



2020 Bay Scallop Fishery Management Plan Update

Scheduled Review

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries MFC Business meeting

| Jeffrey Dobbs | August 20, 2020





Presentation Outline

- Management Strategy
- Fishery Overview
- Abundance Sampling
- Ongoing Efforts
- Research Needs
- DMF Recommendation
- Next Steps





Bay Scallop FMP Timeline

- 2007 → Original FMP established a prohibited take
- 2010 → Amendment 1 established opening triggers for fishery
- 2015 → Amendment 2 defined harvest levels for all areas
- 2020 → Scheduled review





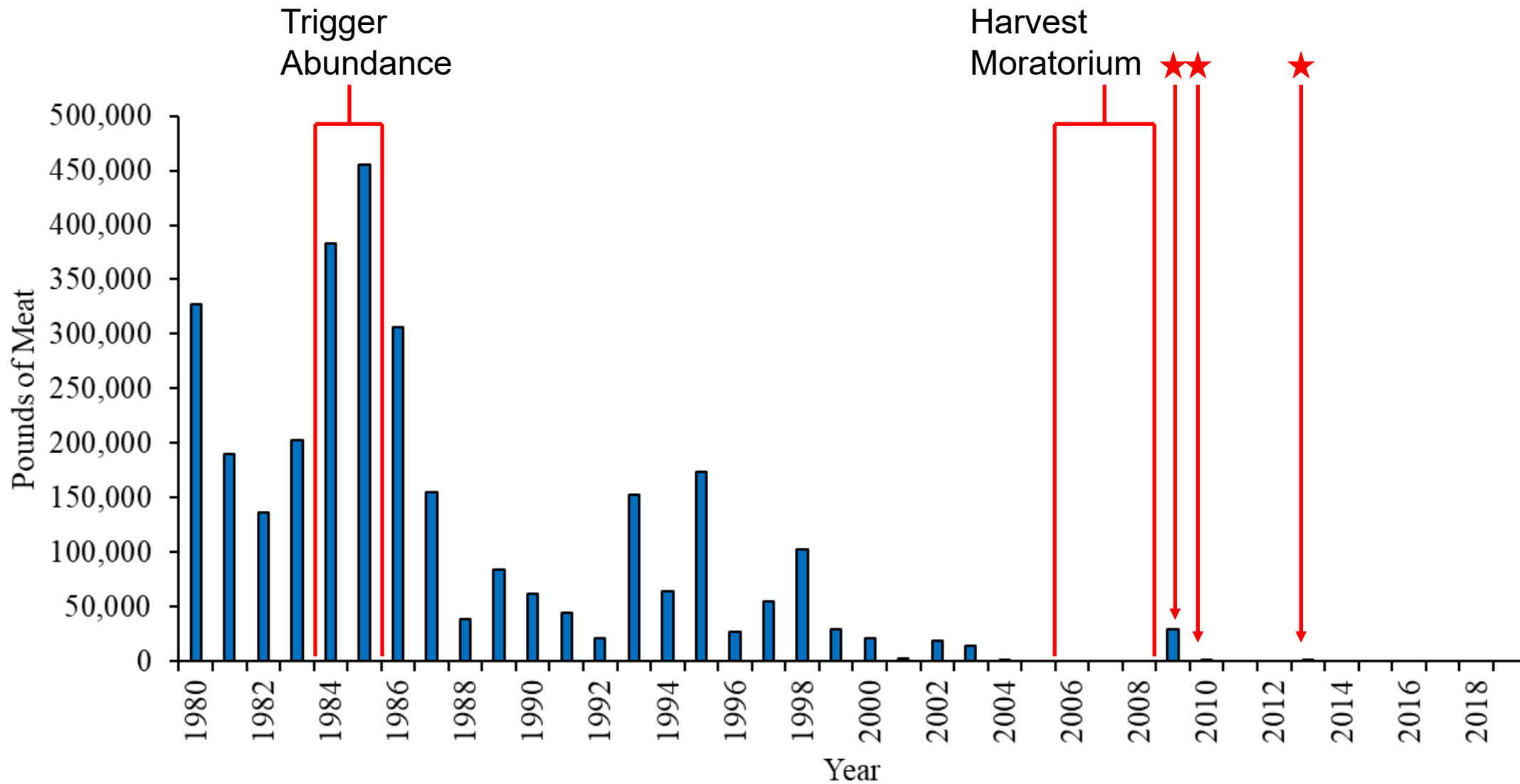
Bay Scallops (*Argopecten irradians*)

