

Foreword

The Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) process has three parts: preparation of stock assessments by the SAW Working Groups and/or by ASMFC Technical Committees / Assessment Committees; peer review of the assessments by a panel of outside experts who judge the adequacy of the assessment as a basis for providing scientific advice to managers; and a presentation of the results and reports to the Region's fishery management bodies. Starting with SAW-39 (June 2004), the process was revised in two fundamental ways. First, the Stock Assessment Review Committee (SARC) became smaller panel with panelists provided by the Independent System for Peer Review (Center of Independent Experts, CIE). Second, the SARC provides little management advice. Instead, Council and Commission teams (e.g., Plan Development Teams, Monitoring and Technical Committees, Science and Statistical Committee) formulate management advice, after an assessment has been accepted by the SARC. Starting with SAW-45 (June 2007) the SARC chairs were from external agencies, but not from the CIE. Starting with SAW-48 (June 2009), SARC chairs are from the Fishery Management Council's Science and Statistical Committee (SSC), and not from the CIE. Also at this time, some assessment Terms of Reference were revised to provide additional science support to the SSCs, as the SSC's are required to make annual ABC recommendations to the fishery management councils.

Reports that are produced following SAW/SARC meetings include: An *Assessment Summary Report* - a summary of the assessment results in a format useful to managers; an *Assessment Report* - a detailed account of the assessments for each stock;

and the SARC panelist reports - a summary of the reviewer's opinions and recommendations as well as individual reports from each panelist. SAW/SARC assessment reports are available online at

<http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/nefsc/publications/series/crdlist.htm>. The CIE review reports and assessment reports can be found at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/nefsc/saw/>.

The 59th SARC was convened in Woods Hole at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, July 15-18, 2014 to review benchmark stock assessments of: Gulf of Maine haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) and sea scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*). CIE reviews for SARC59 were based on detailed reports produced by NEFSC Assessment Working Groups. This Introduction contains a brief summary of the SARC comments, a list of SARC panelists, the meeting agenda, and a list of attendees (Tables 1 - 3). Maps of the Atlantic coast of the USA and Canada are also provided (Figures 1 - 5).

Outcome of Stock Assessment Review Meeting:

Text in this section is based on SARC-59 Review Panel reports (available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/nefsc/saw/> under the heading "SARC-59 Panelist Reports").

For **Gulf of Maine haddock** all but one of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) were fully met and the assessment results from an ASAP model can be used as a basis for management. In 2013, overfishing was not occurring, and the stock was not overfished. The Panel recommended that future work could be done on estimation of the survival rate of discards in the recreational fishery and on the natural mortality rate. Given the

continued changes in fishing practices, gear and location, along with the possibility of hyper-aggregation, fishery LPUE for GoM haddock is currently not a reliable indicator of stock status or dynamics.

For **sea scallop** all of the ToRs were fully met and the assessment results can be used as a basis for management. In 2013, overfishing was not occurring, and the stock was not overfished. Stock reconstructions

were conducted appropriately using a statistical length-based model (CASA). The assessment used data collected with scallop dredges, a towed digital camera, and a video drop camera. The Panel felt that uncertainty in the assessment was underestimated and identified approaches to address this in the future.

Table 1. 59th Stock Assessment Review Committee Panel.

SARC Chairman (MAFMC SSC):

Mr. J.-J. Maguire
Sillery, Quebec CANADA
Email: jeanjacquesmaguire@gmail.com

SARC Panelists (CIE):

Dr. Panayiota Apostolaki
Technical advisor
Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs
London, UK
Email: yiotaapost@yahoo.ie

Vivian Haist
1262 Marina Way
Nanoose Bay, British Columbia
Canada V9P 9C1
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Dr. Coby Needle
Fishery Analysis and Assessment Group Leader
MSS Marine Laboratory
PO Box 101, Victoria Rd
Aberdeen, UK
Email: C.Needle@MARLAB.AC.UK

Table 2. Agenda, 59th Stock Assessment Review Committee Meeting.

