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How eLog technology can, easily and dramatically, benefit both fishers and the environment. Case Study:

Bycatch Avoidance eLog Application for the USA Northeast Atlantic Scallop Fisheries

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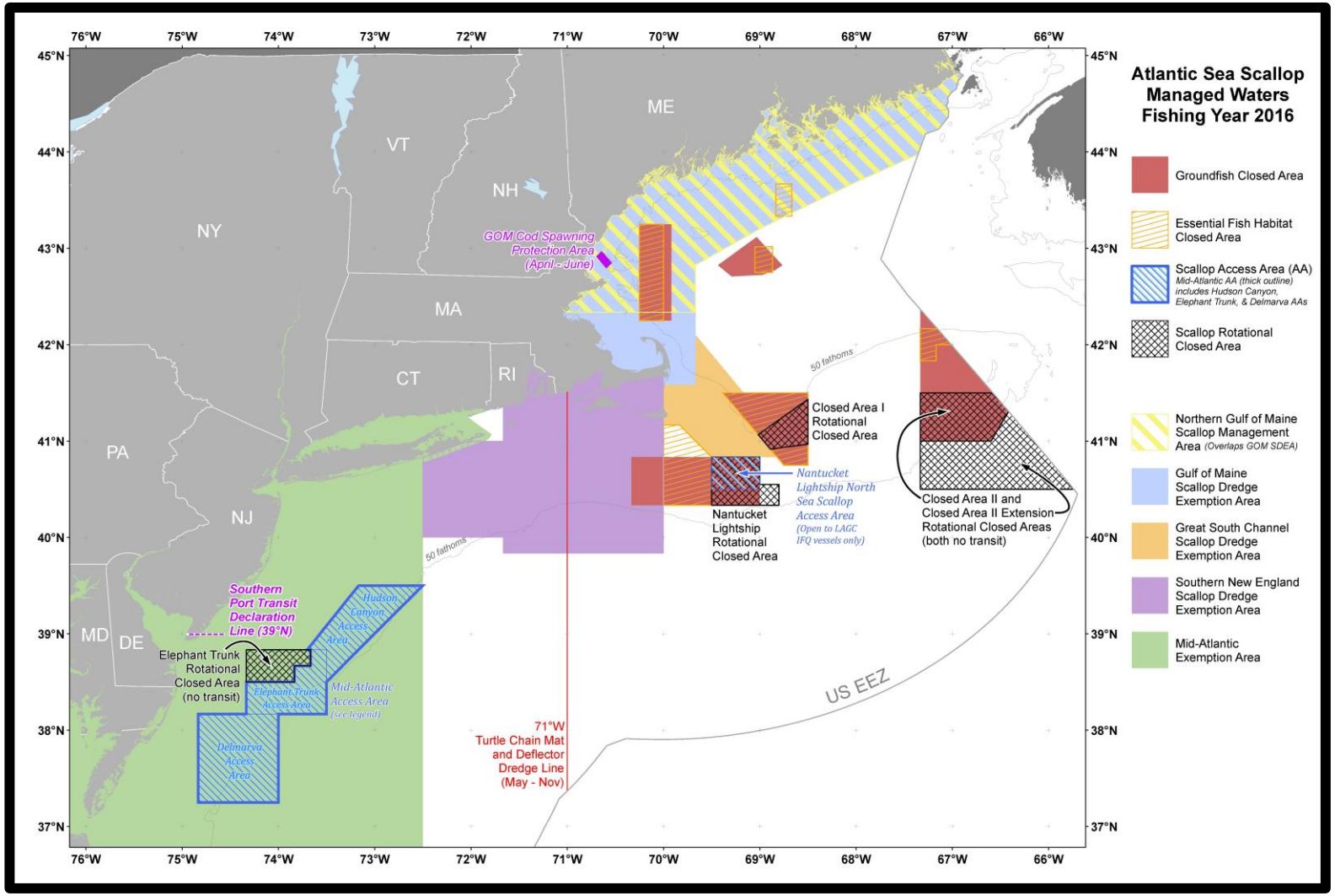
USA North East Atlantic Sea Scallop Fisheries

