



Australian Government

Australian Fisheries Management Authority

**Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop
Fishery Management Advisory
Committee (ScallopMAC) Meeting 30**

Meeting minutes

Date: 21 June 2018

Park Royal, Melbourne Airport

Meeting Minutes

1 Preliminaries

1.1 Introduction and apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:08 and welcomed members, invited participants and observers, and noted apologies. Members were advised that the meeting was being recorded to assist with the preparation of the meeting minutes. The Chair stressed the importance of declaring conflicts of interest and that the outcomes of the meeting would be confidential until the finalised minutes are available on the AFMA website.

Name	Membership
John Pollock	Chair
Brendan Kelaher	Research Member
Allan Barnett	Industry Member
Stuart Richey	Industry Member
Andrew Watts	Industry Member
Debbie Wisby	Industry Member
Sally Weekes	AFMA Member
Claire Taylor	AFMA Executive Officer
James Parkinson	Invited Participant, DPIPWE, Tasmania representative
John Cull	Invited Participant, industry
Matt Koopman	Observer, Fishwell Consulting
Robert Curtotti	Observer, ABARES
Steve Mantzaris	Observer, industry (processor)
George Day	Observer, AFMA
Ross Bromley	Observer, Girella Fisheries Services
Andrew Zapantis	Observer, industry
Anthony Ciconte	Observer, industry
Apologies	Membership
Sylvia Zukowski	Environment/Conservation Member
John Hammond	Industry Member
Toby Jeavons	Invited Participant, Fisheries Victoria representative
Bob Lister	Invited Participant, industry

1.2 Declaration of interests

The MAC followed the conflict of interest declarations as outlined in Fisheries Management Paper 1. Members, invited participants and observers reviewed and updated the Declarations of Interest included at [Attachment B](#). The following participants declaring an interest left the meeting in turn while the MAC considered their interests and how to manage them. In each case, the MAC recognised the participant's knowledge and valuable contribution to the discussions and agreed in all cases the participants could participate in discussion of all agenda items, but not make any recommendations for items for which individuals had declared interest.

- Allan Barnett, Debbie Wisby and Stuart Richey* – declared conflicts with agenda item 7 'ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season' and

agenda item 9 'changes to fish receiver permits and CDR completion', as they own or lease quota and are fish receiver permit holders

- Andrew Watts and John Cull – declared a conflict with agenda item 7 'ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season' as they own or lease quota.
- Steve Mantzaris, Andrew Zapantis* and Anthony Ciconte* – declared conflicts with agenda item 7 'ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season' and agenda item 9 'changes to fish receiver permits and CDR completion' as they own or lease quota and are fish receiver permit holders. The MAC noted that as observers they were not part of the recommendation decision making.
- Ross Bromley – declared a potential conflict with agenda item 7 'ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season' in that his clients are concession holders in the fishery. The MAC noted that as an observer he were not part of the recommendation decision making.

**ScallopMAC considered the declared interests of Stuart Richey, Andrew Zapantis and Anthony Ciconte when they arrived at the meeting, as outlined in the minutes.*

1.3 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda at Attachment A was adopted by ScallopMAC as final with the following items for discussion under 'other business' if they were not discussed prior:

- Annual setting of the Co-management Committee membership.
- Assistance to establish a market for Doughboy scallops.
- Three letters AFMA had received from John Cull, Wayne Davis and Bob Lister about the TAC setting process. The MAC agreed to discuss these before making a TAC and closure recommendation for 2018 at agenda item 7.
- Attendance of observers at meeting.
- Agreement on what can be publicly released after the ScallopMAC meeting.
- The review of season end date research. The MAC agreed to discuss at agenda item 8 'research priorities'.

1.4 Induction of MAC members

As membership to the MAC was new, the AFMA member gave an overview of MAC member, invited participant and observer responsibilities and requirements under Fisheries Management Paper 1.

An industry member requested a RAG scientist attend ScallopMAC to provide scientific explanations of the RAG advice. The MAC noted that the role of the RAG Chair being the scientific member on the MAC is to explain the RAG's advice. However, if the MAC felt that they did not have appropriate expertise then there is the provision to invite additional expertise to a meeting as an Invited Participant.

