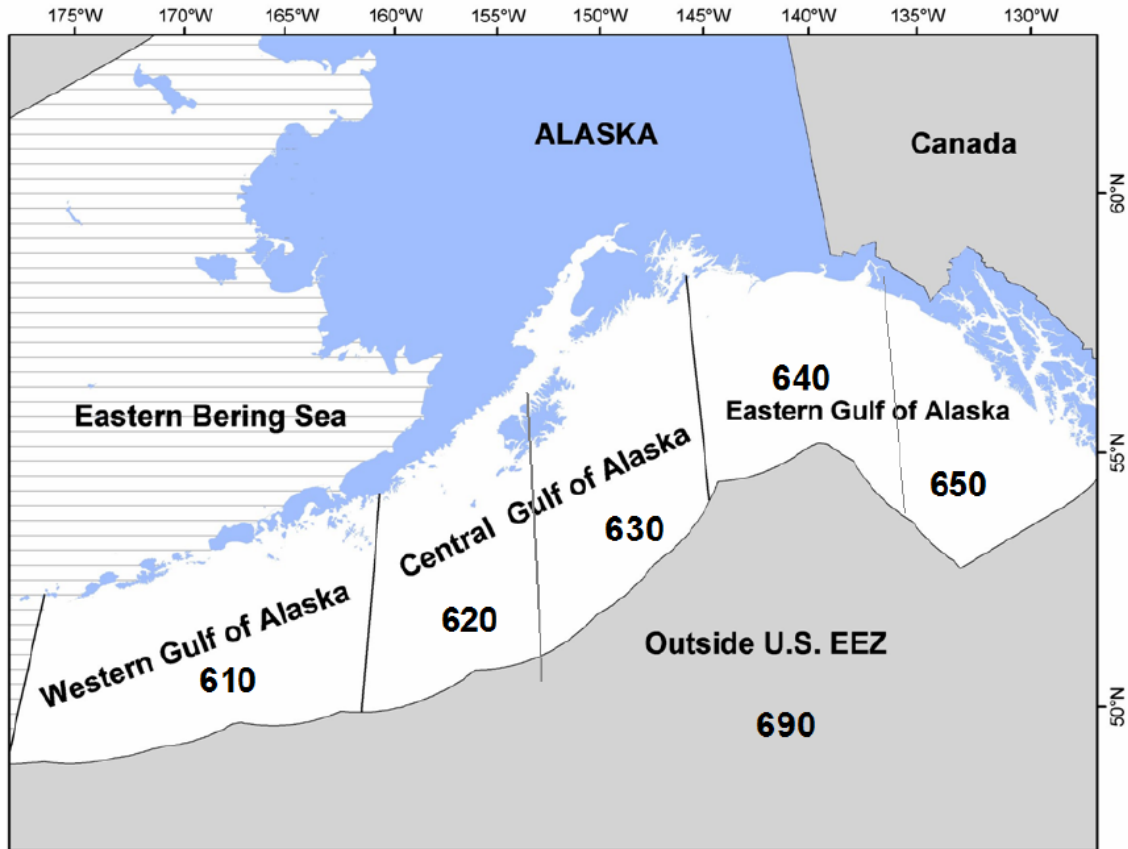


SSC Draft Report April 2018





C2-Scallop

- In this year's assessment, there are indications of improvement in stock status in some areas.
- **The SSC supports the Scallop Plan Team's recommendation to set the OFL for the 2018/19 season equal to maximum OY (1.29 million lb; 585 t) as defined in the Scallop FMP, and which applies a 20% mortality rate to discards.**
- **The SSC also supports the Team's recommendation to set ABC for scallops in 2018/19 consistent with the maximum ABC control rule (90% of OFL), which is equal to 1.161 million lb (527 t).**
- Action on many of the SSC's comments are dependent on backfilling staffing levels.

C2-Scallop

- The SAFE provides information on fishery independent surveys that were implemented in 2016 and 2017 and plans for 2018. **The SSC supports continuation of the surveys.**
- The SSC appreciates the Scallop Plan Team's interpretation of survey results as a relative abundance index. **The SSC recommends examining catchability for different depths, bottom types, and other factors, which may affect catchability. Size selectivity needs to be considered so that fishery independent survey results can be accurately interpreted.**
- The SSC requests a presentation on the age-structured stock assessment model for scallops in Kamishak Bay. The SSC recommends considering a similar application for Kayak Island region.
- **The SSC requests the Scallop Plan Team explore the application of OFL calculations analogous to Tier 5 used for groundfish.**
- **The SSC appreciates the additional economic analyses in this year's SAFE and offers the following comments.** Since for scallop, there is no stand-alone Economic Considerations chapter, the Scallop SAFE would benefit from a series of tables tracking a time series of annual quantitative indicators of sustained community participation.