Mixed Species Fisheries

Limited access to rotationally closed areas

Main Fishery - Scallop

Main Bycatch – Yellow Tail Flounder



The Problem

Scallop Highest Meat Growth Period coincide with the …

Yellow Tail Flounder Peak Spawning Season

Yellow Tail Flounder is a restricted (chock) bycatch species

Yellow Tail Flounder 85% Discard Mortality

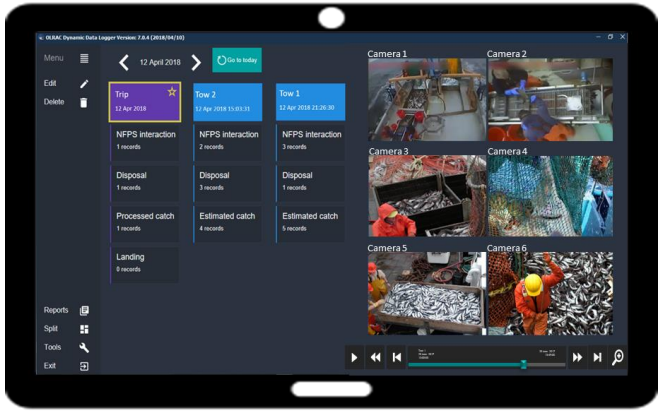
Annual Loss? ≈ 1.7M lb Scallop Meat ≈ $ 11.8 Million

The Job

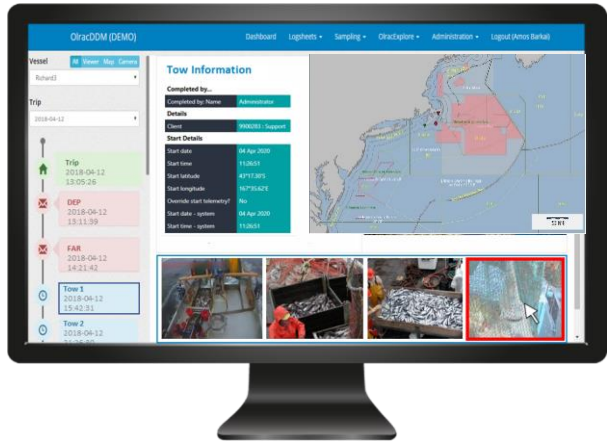
CFARM (the scallop fishery scientific consulting group) contracted OLSPS (www.olsps.com) , to customize its Olrac Commercial Fishing eLog, to provide it with a real-time bycatch avoidance solution.