2 Meeting administration

2.1 Minutes of previous meeting

The MAC noted the final minutes of the ScallopMAC meeting of 15 June 2017 are available on the AFMA website.

2.2 Actions arising from previous meetings

The MAC noted the status of action items at [Attachment C](#).

2.3 Correspondence

ScallopMAC noted correspondence since the last meeting.

Andrew Zapantis arrived at the meeting.

3 Fishery update

3.1 AFMA management

The AFMA member provided an update on matters relevant to the MAC and the fishery including:

- Commercial catch/effort data for the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery (BSCZSF) 2017 season. The MAC noted the commercial scallops TAC was 98.8 per cent caught and zero bycatch and protected species information was reported.
- A review of season end date had been raised as a high priority by industry on a number of occasions. However, to date there has not been agreement between industry and scientists on the approach required to support a change. The AFMA Commission has encouraged industry to work with scientists to develop science based indicators.
- A new ecological risk assessment for the BSCZSF is scheduled for 2019-20.
- AFMA recently sought ScallopMAC advice on a draft position statement on the social aspects of ecological sustainable development objective. Concurrently, to implement the *Fisheries Legislation Amendment (Representation) Act 2017* which requires AFMA to have regard to accounting for the interests of commercial, recreational and indigenous fishing sectors, AFMA is working to identify where those interests are and will then look to appoint members to the relevant RAG and MACs (where interests have been identified).
- AFMA is expanding its office at Lakes Entrance and the management of the BSCZSF is expected to move there in 12 months.
- The 2016-17 budget is currently ~ \$50 000 overspent. One of the reasons being the need for an observer to calculate the discard rate of the King Island Bluedot bed and an extra ScallopRAG meeting to discuss the season end date. Some industry members thought there should have been more consultation on the investigation into the discard rate.
- AFMA is considering co-management in the BSCZSF, where a co-management committee would be responsible for certain activities. A representative industry association is needed to be able to do this and ideally, AFMA would want all of industry to be represented. Atlantis Fisheries Consultative Group has been approached by a number of scallop concession holders to establish an industry association. Contact details can be passed on to any industry member who is interested. ScallopMAC will be informed of further development.

3.2 Tasmanian management

The Tasmanian Government participant provided an update on the Tasmanian fishery.

- Following poor biomass survey results in April and May 2017, the Minister approved the closure of the fishery for two years along with a decrease in license costs. The Tasmanian fishery is not expected to open until 2020 subject to a biomass survey being undertaken. Until then, fishers can take opportunistic surveys when they transit to and from other fisheries. To do this they need to apply to Tasmania for approval and they will not be allowed to keep scallops.

- The fishery management plan will be reviewed while the fishery is closed. The fees paid to the Tasmanian Government Department of Treasury and Finance will also be reviewed.

3.3 Victorian management

Dr Matt Koopman and Andrew Watts provided an update on the status of the Victorian scallop fishery.

- A biomass survey was undertaken in December 2017 and January 2018 following feedback from other fishers that some recovery could be happening. 150 randomly allocated shots were used over a wide area to identify beds. The identified beds were then intensively surveyed. The survey resulted in a total biomass estimate of 4000 to 5000 tonnes. The biggest individual scallop bed had 450 tonnes. As a result of the survey, the TAC was set at 130 tonnes for exploratory fishing and data collection.

Anthony Ciconte arrived at the meeting.

3.4 Industry update

Industry members provided an update on the BSCZSF 2017 season.

- 2017 was a successful year for fishing and the beach price stayed at \$16 throughout the season.
- About 500 tonnes was exported in 2017 and 2500 tonnes was on the domestic market. Exports are not expected for 2018.
- Imported scallops were \$15-18/kg.
- There were reduced quantities of Australian-caught scallops in the market due to the Queensland, Victorian and Tasmanian scallop fisheries either closed or with very low catches.
- There were differences of opinion amongst industry representatives on several issues including:
 - Whether imports and exports is an issue that should be considered by ScallopMAC.
 - The quantity of scallops the domestic market could have handled in 2017 without dropping the beach price.
 - Whether the above points should be considered when recommending and setting the TAC for the BSCZSF.

