IDENTIFICATION

SCIENTIFIC NAME
Placopecten magellanicus

SPECIES NAME(S)
American sea scallop

STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The distribution of American sea scallop in U.S. EEZ 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 in the bottom habitat is required.

SCORES

Management Quality:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Manag. Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 6</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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<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.sustainablefishing.org/Programs/Professional-Guidance/FIP-Resources.