



Consideration of Yellow Eel Commercial Allocation



American Eel Management Board

May 3, 2016

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

Background



- Addendum IV implemented a coast wide cap of 907,671 pounds for the yellow eel commercial fishery starting in 2015.
- Two management triggers:
 1. If quota is exceeded by more than 10% in a given year (998,438 pounds)
 2. If the quota is exceeded by any amount for two consecutive years
- Triggering results in automatic state-by-state quotas



Background



- Coastwide cap of 907,669 lbs
- Addendum IV Comm Yellow Eel Allocation:
- Average landings from 2011 – 2013
- A minimum quota fixed at 2,000 lbs
- Quota can not exceed 2,000 lbs above 2010 landings
- Min quota must be within 15% of 2010 landings
- 13,762 pounds leftover divided equally to states negatively impacted



New York Proposal



- Incomplete landings in NY during allocation years
- NY and other states now have several years of more accurate landings data
- ASMFC operating principle to use the most accurate data for management
- Add IV does not have a allocation revisit provision
- NY submitted a proposal for discussion
 - (1) current reconsideration of the commercial yellow eel state-by-state allocation
 - (2) consideration of a revisiting timeframe moving forward.



Reconsidering Add IV Allocation



- **Option A:** Status quo from Addendum IV
- **Option B:** Allocation based on the most recent three years of data (i.e., 2013-2015).
- **Option C:** Allocation based on the most recent five years of data (i.e., 2011-2015).
- **Option D:** Allocation based on the most recent five years as a partial percentage and some historical landings timeframe as a partial percentage.





| State | A: Addendum IV Status Quo | B: Recent 3 Yrs (2013 -2015) | C: Recent 5 Yrs (2011-2015) |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ME | 3,907 | 4,295 | 4,736 |
| NH | 2,000 | 34 | 71 |
| MA | 2,000 | 2,870 | 1,732 |
| RI | 4,642 | 1,985 | 1,619 |
| CT | 2,000 | 3,248 | 2,413 |
| NY | 15,220 | 38,710 | 39,876 |
| NJ | 94,899 | 87,192 | 90,350 |
| DE | 61,632 | 60,563 | 58,804 |
| MD | 465,968 | 522,422 | 515,725 |
| PRFC | 52,358 | 36,476 | 41,026 |
| VA | 78,702 | 88,734 | 88,552 |
| NC | 107,054 | 48,742 | 48,991 |
| SC | 2,000 | - | - |
| GA | 2,000 | - | - |
| FL | 13,287 | 12,227 | 13,318 |
| Total | 907,669 | 907,669 | 907,669 |

Allocation Revisit Timeframe



- **Option A:** Status quo, no revisiting timeframe specified.
- **Option B:** Revisit allocation every three years.
- **Option C:** Revisit allocation every five years.



New York's Recommendation



Recommendation:

- Circulate proposal to the ASMFC American Eel Board for review and discussion
- Initiation of an Addendum at the May 2016 Board meeting



Questions?

