

Scallop SAFE and Specifications

Scallop Plan Team

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Major changes to assessment methods

- None

New data

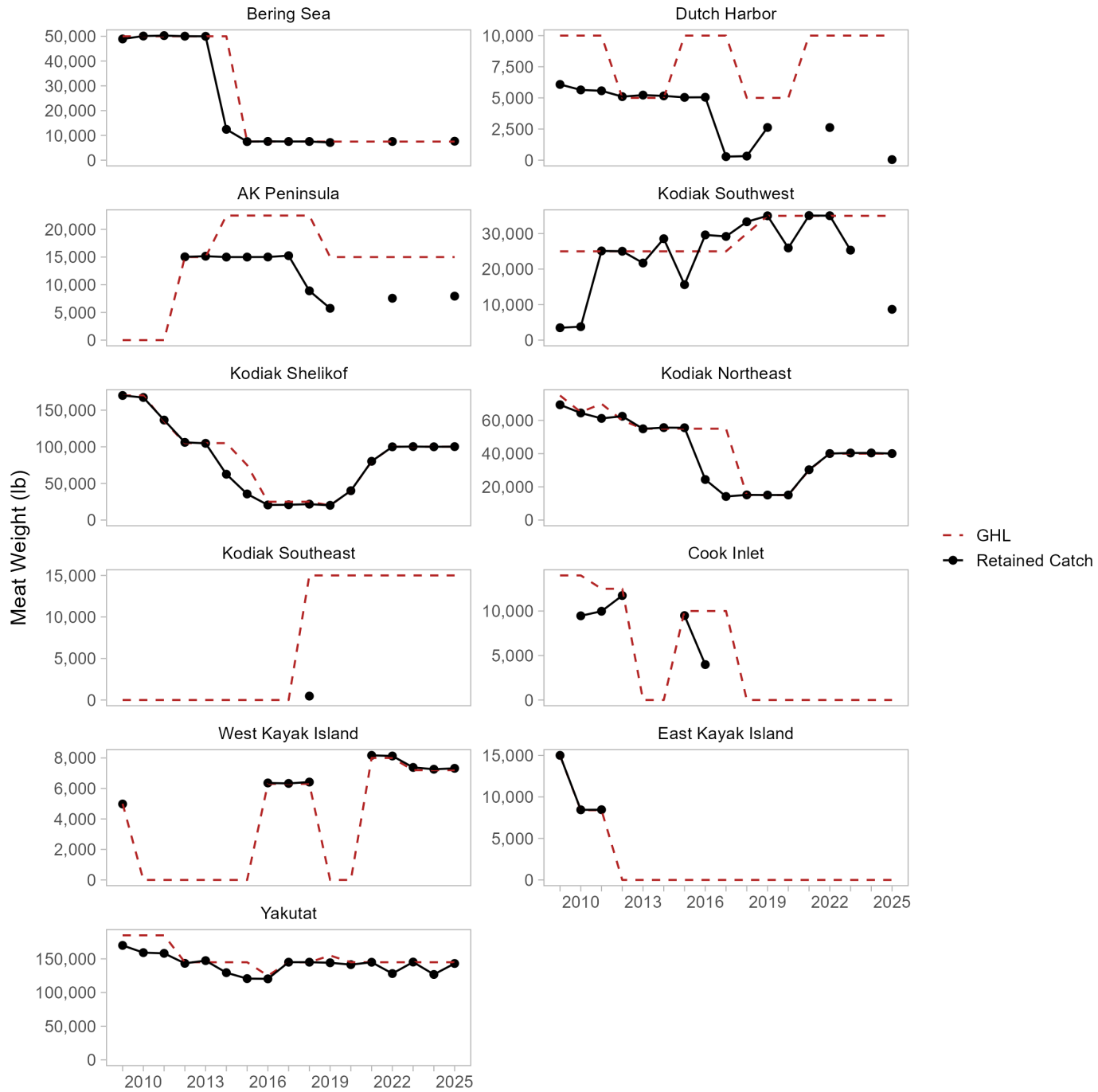
- 2024/25, 2025/26 observer data
- 2025 survey