3.5 Environment update

ScallopMAC noted the update provided by the Environment member.

At the research workshop there were discussions about writing a letter regarding the effect of seismic surveys on scallops that would be sent out to the large companies. As an alternative, ScallopRAG agreed on 20 June 2018 that it would be prudent to consider scheduled seismic activity on an annual basis when providing advice regarding closed areas. This is to ensure any important areas for the scallop fishery are considered in the consultation process required by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA).

Industry expressed their ongoing concern of seismic testing on the BSCZSF and other fisheries.

Stuart Richey arrived at the meeting.

4 Economic data

ScallopMAC noted the table of economic data for the BSCZSF that had been collated by industry members on ScallopMAC, AFMA and ABARES. The aim of the economic data is to provide a narrative about how the fishery is tracking with regard to performance noting that formal indicators have not been developed. The updated table will be provided to the AFMA Commission when it is considering TACs.

The MAC acknowledged that some of the data in the table was not from independent data sources and needs to be checked for errors, and consequently, should be treated with caution. For these reasons, one industry member was concerned that the data could be misinterpreted by the Commission.

ScallopMAC noted that the economic data suggests, particularly in the last three years, that the economic outlook for the fishery is positive:

- uncaught TAC (latency) has been low since 2014. In 2017 the TAC was fully caught and since 2014 it has been consistently over 90 per cent caught
- beach prices are relatively stable, varied between \$13/kg and \$18/kg since 2009 when the fishery was reopened
- there has been an increasing trend in lease price since 2014 (an indicator of short term value)
- long term value (transfer price) has been strong during 2016 and 2017
- Fuel, the largest input cost, continues to rise
- The lease price shows that better quality fish were caught in 2016 compared to 2017, when the recovery rate was not as good.

ScallopMAC agreed the following improvements could be made:

- Include a conversion factor to enable the calculation of whole weight. This would show how quality is changing over time and help to understand changes in beach price. ABARES advised they can provide this data on an annual basis.
- Include recovery rates. The lease price is a proportion of shell weight depending on recovery.
- The figures outlining the per cent of TAC caught 2011 and 2013 needs to be updated and the table needs to be checked for accuracy.
- Include freight cost.

The ABARES economist advised that a step-up approach for the TAC used in recent years may distort the lease market and also increase transaction costs which creates inefficiencies in the market. Further, if catch is to be constrained based on economic factors then the best approach would be to examine marginal revenue to marginal costs and where those numbers equate is the catch level that maximises net economic returns.

The MAC discussed if an economic trigger based on marginal costs to marginal revenue could be built into the harvest strategy. Economic triggers could potentially be developed which could be calculated based on the economic data. Potential options include calculating a proxy for maximum economic returns that would build a timeline/trend line. This would most likely need more variables and would involve a voluntary survey of the industry that would need at least 50 per cent of boats involved.

Action item 1 – ABARES to do a preliminary analysis of the available economic information to see if simple economic triggers could be developed (e.g. looking at marginal revenue to marginal costs under a few different scenarios) to inform the BSCZSF TAC setting process.

5 Biomass survey results

Dr Koopman from Fishwell Consulting presented the results from the 2018 biomass survey. Dr Koopman thanked the owners and crew of the four vessels used to conduct the survey, whose contribution to the survey was highly valued and noting the high standard to which the survey was completed.

The 2018 stratified random survey was conducted during late May and early June 2018 and aimed to estimate the commercial scallop biomass, potential commercial catch rates, measure size frequency and calculate densities of 12 scallop beds (seven previously surveyed beds and five exploratory beds). The methods were similar to previous surveys except the dredge width was calculated using the outermost teeth instead of the internal width which was used for 2015-17. Exploratory fishing did not yield appreciable densities of scallops in three of the exploratory beds, so a total of nine beds were surveyed to obtain a biomass estimate. A summary of the survey results are at Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of biomass estimates, density, mean size and meats/kg for the 2018 survey. Note that densities have been adjusted for a 33% assumed dredge efficiency (Fishwell Consulting, Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery Survey 2018).

