

Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel Working Group Meeting

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

-- MEETING NOTES --

Working Group Attendees: Kathryn Ford, Jim Gartland, Anna Mercer, Chris Parkins, Dan Salerno, Dustin Gregg, Mike Pol, Bobby Ruhle, Tim Miller

Other Attendees: Wes Townsend, Dan Farnham, Dan Salerno, Hannah Hart, Jesse Hornstein

The Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel (NTAP) Working group met via webinar on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, to review the restrictor rope study for the upcoming fall field season.

Agenda:

- Survey design
 - ABBA vs. Lewy (unpack discussion held during July 13 NTAP meeting)
 - Drop shallow strata
- Confirm logistics for upcoming restrictor rope leg

Discussion:

1. Sampling approach/design
 - a. Lewey approach vs. ABBA tows (¼ mile offset)
 - i. Lewey approach - Tow exactly the same path, using AB, BA, BB (both restrictor), AA (both no restrictor)
 1. Estimate depletion from BB and AA pairs
 - a. Account for this depletion effect when
 - b. Assumes that density is the same when towing across the same path
 - ii. ABBA - assumption is that fish densities are the same at paired tows ¼ mile apart
 - iii. **Decision: Keep using ABBA approach to be consistent with spring approach, maximize number of samples that can be compared**
 - iv. Could take eDNA to identify other differences between paired tows - could be accommodated but transitioned off this topic without further discussion; no eDNA expertise or gear identified.
 - b. Sampling location
 - i. Do we try to include south of Long Island or stick to the Sounds because we sampled there in the spring?
 1. Stick to the Sounds to be consistent with the spring
 2. Implication of dropping shallow strata is limited because restrictor rope only needed in deeper strata

- 2. Confirm logistics
 - a. Timeline
 - i. Start on Thursday, September 15th
 - 1. Sail after morning session of national coop research
 - ii. Plan for 8 days
 - 1. Stretch over 10 days with weather days
 - b. Staffing
 - i. 4 staff, including Dustin, per day
 - ii. Have everyone complete dietary restrictions
 - c. Weather - contingency plan
 - i. Has to be done by September 26th (start of NEAMAP)
 - ii. Cancel if seas about 8ft and wind above 20 knots (easterly)
 - iii. Decide either night before or early morning
 - d. Data and analysis:
 - i. Should be able to get NEFSC the data by mid-October. The small group will then meet to discuss analysis (Anna, Jim, Dustin).
 - ii. Next NTAP meeting – work backwards to help plan timeline for analysis. Nothing planned yet; likely timeline: Nov/Dec. meeting to focus on Orientation Document; Jan/Feb. – hybrid meeting of the full panel
 - 1. Will need to plan around dates of some big meetings in late Jan/early Feb.

Meeting adjourned: 10:50 AM