**Scientific Name**: Pecten maximus

**Species Name(s)**: Great Atlantic scallop, King scallop

**Stock Identification**

Brittany and Scottish populations are genetically different (Beaumont et al. 1993) but the stock structure of the species is not clear despite several genetic studies conducted (Wilding et al. 1998; Beaumont et al. 2007). Here, based on the respective Scottish assessment areas, five assessment units are defined: West of Kintyre, NW Scotland, Orkney, NE Scotland and East Coast Scotland; the East Coast England stock is assumed, in the lack of better information, to cover the remaining English east coast. The assessment areas were defined by Marine Scotland to reflect the characteristics of the fisheries in the past rather than on the basis of evidence to support discrete populations. Similar trends in recruitment across the West of Kintyre and North West and also in Shetland, the North East and East Coast suggest that there are linkages between some of these areas at pre-recruitment stages with similar trends in survival to age of recruitment (Dobby et al. 2012).

**Related Links**:
- Marine Scotland (MS)
- Marine Scotland Science
- Marine Scotland (MGS)
- Marine Scotland Science

**Assessment**

**Strengths**
- Scallops are a highly productive species, maturing at an early age and hermaphroditic, they are therefore able to be resilient to high levels of fishing mortality.
- There seems to be a high degree of compliance with minimum landing size.
- The obligations for registration of buyers and sellers has improved the control of landings and has put an end to landings of black fish.
- Low levels of participation in dive fisheries for scallops probably pose little threat to stocks at present.

**Weaknesses**
- Last stock assessment is from 2012 and based on data up to 2010, so the information about the current status of the stock is not up-to-date (however a new stock assessment is expected to be released by the end of 2017).
- Older individuals are being removed both by dredges and by dive fishers, meaning that the fishery rely on recruitment of young scallops each year. The oldest age-classes have been eliminated from the populations.

**Options**
- Better spatial management that involve the implementation of more marine reserves that protect specific areas to dredging will benefit scallop populations and associated habitats.
- Area-based gear restrictions (seasonal or permanent) will help reducing the conflicts between toed gears like dredges and static gears and generate fishery and ecological benefits.
- Setting specific reference points for the fishery will help assessing the status of the stocks and the adoption of more effective and specific management actions.
- An inshore curfew (e.g. from 10 pm to 5 am) would limit inshore effort while at the same time reduce gear conflict, aid enforcement and improve safety and working hours for crews.

**Scores**

**Management Quality**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Management Strategy</th>
<th>Managers Compliance</th>
<th>Fishers Compliance</th>
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Stock Health

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<td>&lt; 6</td>
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FIPS

No related FIPs

MSC

No related MSC fisheries

**Great Atlantic scallop NE Scotland**

Fishery: United Kingdom

Towed dredges