

BAY SCALLOP

(06/00 ARCHIVE - NCDMF)

Stock Status--Concern- Landings and fishery independent sampling indicate this annual stock is showing poor recruitment and poor abundance in Core Sound.

Average Commercial Landings and Value 1989-1999--78,645 lbs of meat, \$192,160

1999 Commercial Landings and Value--29,651 lbs of meat, \$102,998

Average Recreational Landings 1989-1999 and 1999--Unknown

Average Number of Award Citations 1989-1999 and 1999--N/A

Status of Fisheries Management Plan-- No Plan.

Research and Data Needs--recruitment studies.

Current Minimum Size Limit-- None

Harvest Season--When opened from December through May, twenty standard U.S. bushels per person per day not to exceed a total of 40 standard U.S. bushels per day in any combined fishing operation. When opened from August 1 through September 15, no more than 10 standard U.S. bushels per person per day not to exceed a total of 20 standard U.S. Bushels per day in any combined fishing operation. Recreational Harvest Limits: ½ bushel per day, not to exceed 2 bushels per vessel per day.

Size and Age at Maturity-- 1.5 inches,(shell height), 6 months old

Historical and Current Maximum Age-- 2 years old, 1.5 years old

Juvenile Abundance Indices Average 1972-1999 and 1999

Core Sound-N/A,13.3 (April), 0.4 (Nov) per two minute tow

Bogue Sound-N/A,6.3 (April), 0.0(Nov) per two minute tow

Habits/Habitats-- Bay scallops are estuarine dependent mollusks found in eel grass beds. Bay scallops spawn in early winter and in late spring when water temperatures reach approximately 60 degrees. The larvae go through several swimming stages before settling onto a suitable substrate such as seagrass. Bay scallops are filter feeders and feed on benthic diatoms. Predators of the bay scallop include the blue crab, and starfish. The herring gull is also an important predator.

For more information, see [DMF Species Leads page](#)