RESTRICTED

International Commission for



the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

Serial No. 3986 (A.a.4) ICNAF Comm.Doc. 76/VI/50 (Revised)

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1976

<u>US proposal for reducing by-catch and controlling catches</u> of protected species by area, gear, and seasonal restrictions

Having taken into consideration the views expressed by delegations in Panel 5 and in the Working Group concerning application of the "window" concept to conservation and management of stocks, the United States Commissioners propose:

That Proposal (2) from the September 1975 Special Commission Meeting for international regulation of fishing gear employed in the fisheries in Subarea 5 of the Convention Area and in the adjacent waters to the west and south within Statistical Area 6 and entered into force 14 April 1976, be replaced by the following:

"1. That each Contracting Government take appropriate action to prohibit (except as provided in paragraph 4) the taking of fish, other than crustacea, from vessels over 130 feet (39.6 m) in length by persons under its jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawl doors incapable of being fished on the bottom), in the area adjacent to the United States Coast within that part of Subarea 5 (Southern New England and Gulf of Maine) and the adjacent waters to the west and south which lies north of 36°00'N and north of straight lines connecting 36°00'N, 74°50'W; 38°00'N, 74°10'W; 39°50'M, 72°00'W; 40°12'N, 71°00'W; 40°12'N, 68°45'W; 40°20'N, 68°15'W, and south and west of a straight line drawn between the points: 40°20'N, 68°15'W, and 43°17'N, 70°00'W (Area I).

"2. That the Contracting Governments take appropriate action to prohibit (except as provided in paragraph 4) the taking of fish other than crustacea and scallops, by vessels over 155 feet (47.2 m) in length by persons under their jurisdiction with fishing gear other than pelagic fishing gear (purse seines, or true midwater trawls, using midwater trawls doors incapable of being fished on the bottom), in the area of Subarea 5 bounded by straight lines connecting 43°17'N, 70°00'W; 40°30'N, 68°22'W; 40°35'N, 67°30'W; 41°10'N, 66°20'W; 42°00'N, 65°40'W; 42°20'N, 67°00'W; 42°20'N, 67°40'W; and 44°10'N, 67°40'W (Area II).

"3. That Contracting Governments prohibit any person to whom paragraphs 1 and 2 above would apply from attaching any protective device to pelagic fishing gear or employing any means which would, in effect, make it possible to fish for demersal species in the areas described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

"4. That Contracting Governments prohibit any person to whom paragraphs 1 and 2 above would apply, the taking of fish by any means during the periods and within areas defined below:

	Area
Period	Straight lines connecting
1 January-30 April	40°25'N, 71°20'W 40°25'N, 72°45'W 39°00'N, 73°50'W 39°00'N, 72°57'W 39°50'N, 72°00'W 40°12'N, 71°00'W
	(Area III)
15 February-30 April	41°17'N, 68°50'W

41°17'N, 68°50'W 42°00'N, 67°00'W 42°20'N, 67°00'W 42°20'N, 67°25'W 41°45'N, 69°06'W

(Area IV)

"5. That nothing in this proposal shall affect the trawl mesh-size requirements in force in Subarea 5."

NOTE: Attached are charts illustrating the Areas I, II, III, and IV affected by this proposal.



Areas I and II presently existing and entered into force 14 April 1976 (Comm.Doc. 76/VI/18)