- Short lived - 12-26 months
- Sensitive to environmental changes and predators
- 1987 Red tide event
 - Killed 21% of adults in hardest hit areas
 - 1988 recruitment only 2% of normal
 - Stock never fully recovered
- Relative abundance at historic lows over past 10 years



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Fishery Overview



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Abundance Sampling

- Scallop dredge used in Back, Bogue, and Core sounds and southern area
- Quadrats for Pamlico Sound
- October and January sampling used for trigger



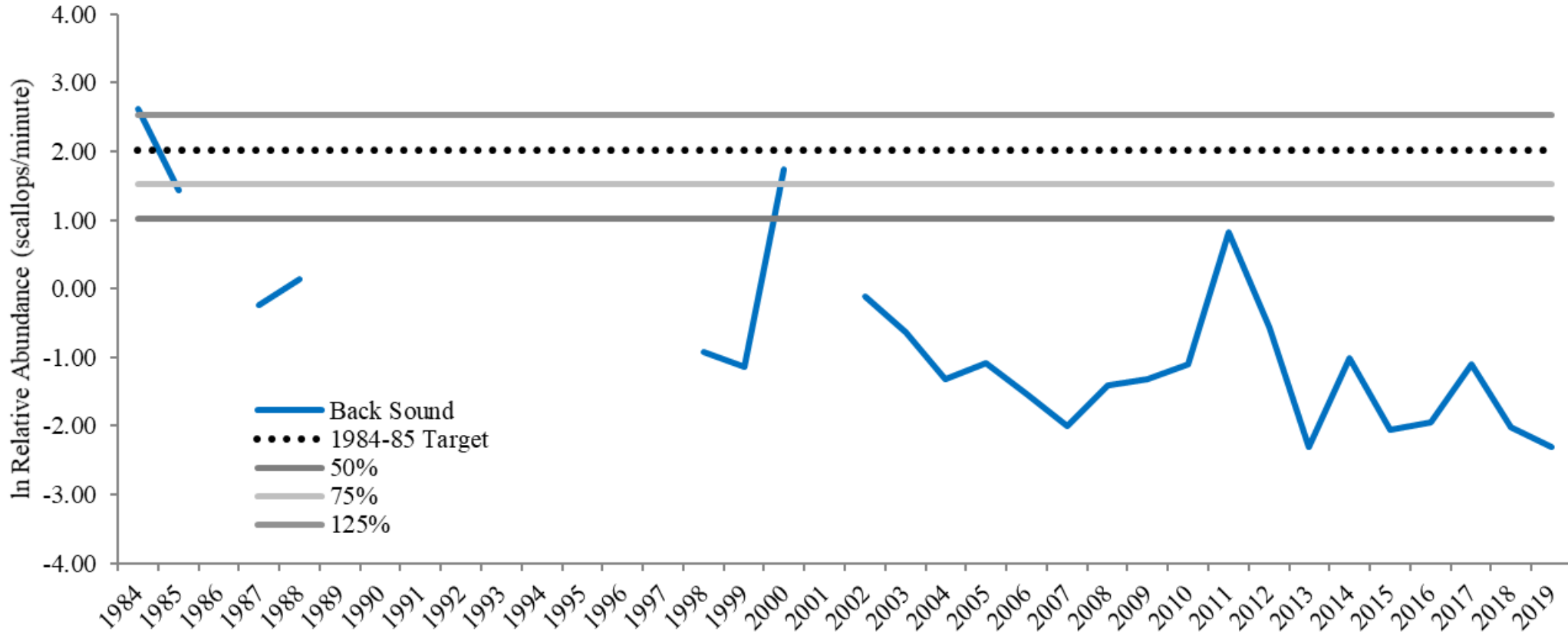


Bay Scallop Management Triggers

	Pamlico Sound	Core Sound	Back Sound	Bogue Sound
Progressive trigger 50%	0.76	2.36	2.75	3.22
Progressive trigger 75%	0.79	3.63	4.57	5.75
Target relative abundance	0.84	5.58	7.54	10.28
Progressive trigger 125%	0.87	8.58	12.55	18.36

