



C4 Scallop FMP Amendment

April 2023

Action Memo

Council Staff: Sarah Rheinsmith

Action Required: 1. Consider whether an FMP amendment to the Scallop FMP is warranted to allow more flexibility in the SAFE and harvest specification process

BACKGROUND

As defined in the scallop FMP, the stock assessment fishery evaluation (SAFE) report occurs on an annual basis. Consistent with assessments since 2011/12, the 2022/23 OFL is set equal to the Optimum Yield (OY) (1.284 million lb.; 582 t), and the 2022/23 ABC be set equal to the maximum ABC control rule value (90% of OFL or 1.156 million lb.; 524 t).

Given that the ABC and OFL have remained unchanged since 2011/2012, the Council initiated an analysis in [April 2022](#) to provide more flexibility in the assessment timing based on stock status, and information modified within the SAFE report annually, as modeled in the BSAI King and Tanner Crab fisheries. The analysis addresses the proposed amendment to the scallop FMP under consideration by the Council that would apply exclusively to the Scallop fishery off Alaska. The measures under consideration include amending the scallop FMP to allow for flexible assessment cycles. This action aims to allow the potential for the Council to produce a SAFE report and set scallop harvest specifications less frequently than on an annual basis.