Area	Bed	Estimated biomass (t)	% weight > 85 mm	Estimated biomass (t)>85 mm	Density (ind/m ²)	Mean size	Meats / kg
FI	FI-1	2521.9	67.7	1707.1	0.269	86	72
	Sub-total	2521.9		1707.1			
KI	KI-5S	3529.4	99.9	3526.9	0.372	110	41
KI	KI-BDE	14617.3	96.4	14095.2	2.882	94	68
KI	KI-Mid	16.3	99.7	16.2	0.014	112	44
	KI-New	2780.5	100	2780.5	0.406	110	38
	KI-6	2360.5	97.1	2291.7	2.368	97	69
KI	KI-7	2036.5	97.6	1987.8	1.293	99	55
	Sub-total	25340.5		24698.2			
AB	AB-1	1892.3	99.9	1890.5	1.502	103	67
AB	AB-2	1803.8	100	1803.8	1.408	104	69
	Sub-total	3696.1		3694.3			
	Total	31558.5		30099.6			

ScallopMAC noted the size of scallops have increased but there are not many beds with small scallops. If there was significant recruitment in the areas surveyed, the results would show 30-40mm scallops.

Action item 2 – Dr Koopman to check the meats/kg calculations in the biomass survey report.

ScallopMAC discussed three letters AFMA had received in relation to setting the TAC.

1. Bob Lister to AFMA – asked if the TAC trigger could be reached at any time during the season and not just by 31 October, or if a full TAC can be set for the season.

Industry representatives were concerned that Bob Lister wrote on behalf of the Co-management Committee but did not consult with committee members. It was noted it needs to be clear what a personal view is and what the Co-management Committee view is. The MAC also requested more time to consider correspondence in the future.

Action item 3 – ScallopMAC Chair to write to Bob Lister about the governance of the Co-management Committee.

2. Wayne Davis et al. to AFMA – outlined reasons why there should be a full TAC instead of a step up TAC with triggers. Reasons included business certainty, reducing AFMA staff time, limited access, health and wellbeing, markets need consistency, and difficulty in keeping skilled employees if there is a stop in fishing.
3. John Cull to AFMA – AFMA should consider beds that had previously been fished for closure.

George Day left the meeting.

6 ScallopRAG advice for the 2018 TAC and closed areas

The ScallopRAG Chair presented RAG advice from its meeting 20 June 2018.

The RAG noted the results of the survey and carefully examined the data. This included noting that the biomass of scallops greater than 85mm was 30,100 tonnes. From this, they considered Tier 2 of the Harvest Strategy was the most appropriate way forward.

In formulating its advice, the RAG considered:

- the consistent lack of recruitment across surveyed beds;
- that most of the surveyed beds were ageing and the King Island Middle bed had substantially declined;
- that most beds had a density of >0.2 individuals/m², which the RAG considers high enough for viable spawning potential.

Given the above points, the RAG considered that the closure of substantial areas that included some of the higher density beds was very important. They also thought it was important to protect the spawning biomass in different regions, given evidence of differing growth rates and localised recruitment. Based on location and similar length frequency distributions, the RAG considered the key regions to be Flinders Island, King Island and Apollo Bay, and aimed for a closure in each.

The RAG also considered the stepped approach to TAC setting, which was driven by low TACs and market considerations in the past. After extensive discussion, they concluded that there was no real biological basis for a stepped approach. The ABARES economist advised that a step up may distort the market and also increase transaction costs which could create inefficiencies in the market. Further, if economic factors were to be considered, then the best approach would be to examine marginal revenue to marginal cost. This was an action for ABARES to do a preliminary analysis of the available economic information to see if simple economic triggers could be developed to inform the TAC setting process.

In light of limited the economic data, the RAG agreed that the 2018 TAC recommendation should be based primarily on biological considerations.

