American sea scallop

**SPECIES NAME(S)**
American sea scallop

**STOCK IDENTIFICATION**
The distribution of American sea scallop in U.S. EZZ is homogeneous 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).

**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 in the bottom habitat is required.

**SCORES**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Health</th>
<th>Future Health</th>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>7.4 ≤ 8.6</td>
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**FIPS**
No related FIPs

**MSC**
No related MSC fisheries

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN**
- Start a fishery improvement project (FIP) to evaluate and address sustainability issues in this fishery. For advice on starting a FIP, see SFP's Seafood Industry Guide to FIPs and other resources at [https://www.sustainablefishingprograms/professional-guidance/fip-resources](https://www.sustainablefishingprograms/professional-guidance/fip-resources).