July 15-18, 2014

Stephen H. Clark Conference Room – Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts

AGENDA* (version: July 14, 2014)

TOPIC	PRESENTER(S)	SARC LEADER	RAPPORTEUR
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Tuesday, July 15

10 – 10:30 AM

Welcome
Introduction
Agenda
Conduct of Meeting

James Weinberg, SAW Chair
J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair

10:30 – 12:30 PM

Assessment Presentation (A. GoM haddock)
Mark Terceiro TBD

Jon Deroba

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Assessment Presentation (A. GoM haddock)
Mark Terceiro TBD

Chuck Adams

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:45 PM

SARC Discussion w/ Presenters (A. GoM haddock)
J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair

Chuck Adams

5:45 – 6 PM

Public Comments

Wednesday, July 16

8:30 – 10:30 AM

Assessment Presentation (B. scallop)
Dvora Hart TBD

Toni Chute

10:30 – 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 – 12:30 PM

(cont.) Assessment Presentation (B. scallop)
Dvora Hart TBD

Toni Chute

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 – 3:30 PM	SARC Discussion w/presenters (B. scallop) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Toni Chute
3:30 – 3:45 PM	Public Comments	
3:45 – 4 PM	Break	
4 – 6 PM	Revisit with presenters (A. GoM haddock) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Brian Linton

Thursday, July 17

8:30 – 10:30	Revisit with presenters (B. scallop) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Alicia Miller
10:30 – 10:45	Break	
10:45 – 12:15	Review/edit Assessment Summary Report (A. GoM haddock) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Alicia Miller
12:15 – 1:15 PM	Lunch	
1:15 – 2:45 PM	(cont.) edit Assessment Summary Report (A. GoM haddock) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Tony Wood
2:45 – 3 PM	Break	
3 – 6 PM	Review/edit Assessment Summary Report (B. scallop) J. –J. Maguire, SARC Chair	Burton Shank

Friday, July 18

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM SARC Report writing. (closed meeting)

*All times are approximate, and may be changed at the discretion of the SARC chair. The meeting is open to the public, except where noted.

Table 3. 59th SAW/SARC, List of Attendees

Name	Affiliation	Email
Adams Chuck	NEFSC	Charles.adams@noaa.gov
Brooks Liz	NEFSC	Liz.brooks@noaa.gov
Carr-Harris Andrew	SSB	Andrew.carr-harris@noaa.gov
Chang Jui-Han	NEFSC	jui-han.chang@noaa.gov
Cournane Jamie	NEFMC	jcournane@nefmc.org
Deroba Jon	NEFSC	jonathan.deroba@noaa.gov
Evans John	NEFSC	John.g.evans@noaa.gov
Hart Dvora	NEFSC	Deborah.hart@noaa.gov
Hogan Fiona	NEFMC	Fiona.hogan@noaa.gov
Jacobson Larry	NEFSC	Larry.jacobson@noaa.gov
Legault Chris	NEFSC	chris.legault@noaa.gov
Linton Brian	NEFSC	brian.linton@noaa.gov
Miller Alicia	NEFSC	Alicia.miller@noaa.gov
Nies Tom	NEFMC	tnies@nefmc.org
Nitschke Paul	NEFSC	paul.nitschke@noaa.gov
O'Brien Loretta	NEFSC	Loretta.O'Brien@noaa.gov
Odell Jackie	NSC	Jackie@northeastseafoodcoalition.org
Rago Paul	NEFSC	Paul.Rago@noaa.gov
Serchuk Fred	NEFSC	fred.serchuk@noaa.gov
Sosebee Kathy	NEFSC	katherine.osebee@noaa.gov
Tooley Mary Beth	NEFMC	mbtooley@live.com
Weinberg James	NEFSC	James.Weinberg@noaa.gov
Whitmore Willie	GARFO	William.whitmore@noaa.gov
Wigley Susan	NEFSC	susan.wigley@noaa.gov
Wood Tony	NEFSC	anthony.wood@noaa.gov