Given the above, the RAG recommended a 4000 tonnes TAC (with no step up) and the following closures:

Scallop bed	Biomass (tonnes, >85mm)	Density (individual/m ²)
Flinders Island (area of 2017 closure)	1 701	0.269
Apollo Bay 2	1 804	1.408
King Island 5 Small	3 527	0.372
Kind Island New	2 781	0.406
King Island Bluedot East (section of Bluedot bed east of 144.92)	5 888	Average of whole bed 2.8
TOTAL	15 707	

7 ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season

The MAC considered the RAG advice and discussed whether to have a stepped TAC. Industry had conflicting views on what would happen to the scallop beach price if the TAC is above 3000 tonnes.

One industry member outlined his reasons for supporting a 3000 tonnes TAC rather than 4000 tonnes TAC:

- For the last couple of years the TAC had been almost fully caught and the beach price remained high and stable for the seasons.
- There are no known export markets for this season, unlike previous years.
- The domestic market can only handle around 2500 tonnes before it becomes glutted.
- The price of fuel is predicted to rise this year increasing operating costs.
- A high TAC would likely crash the price undoing several years of increases.
- It is quite likely that at 4000 tonnes more scallops would come out of the water for less money, wasting the resource.
- Every one dollar the beach price drops from \$16.00 reduces the vessel profit by 20 per cent.

The MAC noted the action item from ScallopRAG for ABARES to do a preliminary analysis of the available economic information to see if simple economic triggers could be developed (e.g. looking at marginal revenue to marginal costs under a few different scenarios) to inform the BSCZSF TAC setting process. This may be able to be used for next year. ScallopMAC agreed to monitor economic data throughout the season if the TAC is set above 3000 tonnes.

Action item 4 – ScallopMAC to update and monitor the economic data table monthly during the 2018 season.

ScallopMAC supported the ScallopRAG recommendations for the 2018 season.

ScallopMAC TAC recommendation: 4000 tonnes TAC (with no step up).

ScallopMAC area closures recommendation: close Flinders Island (area of 2017 closure), Apollo Bay 2, King Island 5 Small, King Island New and King Island Bluedot East.

8 Research priorities

The MAC considered the research priorities for the fishery and RAG advice. ScallopMAC made the following comments on the draft annual research statement.

- The biomass survey is a high priority for the fishery and needs to be done annually.
- A project to age scallops, including a validation of the technique is a medium priority. There could be opportunities to work with other states and/or fisheries on this project. Ageing is important from a management perspective given that it will assist in succession planning of beds to fish/open under the harvest strategy.
- Move the project to review the season end date to the strategic research plan. The MAC noted the project needs to be based on science-based indicators/evidence and the cost is currently too high.

The MAC considered the strategic research plan (2017 to 2021) and made the following comments:

- The research priority 'improve the understanding of the larval and recruitment dynamics of the scallop fishery' is an aspirational research item with no set time for funding.

Anthony Ciconte left the meeting.

9 Changes to fish receiver permits and CDR completion

AFMA introduced this item outlining that comments are currently being sought on potential changes to fish receiver permits.

The proposal is to remove the requirement that operators must land scallops taken in the BSCZSF to a fish receiver permit holder from the start of the 2018 season. Operators will still need to complete Part A and Part B of their CDR and use verified weights at the wharf. The verified weight recorded at the point of unload which is entered in Part B will then be deducted from individual quota holdings. Companies or individuals that receive scallops after Part B of the CDR has been completed by the operator will not be required to hold a fish receiver permit. Arrangements relating to receiving fish taken from other Commonwealth fisheries will still apply.

The proposed changes are intended to simplify reporting arrangements in the BSCZSF and assist in maintaining the integrity of the quota system in this fishery.

AFMA has considered the matter of drip loss and is of the view that is not something that requires adjustment for.

An industry observer passed on concerns from two processors:

- Fish Receiver Permits require holders to meet safety requirements.
- They do not want just anyone to process scallops and are concerned with traceability issues and health risks.

AFMA advised that matters relating to safety requirements, traceability (past the point of unload) and health standard are the jurisdiction of other government agencies, not AFMA.