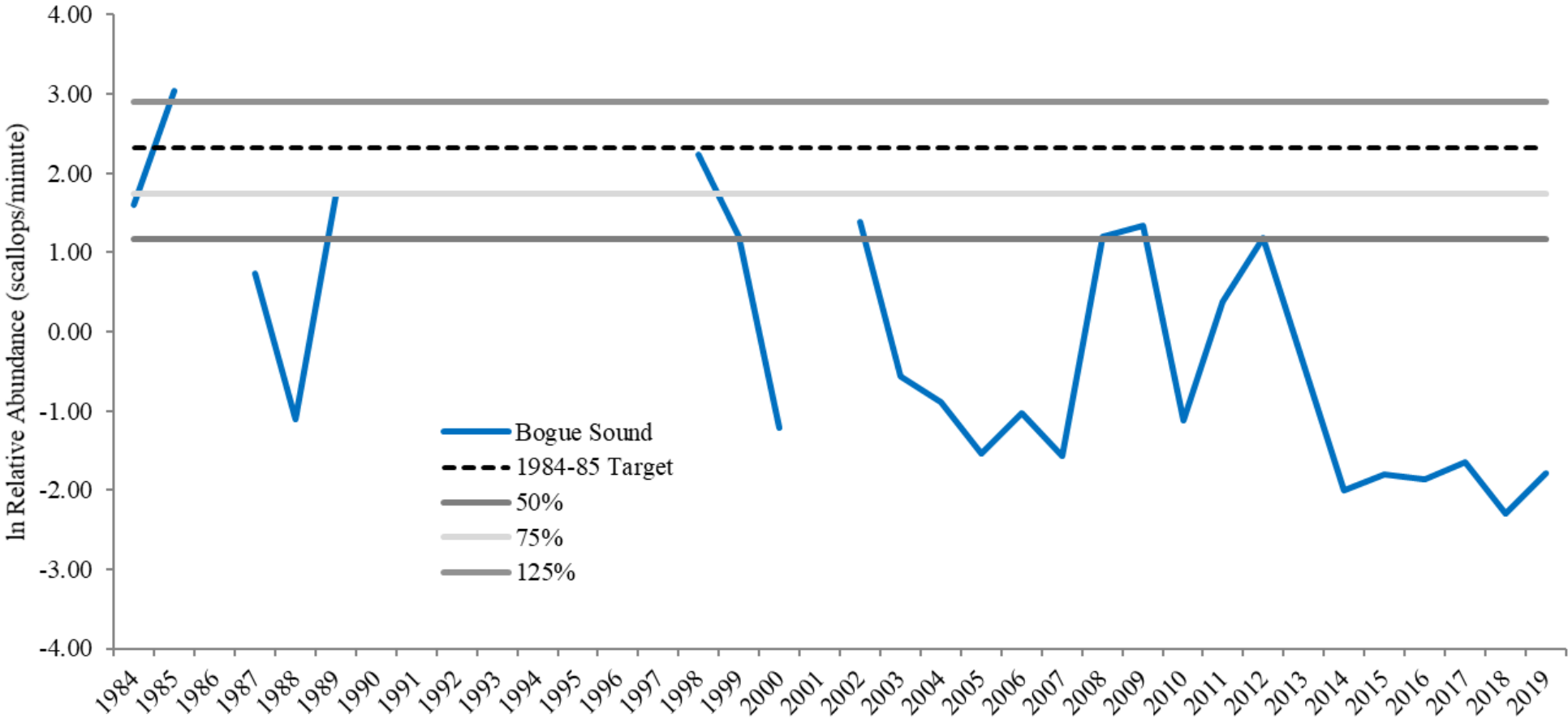


Back Sound



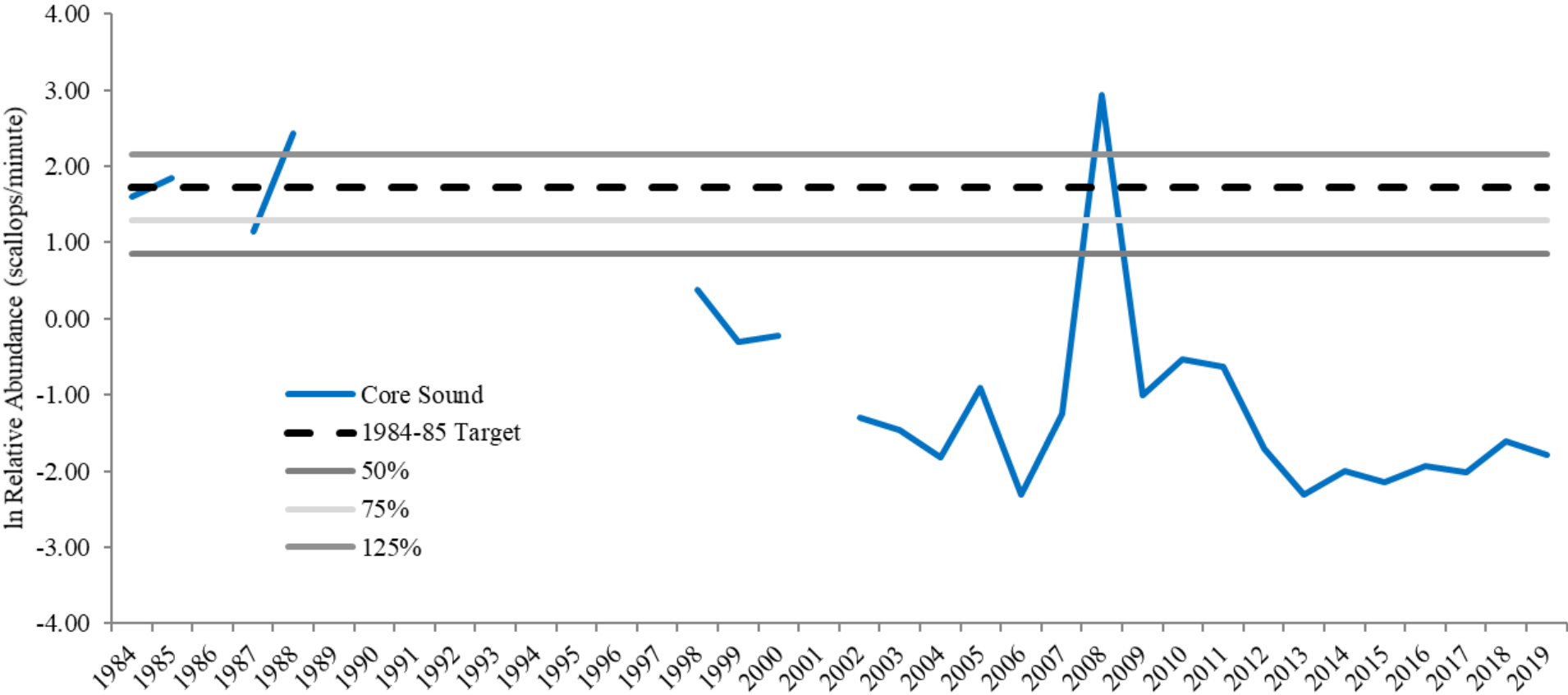


Bogue Sound



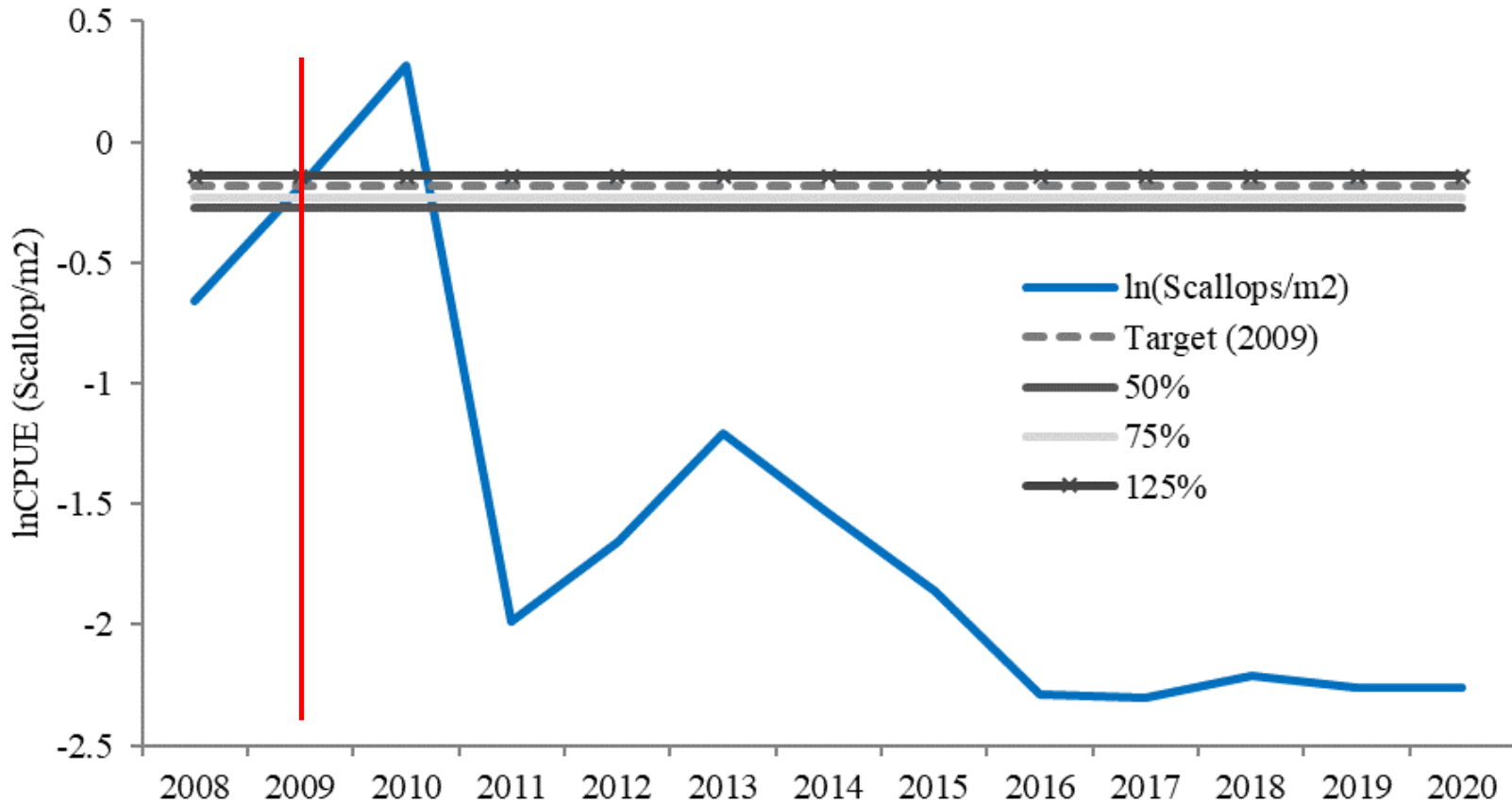


