

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

11.10 Atlantic Sea Scallops Limitations

1. Size, Harvesting and Conservation Zone Regulations

H. Closed Areas

It shall be unlawful to fish for, take, or possess scallops taken by any method within any of the following closed areas. All directions are relative to True north (not magnetic).

Transiting exception:

Any vessel possessing scallops onboard, may transit these closed areas, only if the vessel has all fishing gear (dredges, drags) securely stowed. Securely stowed shall mean the main wire shall not be shackled or connected to the dredges or drags, and the towing swivel will be at block or on the winch.

(1) Casco Bay Area:

South of a line drawn from the most southwestern point of Basin Point ([Harpswell](#)) to the northeastern tip of Jewell Island, and south and east west of a line drawn from the southern tip of Jewell Island due south to the 3-mile limit, as identified on National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration nautical charts. ~~Also, and west of a point line~~ drawn from Gun Point ([Harpswell](#)) due south to the 3-mile limit. Also, the waters between and to the north of Basin Point and Gun Point bounded by the Route 24 Gurnet Bridge ([Harpswell](#)).

(2) Damariscotta/Sheepscot Area:

South ~~and east~~ of a line drawn from the most northeastern point of Dogfish Head to the most northeastern point of Macmahan Island, and south of a line drawn from the most northwestern point of Macmahan Island to the most northeastern tip of Soldier Point. Then ~~north south~~ and east of a line drawn from the most southwestern point of Indian Point to the most northeastern point of Salter Island, and east of a line drawn from the most southwestern tip of Salter Island to the most northwestern point of Sequin Island. Then north of a line drawn from the most southern point of Sequin Island to Bantam Rock, north and west of a line continuing to the most southern point of Pumpkin Island, continuing to the Outer Heron Island Ledge Buoy, continuing to the most southeastern point of Thrumcap Island, following the shoreline to the most southwestern point of Thrumcap Island, ~~and north~~ and west of a line drawn from this point to the most southern tip of Shipley Point, following the western shoreline of Rutherford Island. Also, west of the South Bristol Bridge, and south of a line drawn from the most southern tip of Jones Point to the most northeastern tip of Montgomery Point.

(3) Muscongus/Western Penobscot Area:

Western Line:

North and east of a line beginning at the intersection of Latitude 43° 55' N on Pemaquid Neck (just north of Brown's Cove, Bristol), and following this latitude to its intersection on the east shore of Mosquito Island, St. George, then southeast to the southern tip of Metinic Green Island, then due south to the 3-mile limit.

Eastern Line: Starting at the northern end of the Rackliff Island causeway then in a southerly direction to the most southern point of Rackliff Island continuing to the most southern point of Whitehead Island then West of a line starting a Whitehead Island, St. George, then in a southeast direction to the southern end of Two Bush Island and continuing in a southeast direction to the Foster's Ledges Buoy R N"10", then due South to the 3-mile limit.

(8) Jonesport/Machias Area:

(a) The Reach: East and north of a line starting at the most eastern end of Tibbett Island then east to the most northern end of Ram Island then on to the most western end of Slate Island and west of a line starting at the end of the breakwater Sawyer's Cove the southeast to the most western end of Pig Island and then due south to the closes point of land of Great Wass Island.

(b) Chandler Bay/Englishman's Bay: North of a line starting at the Roque Island Cable Area running between Jonesport and Roque Island and north of a line starting at the most northeastern point of Great Head, Roque, Island; then northeast to the most southern end of Shoppee Point, Roque Bluffs.

(c) Machias Area: North and west of a line starting at Bucks Head, Machiasport proceeding east to the southern end of Northwest Head on Cross Island then due south to the 3-mile line, and west east of a line drawn due south from Great Head, Cutler to the 3-mile limit.

(over)

Basis Statement

Chapter 11.10(H)(1,2,3,8) Scallops - Technical corrections to closure line descriptions

These regulations clarify the directions, for example east versus west, used to describe the lines in the recently adopted scallop closures. These are technical corrections of the rules as previously adopted; there are no changes to the physical locations of the lines in the western line of sub-section 1, and sub-sections 2 and 8; the most northern area of the eastern line of sub-section 1 in Casco Bay, which is the Route 24 Gurnet Bridge in Harpswell has been added for clarification; and the eastern line in sub-section 3 has been clarified for the area between Whitehead Island and Rackliff Island, which appears to be bounded by land but is not therefore leaving an unintended open area.

Summary of Comments

A public hearing was held in West Boothbay Harbor on November 17, 2009. No persons from the public attending another hearing held this evening offered any comments.

Hearing Attendees – West Boothbay Harbor:

David E. Myslabodski, Great SeaVegetables Consulting, Rockland

Susan Domizi, Source Maine, Brunswick

Gavin A. Hood, Source Maine, Brunswick

George Seaver, Ocean Organics, Waldoboro

Robert Morse, President - Atlantic Laboratories, Inc., Waldoboro

DMR: David Etnier, Lt. Cornish, Pete Thayer, L. Churchill