

C1 Scallop Harvest Specifications

- Full assessment provided for scallops, there was no public testimony, and this is a total catch-only stock assessment.
- The total catch declined from 345,689 lb (157 t) in 2022/23 to 328,112 lb (149 t) in 2023/24.
- Overfishing did not occur in 2023/24. In the absence of a stock status estimate, the overfished status of the scallop stock is unknown.
- The scallop stock assessment will move to a biennial cycle so specifications are provided for two years.
- The **SSC recommends** a 1.284 million lb (582 t) OFL for 2024/25 and 2025/26 using the same methods referenced to average total catch from 1990-1997 (excluding 1995) in agreement with the SPT.
- The **SSC recommends** the max ABC (based on 90% OFL) of 1.156 million lb (524 t) OFL for 2024/25 and 2025/26.

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- The **SSC recommends** that the author discontinue work on a stock-wide age-based model in favor of a future length based stock assessment in core fishing area and a more data limited method in non-core areas.
- The **SSC also recommends** the following:
 - Bring forward multiple reference ranges for average catch in the 2026 assessment that may better reflect current productivity.
 - Provide a rationale for considering the current or an additional buffer to maxABC in future assessments.
 - Include historical CPUE and catch data in the SAFE
 - Develop indices to capture changes in fishing behavior to better understand if increased CPUE is correlated to stock abundance.