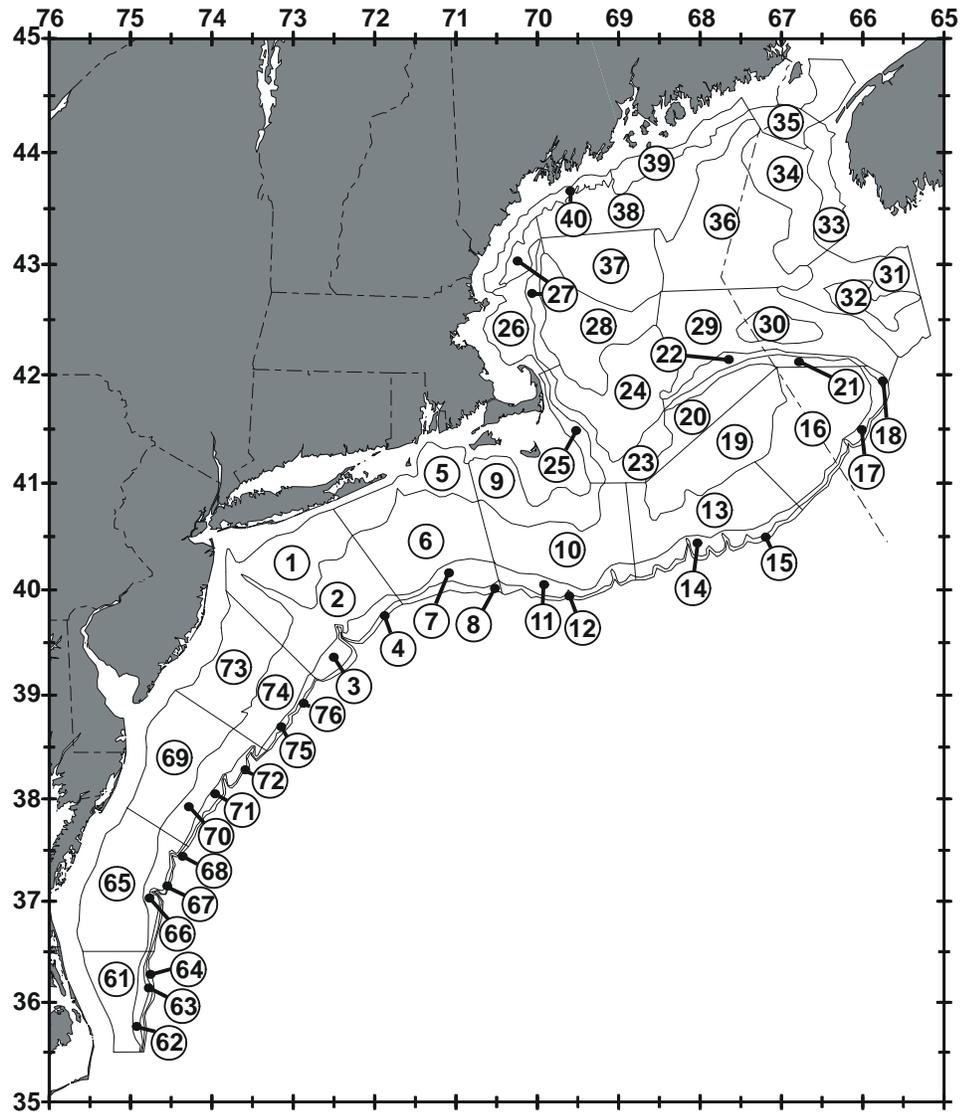


Figure 1. Offshore depth strata that have been sampled during Northeast Fisheries Science Center bottom trawl research surveys. Some of these may not be sampled presently.

