

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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C1 Scallop Harvest Specifications

April 2021

Action Memo

Staff: Jim Armstrong

Other Presenters: Tyler Jackson (ADF&G, Scallop Plan Team Co-Chair)

Action Required: 1. Specify OFL/ABC

2. Review Scallop Plan Team Report

BACKGROUND

The Scallop Plan Team met online February 17, 2021 to review the status of weathervane scallop stocks in Alaska, to prepare the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report, and to recommend an ABC level to meet ACL requirements (SPT Meeting Agenda).

The 2021 Scallop SAFE report and the Scallop Plan Team meeting report are **attached**. An abbreviated Scallop SAFE report is provided this year, as requested by the SSC in June 2020, which includes updates to stock status, scallop harvest, and socioeconomic information for 2020.

Total scallop removals in 2019/2020 (246,900 lb; 112 t of shucked meats) 19% of OFL (1.284 million lb; 582 t) and, therefore, overfishing did not occur. Because no estimate of weathervane scallop spawning biomass is available, the status of the scallop stock relative to overfished is "unknown". This status determination is not considered to be a conservation concern since scallops are distributed in many areas that have been closed to fishing to protect crab populations and in areas not defined as commercial scallop beds.