<p>Action item 5 – AFMA to check if scallops can be sold at the wharf after verified weights are recorded.</p>

ScallopMAC **supported** the proposal to remove the requirement that operators must land scallops taken in the BSCZSF to a fish receiver permit holder.

10 Data requirements for bycatch

The AFMA Member introduced this item, seeking advice from ScallopMAC about the data needs for bycatch in the fishery. The data needs for bycatch will subsequently inform the data collection and monitoring strategy for the fishery.

ScallopMAC noted the new Commonwealth Fisheries Bycatch Policy is expected to be published soon which is more prescriptive than the current policy and following its release, AFMA will develop a bycatch strategy for the BSCZSF that needs to detail:

- a) the bycatch species or groups of species
- b) the ERA methodology and results for each species, or groups of species
- c) consideration of cumulative impacts on bycatch populations
- d) management responses for areas of identified risk, including relevant quantitative approaches and indicators
- e) data collection, reporting and monitoring processes and minimum requirements that support the assessment, monitoring and management of bycatch
- f) performance and evaluation processes and outcomes.

ScallopMAC noted ScallopRAG's advice regarding the data needs for bycatch in this fishery, which was:

1. ensuring the bycatch data continues to be collected to the same level of detail in future biomass surveys
2. that an analysis to explore how useful the bycatch data collected from the surveys is, be presented at the next RAG meeting
3. subject to the outcomes of (2), the RAG can provide advice about any additional data that may be required.

Overall, ScallopRAG noted that bycatch data requirements need to be sensible and reasonable and meets AFMA's requirements for the BSCZSF.

Industry noted the biomass survey results showed less than 2 per cent of bycatch in the King Island Bluedot bed. They explained bycatch is difficult to see as most of it goes through the tumbler on the boat.

11 Timeline for 2019

ScallopMAC did not have time to discuss the proposed consultation schedule for the 2019 season at [Attachment D](#).

12 Other business

BSCZSF co-management committee

ScallopMAC discussed the membership of the co-management committee. Regarding members, the MAC supported the existing membership continuing with the addition of two younger operators: Dusty Cull (Victoria) and John Richey (Tasmania). Regarding the position of Chairperson, the MAC

agreed that the appointment would be made subsequent to discussion between members and the previous Chair regarding governance of the committee.

Position	Name
Industry co-ordinator (Chair)	To be determined
Victorian representative	Andrew Watts
Victorian representative	John Cull
Victorian representative	Dusty Cull
Tasmanian representative	Allan Barnett
Tasmanian representative	John Hammond
Tasmanian representative	John Richey
AFMA representative	Sally Weekes

Doughboy scallops

Steve Mantzaris asked if research quota could be set for doughboy scallops to support building a market. This was not supported as doughboy scallops already have allocated quota statutory fishing rights that can be tradeable and only 300 kg of a 100 tonne TAC was caught in 2017 so availability of quota should not be an issue.

Other

ScallopMAC noted that AFMA would release a public statement on the RAG and MAC recommendations from the meeting that will be cleared by the respective Chairs. However, the discussions of the meeting remain confidential until the final minutes are published on the AFMA website.

The Chair asked for feedback from the MAC on how future meetings could be improved. The meeting closed at 3 pm.

Signed (Chairperson):

Date:

Attachments

Attachment A: ScallopMAC 30 final agenda

Attachment B: Declarations of interest

Attachment C: Action item status

Attachment D: 2019 timeline



Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery Management Advisory Committee (ScallopMAC)

Meeting 30 – Park Royal, Melbourne Airport

Agenda

Thursday 21 June 2018

Time (EDT): 9:00

Participants	
Members	Membership
John Pollock	Chair
Brendan Kelaher	Research Member
Allan Barnett	Industry Member
John Hammond	Industry Member
Stuart Richey	Industry Member
Andrew Watts	Industry Member
Debbie Wisby	Industry Member
Sally Weekes	AFMA Member
Claire Taylor	Executive Officer
Toby Jeavons	Fisheries Victoria representative
James Parkinson	DPIPWE, Tasmania representative
John Cull	Invited participant, industry
Matt Koopman	Observer, Fishwell Consulting
Robert Curtotti	Observer, ABARES
Steve Mantzaris	Observer, industry
George Day	Observer, AFMA
Apologies	
Sylvia Zukowski	Environment/Conservation Member
Bob Lister	Observer, industry
Ian Knuckey	Observer, Fishwell Consulting
Dan Corrie	Observer, AFMA