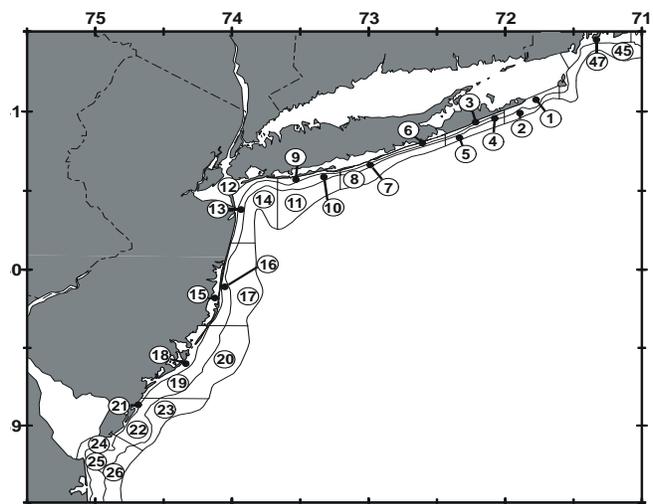
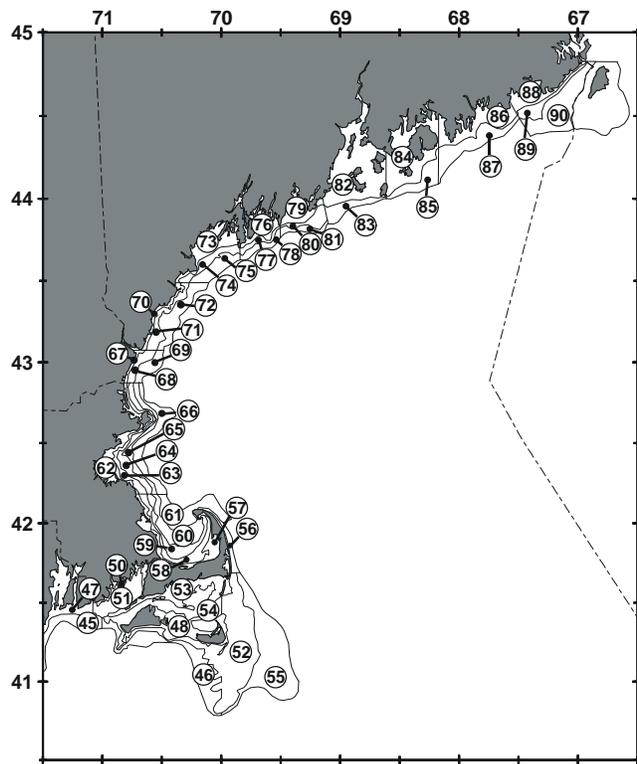
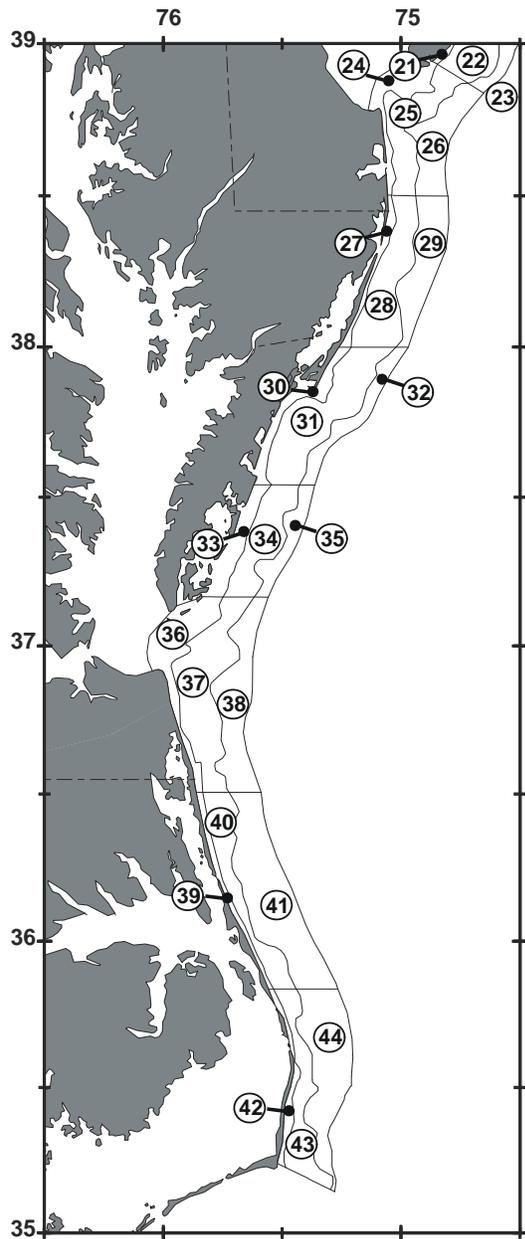


Figure 2. Inshore depth strata that have been sampled during Northeast Fisheries Science Center bottom trawl research surveys. Some of these may not be sampled presently.