Core Sound



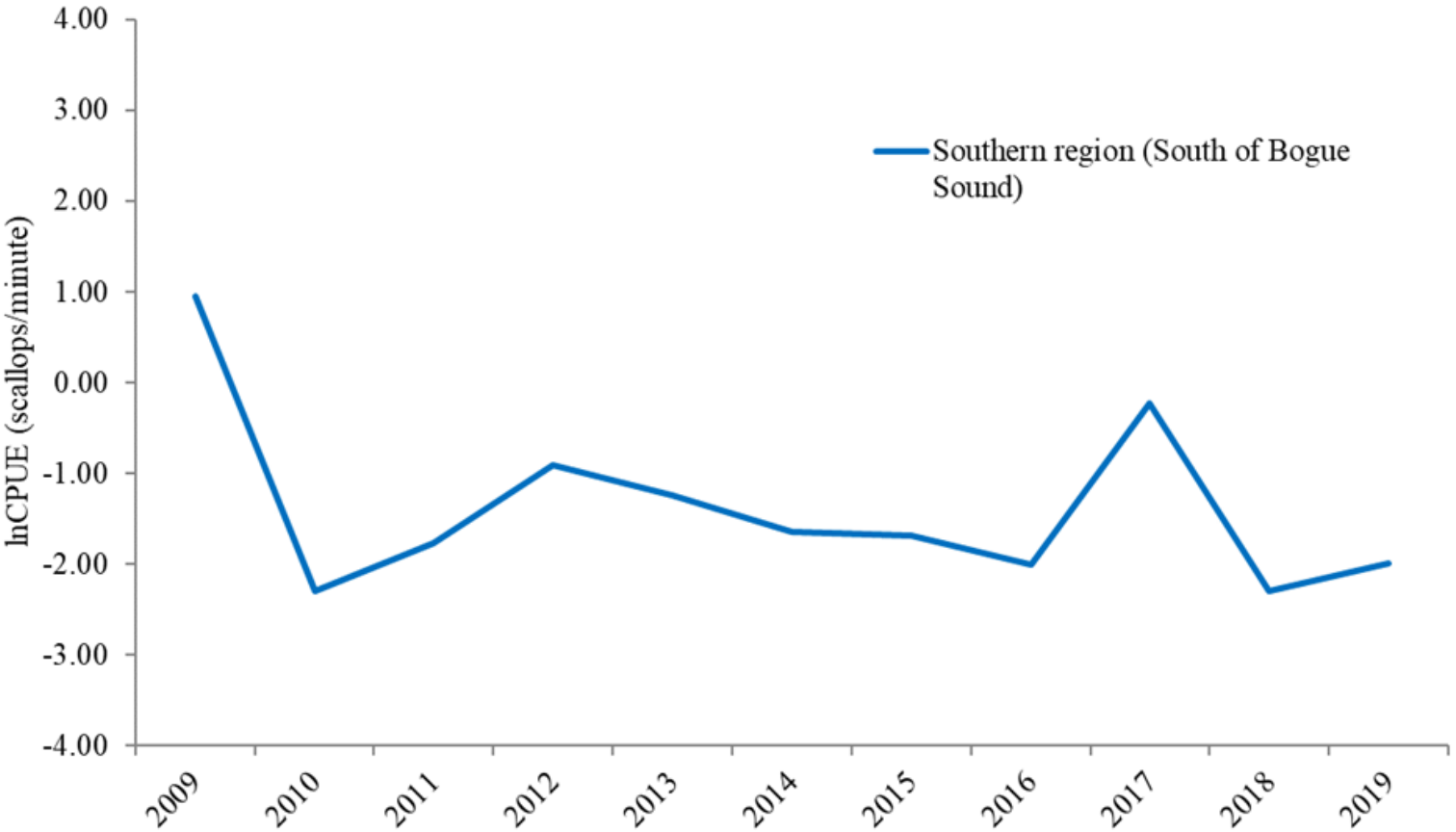


Pamlico Sound





Southern Region





- Research Collaboration
- Aquaculture
- Investigating causes of reduced abundance
- Looking for new bay scallop beds
- CHPP efforts
- Florida stock enhancement



- **Better quantify population and stock**
- **Identify viable stock enhancement techniques**
- Identify and enhance strategic bay scallop habitat
- Develop surveys for juvenile recruitment and spat settlement
- