American sea scallop

**IDENTIFICATION**

**Scientific Name**
Placopecten magellanicus

**Species Name(s)**
American sea scallop

**Stock Identification**
The distribution of American sea scallop in U.S. EIZ is homogenous enough to be considered a single stock. However, it is based on the two assessment unit components: the Mid-Atlantic Bight and Western Georges Bank, which are assessed separately and then combined (NEFSC, 2007).

**RELATED LINKS:**
- New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC)
- Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC)

**ASSESSMENT**

**Strengths**
Assessment model was improved. Gear changes helped to improve yields and decrease discards. There is a management plan in force. Regulations are continuously being enforced. Atlantic Sea scallops are not overfished and overfishing is not occurring. No recovery plans are required. Fishing mortality has been decreasing.

**Weaknesses**
US Atlantic scallop fishery is not managed through a quota system.

**Options**
Set the target F between 0.20 and 0.30. Research is in progress to mitigate/maintain low levels of sea turtles by-catch. Further research of the impact of this fishery on the bottom habitat is required.

**SCORES**

**Management Quality:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 ≤ ≥ 8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>≥ 8</td>
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**Stock Health:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Health</th>
<th>Future Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.4 ≤</td>
<td>8.6</td>
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**FIPS**
No related FIPS

**MSC**
- US Atlantic sea scallop: MSC Recertified

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Retailers & Supply Chain**
- Monitor the progress in closing out conditions placed upon the MSC certification of the fishery and if agreed timelines are met, offer assistance in closing conditions where possible.