

New and updated data available for the abalone assessment for Zones A, B, C and D

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September 2009

Data provided by MCM to be used in updating the abalone assessment for Zones A, B, C and D are discussed. In what follows changes in data from what were used in the previous assessment are noted, as well as listing data still needed. All references to year y in this paper represent model year, which is taken to run from October of year $y-1$ to September of year y (and which also corresponds to the fishing season).

Commercial data:

Zones A, C and D have been closed since the 2006/07 season (model year 2007) and therefore no new data are available.

For Zone B:

- Catches: A value of 24 t for 2008 was used in the previous assessment. Need to clarify whether this needs to be updated.
- Catch-at-age data: No update for 2008 and no 2009 data are available.
- CPUE data: The previous assessment included CPUE data until model year 2006. There are CPUE data for 2007 and 2008 for Zone B.

FIAS data:

There are no 2009 data available.

- Abundance indices: Indices for 2008 for Zones A and CP have been updated.
- Catch-at-age data: Updates for 2008 in Zones A and B are available.

Confiscation data:

- Numbers: Updated numbers are available for 2008, and new numbers available for 2009 for the first 3 quarters.

- Catch-at-age data: No 2009 catch-at-age available at the moment because the samples from known zones are small. There is a larger sample but it is unknown from where the abalone in this sample were taken. Use of these data needs to be discussed at the next Working Group meeting. The 2008 data have been updated for 2008. The values for 2005 for Zones C and D used in the previous analyses are different from those given now. It seems that years with sample sizes < 600 are not used in the assessment; however for Zones C and D the 2005 values are used in the model but the sample sizes are 551 and 53 respectively in the recent tables of available data.
- The Policing efficiency measure for 2009 is needed.