200 state-only vessels
 - Configuration information from NHFGD data analyses
 - Monthly data on average number of traps fished per vessel
 - Single estimate of 7.5 traps per trawl
- Gillnet
 - Activity data from Coastal Harvester Reporting Form
 - Only about ten vessels
 - Separate inshore and nearshore configurations (one vs. 20 strings, respectively)

Massachusetts

- Monthly activity data provided by MADMF based on MA Catch Report System (all fisheries)
 - Screened to eliminate overlap with Federal/VTR data
 - 14 inshore statistical reporting areas
- Lobster gear configuration
 - Monthly data on average number of traps fished per vessel (by area)
 - DMF provided BPJ on average traps per trawl (by area)
- Gillnet gear configuration
 - Number of strings fished per vessel (5) based on DMF BPJ and previous state gear survey
 - Seasonal adjustment of strings fished based on recorded net hauls
- OTP
 - Separate configurations for conch, BSB, and scup; averaged across months
 - Model assumes 50% conch, 25% scup, 25% BSB for all OTP areas

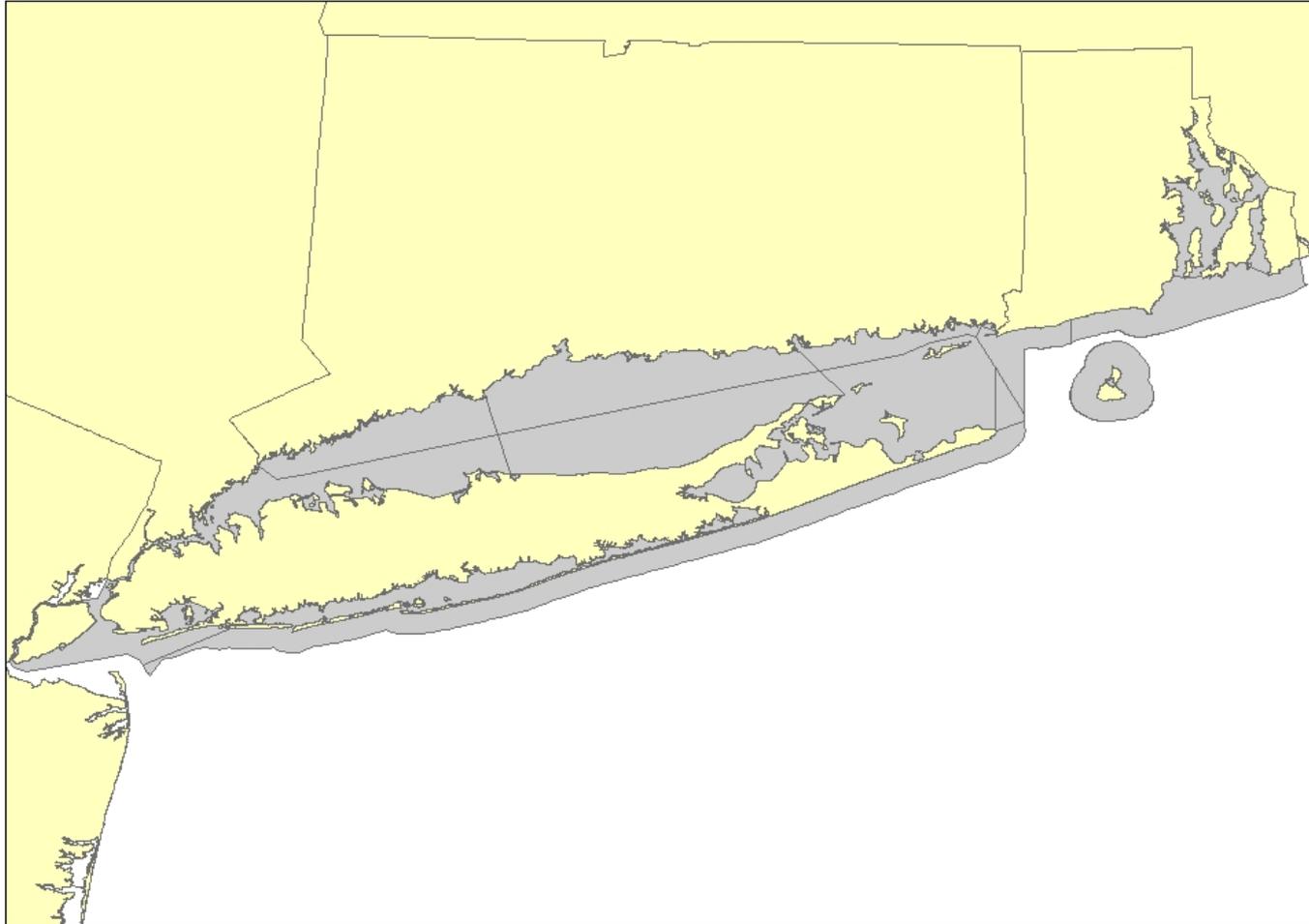
MA Inshore Statistical Reporting Areas



Rhode Island

- Monthly activity data provided by RIDEM based on state logbook data (all fisheries)
 - Includes vessels with only a state permit
 - Covers vessels active in state waters portion of NMFS statistical areas 539 and 611
- Lobster gear configuration
 - Monthly data on average number of traps fished per vessel (by area)
 - Single estimate of traps per trawl (17) based on DEM analysis of Sea Sampling Data
- Gillnet gear configuration
 - Logbook and Sea Sampling data suggest one string per gillnet vessel; number of nets varies seasonally
- OTP
 - Single OTP configuration for all OTP vessels (conch, BSB, scup)
 - Monthly data on traps per vessel and single traps per trawl estimate (5)

RI, CT, and NY State Waters



Connecticut

- Monthly activity data provided by CTDEP based on state catch report data (all fisheries)
 - Covers vessels active in three regions of Long Island Sound (exempt)
- Lobster gear configuration
 - Monthly data on average number of traps fished per vessel (by area)
 - Single estimate of traps per trawl (6) based CTDEP guidance
- Gillnet gear configuration
 - CT DEP analysis suggests one net (and one string) per vessel
- OTP
 - Currently lacking gear configuration data for small set of OTP vessels

New York

- Lobstering activity
 - NY DEC provided numbers of active state-permitted vessels in each of four areas, based on Recall Survey database
 - Seasonal variation estimated based on federally permitted vessels active in state waters
- Gear configuration
 - Recall Survey data for median number of traps fished per vessel (no seasonal adjustment)
 - Assume 7.5 traps per trawl based on NY DEC BPJ

Mid-Atlantic/Southeast Overview

- In 2010, expanded model to include activity in mid-Atlantic and southeast state waters
- Major fisheries include Chesapeake Bay blue crab and gillnet (primarily exempt waters); NC gillnet; FL blue crab
- Generally see less variation in configurations

Active State-Only Vessels (2008)

State	Month	Lobster	Gillnet	OTP
NJ	All	16		
DE	Sept		1	107
MD	Sept		25	670
VA	Sept		159	656
NC	Jan		279	0
SC	All			0
GA	Jan			25
FL	May			182

Next Steps

- Possible refinements in data and assumptions
- Collection of 2009 state data