Approximate
time

Agenda item

- 9:00 **1. Preliminaries**
- 1.1. Welcome and apologies
 - 1.2. Declaration of interests
 - 1.3. Adoption of agenda
 - 1.4. Induction of MAC members
- 9:25 **2. Meeting Administration**

- 2.1. Minutes of previous meeting
 - 2.2. Actions arising from previous meetings
 - 2.3. Correspondence
- 9:45 **3. Fishery update**
- 3.1. AFMA management
 - 3.2. Tasmanian management
 - 3.3. Victorian management
 - 3.4. Industry update
 - 3.5. Environment update
- 10.30 *Morning tea*
- 10.45 **4. Economic data**
ScallopMAC to discuss economic data for the fishery.
- 11:00 **5. Biomass survey results** (Fishwell Consulting)
Fishwell Consulting will present the 2018 scallop biomass survey results and explain how the biomass was estimated.
- 11:45 **6. ScallopRAG advice for the 2018 TAC and closed areas**
ScallopRAG Chair will present the ScallopRAG advice on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season.
- 12.00 **7. ScallopMAC recommendation on the TAC and closed areas for the 2018 season**
ScallopMAC develop the TAC and closure recommendation to the AFMA commission on the 2018 TAC
- 12.30 *Lunch*
- 13:15 **8. Research Priorities**
ScallopRAG consider and provide advice on the strategic research priorities for the fishery (the Strategic Research Plan) and identify projects for funding in 2019-20 (the Annual Statement).
- 13.45 **9. Changes to fish receiver permits and CDR completion**
- 14.00 **10. Data requirements for bycatch**
ScallopMAC to discuss and provide advice on how to collect bycatch data in the fishery.
- 14.30 **11. Timeline for 2019**
ScallopMAC will be asked to provide input into the timing of consultation processes for the 2019 season
- 14.40 **12. Other business**
- 15.00 **Close**

Attachment B – Register of interests

Name	Membership	Declared interests
John Pollock	Chair	No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
Professor Brendan Kelaher	Research Member	ScallopRAG Chair, ScallopRAG member and SharkRAG member. Member of Australian Research Council's College of Experts. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
Allan Barnett	Industry Member (Tasmania)	Holds Commonwealth and State fishing concessions and a Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit. Owns a scallop processing plant and daughter operates the plant.
John Hammond	Industry Member (Tasmania)	Holds Commonwealth and State concessions.
Stuart Richey	Industry Member (Tasmania)	Holds Commonwealth and State concessions and a Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit.
Andrew Watts	Industry Member (Victoria)	Holds Commonwealth and State concessions.
Debbie Wisby	Industry Member (Tasmania)	CEO of a fishing Company in Tasmania (scallops, squid and shark). Partner owns Tasmania State Scallop Units and Entitlements. Holds Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit. Leases commonwealth scallop quota. Local Government Councillor. Tasmania Scallop Fishery Advisory Committee member.
Dr Sylvia Zukowski	Environment Member	No interest, pecuniary or otherwise, in the fishery.
Sally Weekes	AFMA Member	Fishery manager. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
Claire Taylor	Executive Officer	AFMA employee. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
Toby Jeavons	Observer	Manager Victorian scallop fishery. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
James Parkinson	Observer	Manager Tasmanian scallop fishery. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
John Cull	Observer	Holds Commonwealth and State concessions.
Dr Matt Koopman	Observer	Fishwell Consulting. Company known to submit research funding applications for consideration by ScallopMAC. Undertook the 2018 scallop survey.
Robert Curtotti	Observer	ABARES employee. Organisation is known to submit research funding applications for consideration by ScallopMAC.
George Day	Observer	Fishery senior manager. No interest in the fishery pecuniary or otherwise.
Steve Mantzaris	Observer	Holds Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit.