The Olrac Commercial Fishing eLog

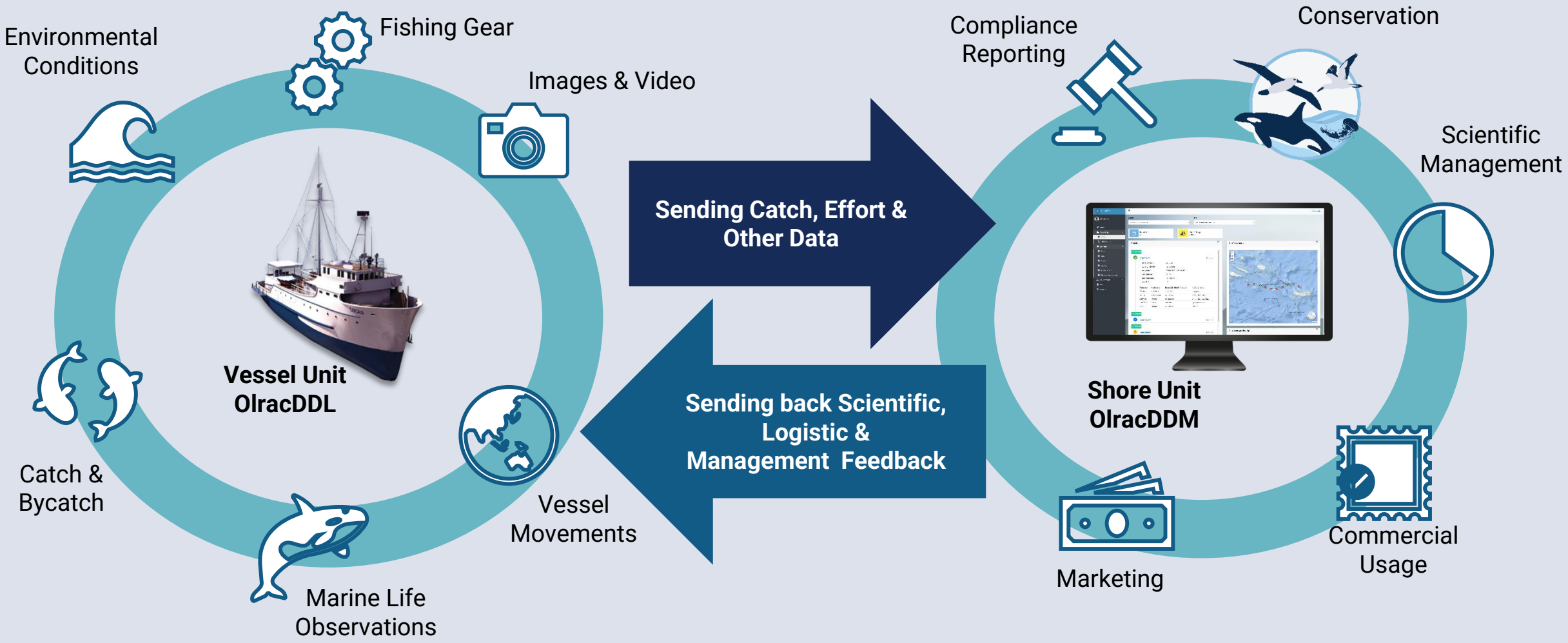
OlracDDL VESSEL UNIT



OlracDDM SHORE UNIT

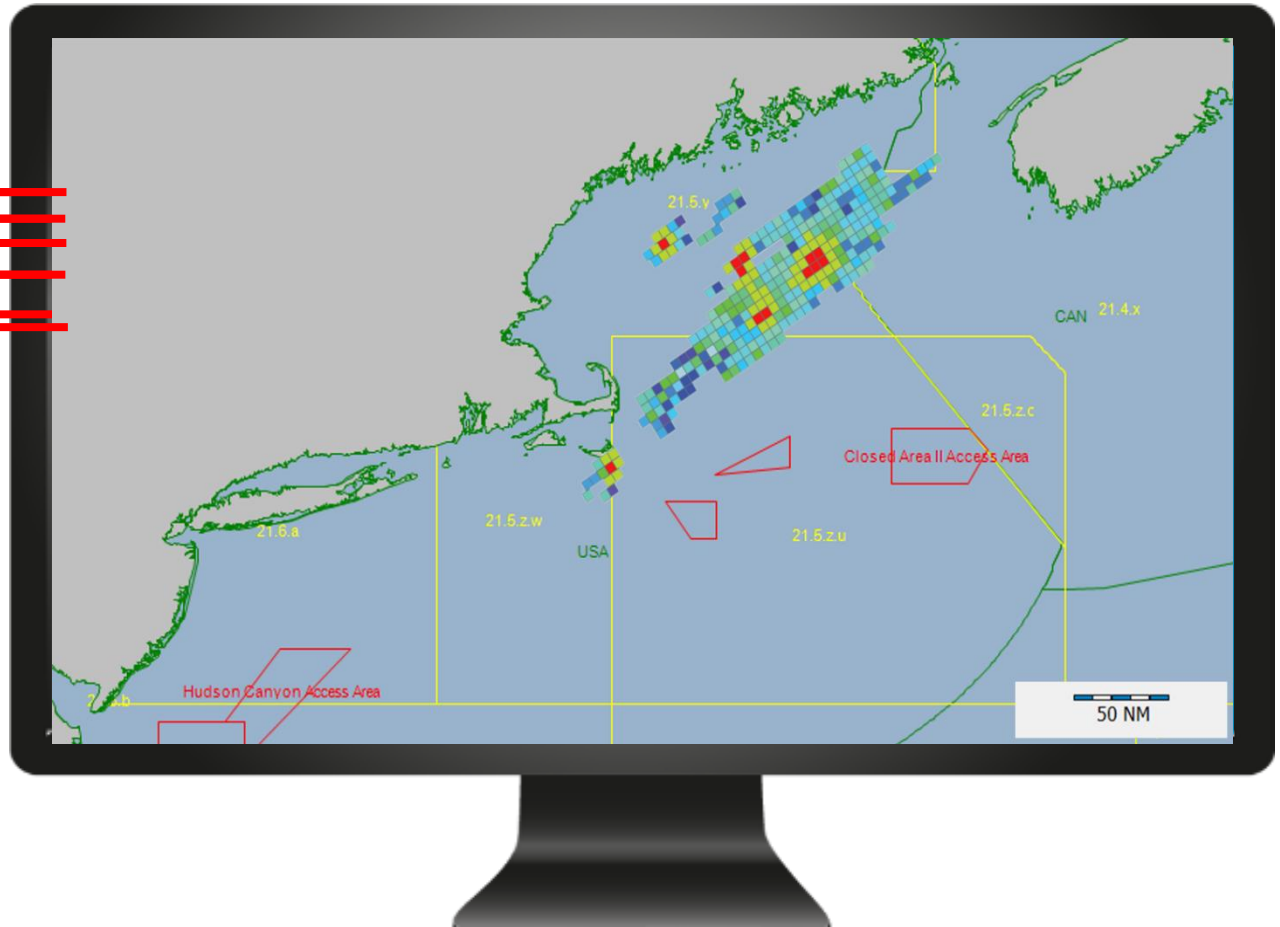


Olrac is a multimedia eLog solution used on 100s of vessels around the world for compliance, commercial, conservation and scientific purposes

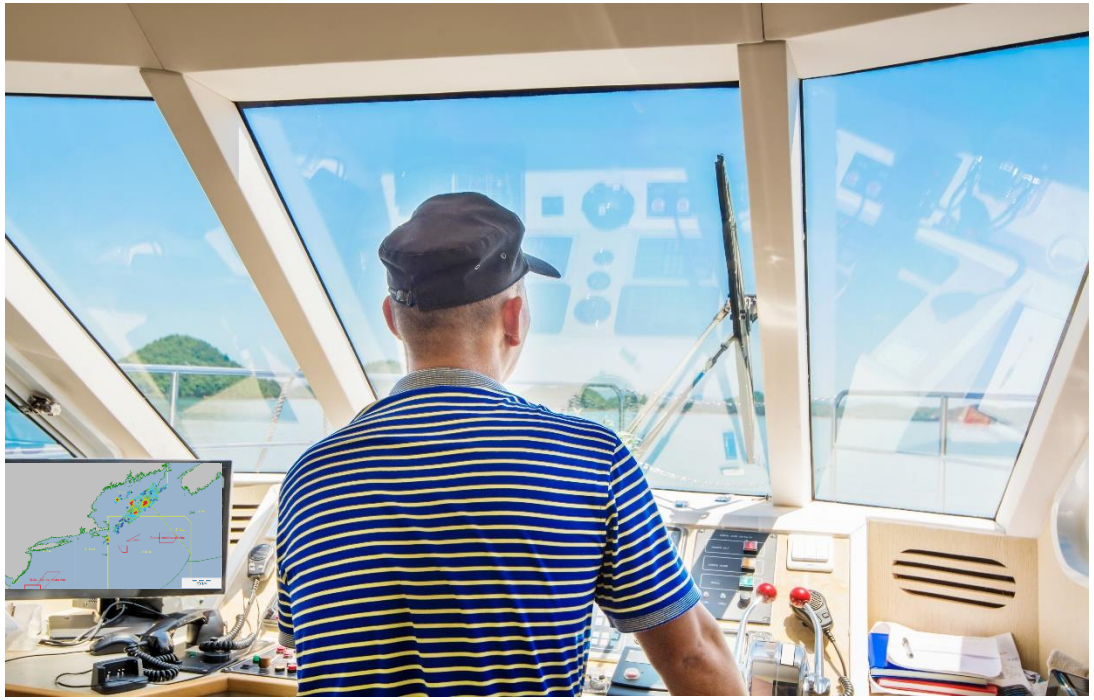


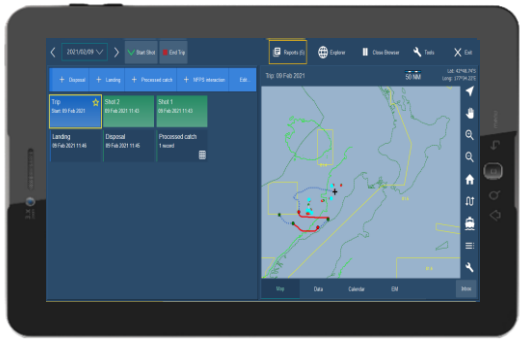
The Olrac eLog Bycatch Avoidance Application

Vessels records catch & bycatch data (OlracDDL) → Generates bycatch CPUE reports & sends to OlracDDM → Combines & standardises bycatch CPUE → Produces aggregated bycatch density map → OlracDDL receives alarm & notification → Skipper loads aggregated bycatch map → Bycatch maps can be refreshed & shared

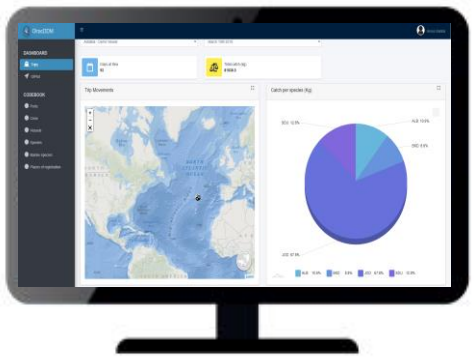


Results and Conclusions





Olrac Dynamic Data Logger



Olrac Dynamic Data Manager

- The Olrac bycatch technology was deployed successfully on 15 scallop vessels.
- The project demonstrated that eLog technology and shared, users-collected data, can be used, not just for compliance but to also:
  - better conservation
  - reduce fishing costs
  - save money by preventing premature fishing season closure

All the above was achieved: In real time and in transparent manner while still protecting data considered by fishers to be confidential

Many thanks to IFOMC for the opportunity to present our case study to its members and many thanks to the group here for listening to my presentation.

AND ….. Many, many thanks to my, hard working and dedicated, team