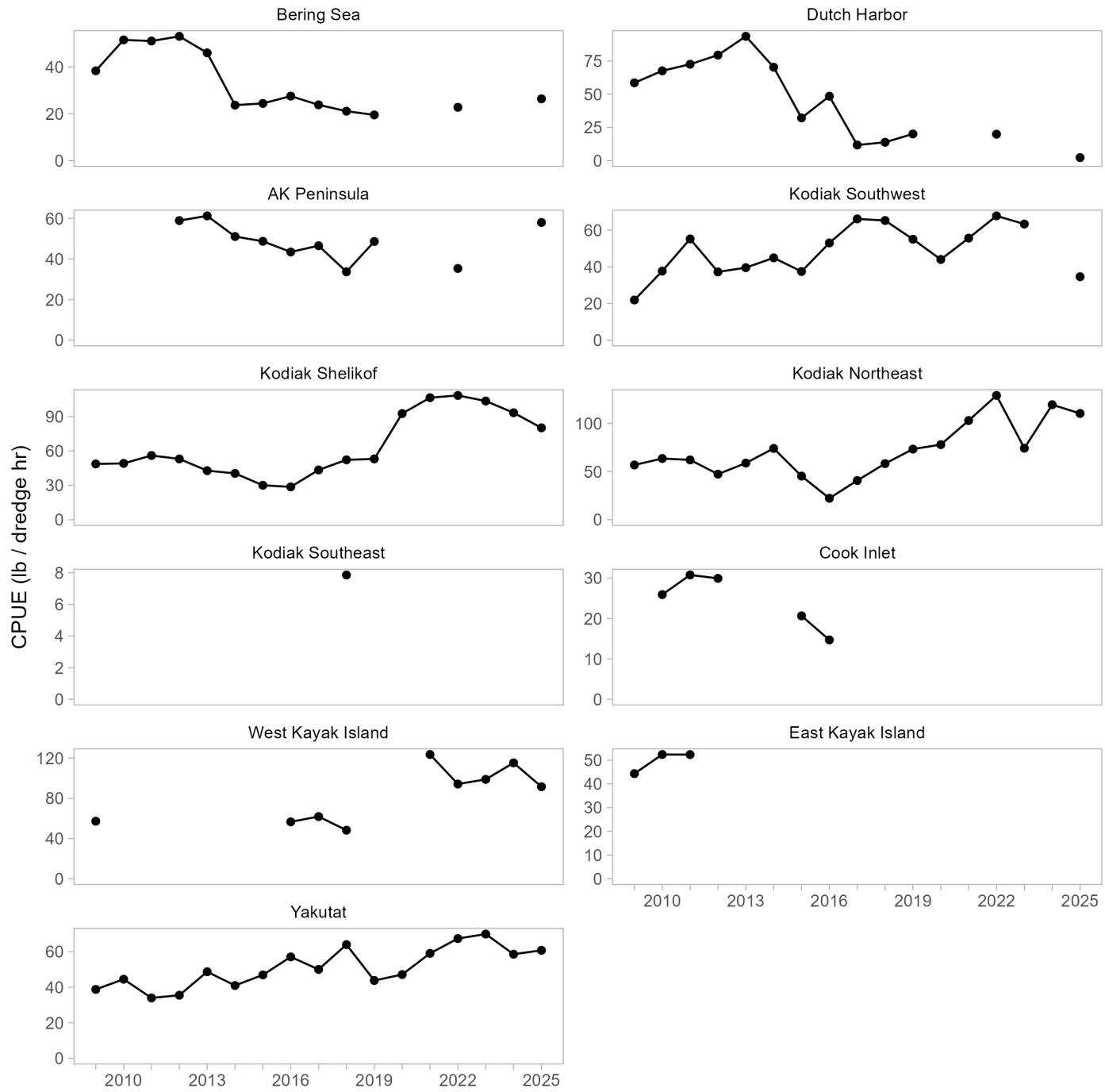
“Unknown” Stock Status

2024/25 – 2025/26 **OFL** = 1.284 mil lb, **ABC** = 1.156 mil lb

Season	Combined GHL	Retained Catch (lb)	Total Catch (lb)	OFL (mil lb)	ABC (mil lb)
2021/22	345,500	298,770	311,978	1.284	1.156
2022/23	375,500	329,095	345,689	1.284	1.156
2023/24	374,700	318,647	329,476	1.284	1.156
2024/25	374,700	274,570	285,696	1.284	1.156
2025/26	374,700	315,045	325,296	1.284	1.156
2026/27				1.284	1.156
2027/28				1.284	1.156
*2028/29				1.284	1.156

Overfishing did not occur in 2024/25 or 2025/26





OFL for 2026/27 & 2027/28

FMP is very prescriptive, changing specifications would require an amendment

Basis for Overfishing limit (OFL):

- OFL = Optimum Yield (OY) = Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) ~ proxy
- Originally set at 1.1 mil lb in 1996
- **Amendment 1 (1996) – increased to 1.8 mil lb** (max retained catch)
- **Amendment 6 (1999) – decreased to 1.24 mil lb** (avg retained catch from 1990 – 1997, excluding 1995)
- **Amendment 13 (2011) – increased to 1.284 mil lb** (added ~44,000 lb of bycatch mortality from fisheries, bycatch fisheries and surveys; Balsiger et al. 2011)

Continue with OFL = 1.284 mil lb

ABC for 2026/27 & 2027/28

Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) is set using ABC control rule:

Maximum ABC = 90% of OFL

SPT has never used larger than a 10% buffer *to my knowledge*

Larger buffer would seem arbitrary given better OY reference period not determined...would just as soon use such period for OFL

ADF&G unlikely to set GHFs near reference limits

Continue with ABC = 1.156 mil lb

Amendment 18

Allows max of 3-year assessment cycle

Would push OFL / ABC through 2028/29

Promising modelling work is ongoing (Appendix A), no immediate need for better informed limited reference points, should evaluate model performance throughout next cycle

Set OFL / ABC through 2028/29