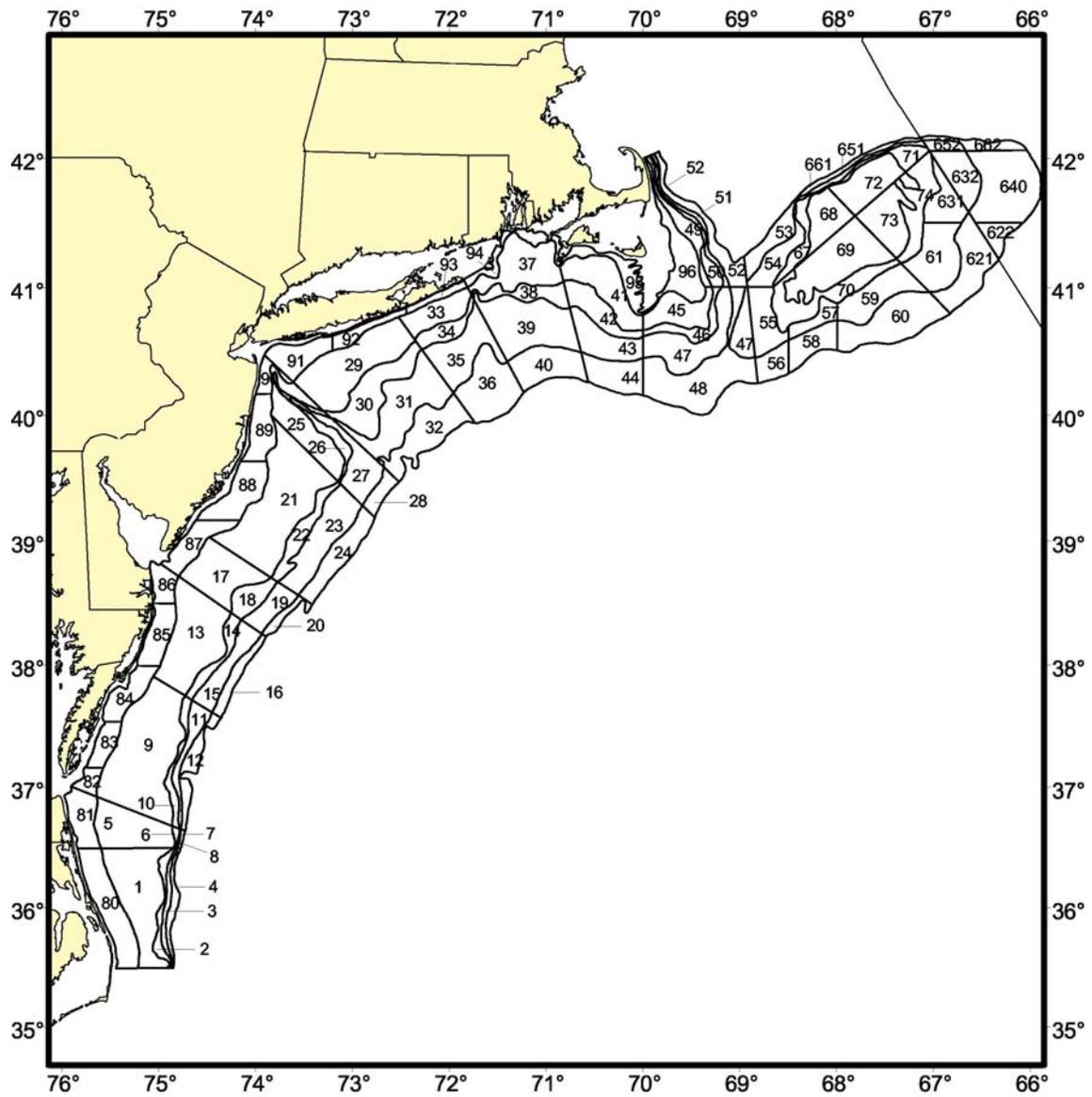


Figure 3. Depth strata sampled during Northeast Fisheries Science Center clam dredge research surveys.