Name	Membership	Declared interests
Ross Bromley	Observer	Owner of Girella Fisheries Services that has been engaged by a group of quota holders to attend Scallop RAG and MAC. No personal pecuniary interest in the Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop fishery, however, clients hold quota in the fishery.
Peter Mellios	Observer	Holds Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit.
Andrew Zapantis	Observer	Holds Commonwealth concessions and a Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit.
Anthony Ciconte	Observer	Holds Commonwealth and State concessions and a Commonwealth Fish Receiver Permit.

Previous action items

MAC meeting #	Agenda item	Action item #	Action item	Agency/ person	Timeframe	Progress
29	3.1	1	That ScallopRAG consider and provide advice regarding the data needs for bycatch species to inform a discussion about the most cost effective way of collecting that information.	ScallopRAG		ScallopRAG considered this item at its meeting 20 June. An update on its advice was provided at agenda item 10 at ScallopMAC 30.
29	4	2	The contractor undertaking the biomass survey will provide brief, qualitative daily updates to AFMA about how the survey is progressing. AFMA will post these on AFMA's website so they are available to anyone who is interested.	Fishwell Consulting and AFMA	During 2018 survey	Complete for 2018. Two updates were provided and circulated to concession holders via email.
29	10	3	AFMA to send the proposed timeline of key events for the 2018 BSCZSF to MAC members.	AFMA	June 2018 MAC meeting	Complete. See agenda item 11 for 2019 timeline
29	11	4	The ScallopMAC Chair to invite Bob Lister to be an ongoing invited participant to ScallopMAC.	AFMA	Before June 2018 MAC meeting	Complete.

New action items

MAC meeting #	Agenda item	Action item #	Action item	Agency/person	Timeframe
30	4. Economic data	1	ABARES to do a preliminary analysis of the available economic information to see if simple economic triggers could be developed (e.g. looking at marginal revenue to marginal costs under a few different scenarios) to inform the BSCZSF TAC setting process.	ABARES (Robert Curtotti)	As soon as practicable
30	5. Biomass survey results	2	Dr Koopman to check the meats/kg calculations in the biomass survey report.	Matt Koopman	As soon as practicable

MAC meeting #	Agenda item	Action item #	Action item	Agency/person	Timeframe
30	5. Biomass survey results	3	ScallopMAC Chair to write to Bob Lister about the governance of the Co-management Committee.	John Pollock	As soon as practicable
30	7. MAC TAC recommendation	4	ScallopMAC to update and monitor the economic data table monthly during the 2018 season.	ScallopMAC	Monthly throughout 2018 fishing season
30	9. Fish Receiver Permits	5	AFMA to check if scallops can be sold at the wharf after verified weights are recorded.	AFMA	Prior to 2018 season

Proposed Date	Meeting/event/process	Purpose
November 2018	Co-management committee	Co-management Committee to advise AFMA how to proceed with the 2019 season: 1. open with 150 tonnes on 1 April 2019, or 2. proceed directly to biomass survey
If proceed directly to biomass survey, the following schedule would apply		
March 2019	Co-management committee (teleconference)	Provide input into the survey areas for 2019 to be considered by ScallopRAG.
March 2019	ScallopRAG	Recommend survey areas and Research Catch Allowance (RCA) for 2019 survey.
March 2019	Survey EOI (letter)	Call to all concession holders and active fishers for Expressions of Interest to participate in 2019 survey.
April 2019	Vessel/s selection (teleconference)	Survey vessel selected by an independent panel.
1 May 2019	Survey undertaken	Survey undertaken
June 2019	ScallopRAG (in person)	RAG meeting to provide TAC and closure advice, set research priorities for 2020-21
June 2019	ScallopMAC (in person)	MAC meeting to provide TAC and closure advice to the AFMA commission, set research priorities for 2019-20.
July 2019	Commission decision (out of session)	Consider RAG and MAC advice and set TAC
July 2019	Fishery opened or closed.	