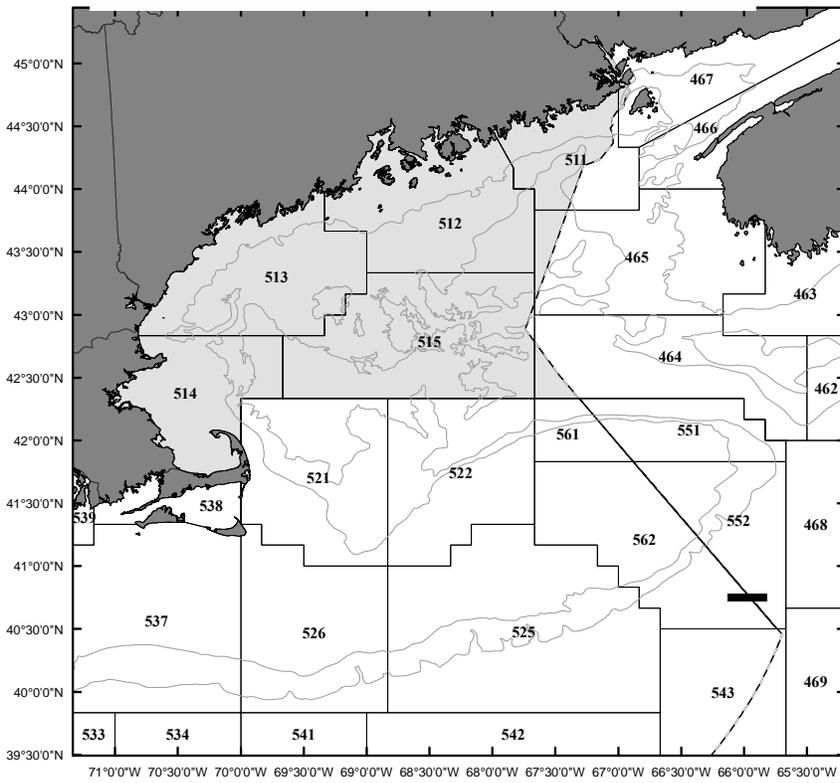
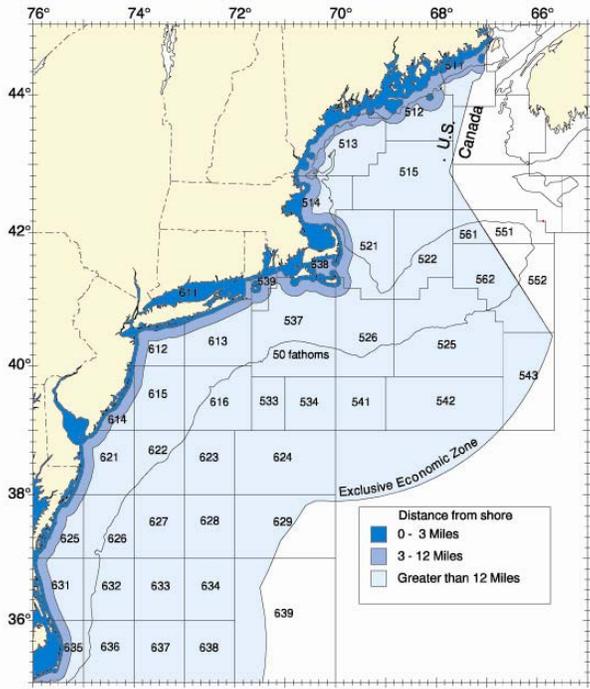


Figure 4. Statistical areas used for reporting commercial catches.

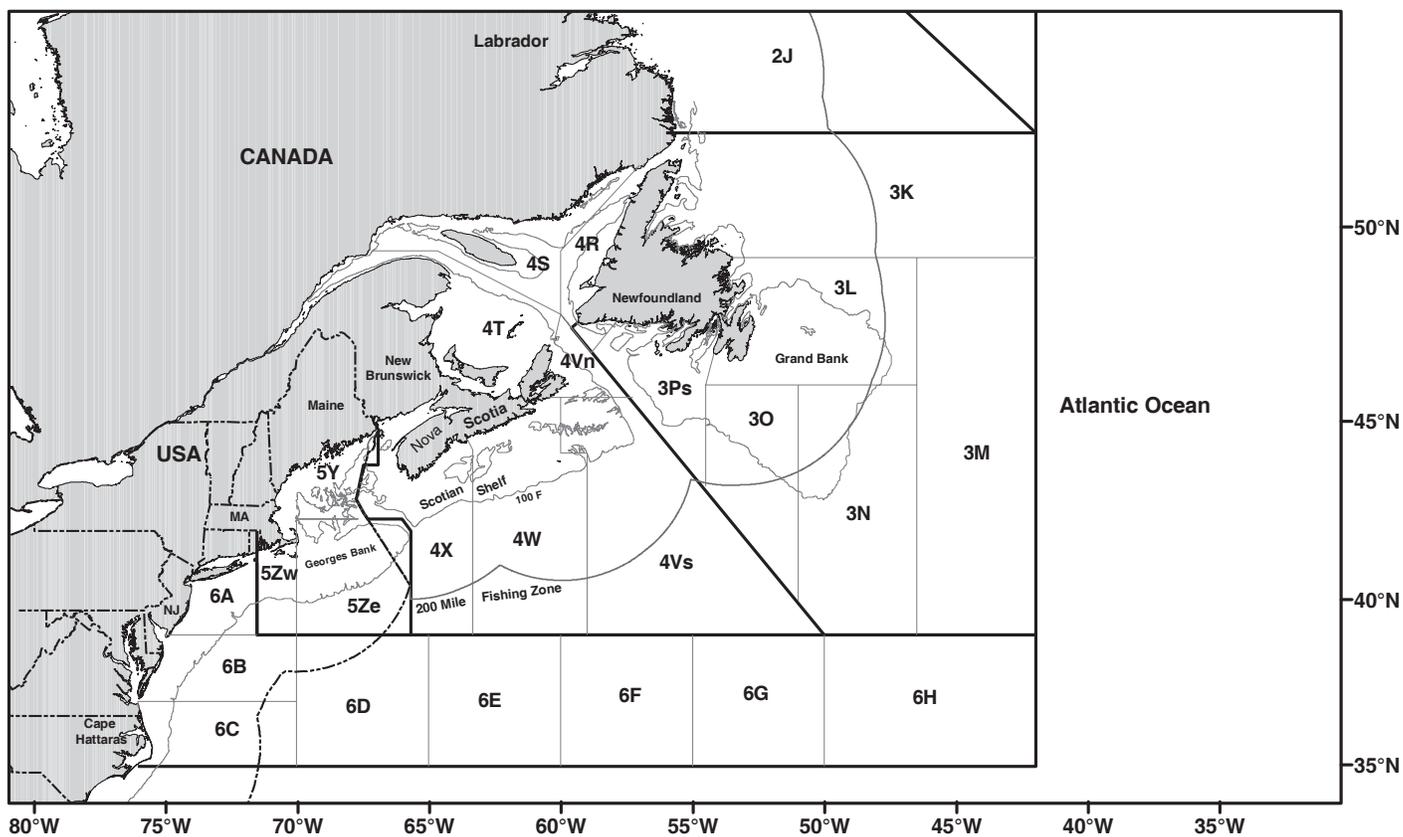


Figure 5. Catch reporting areas of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) for Subareas 3-6.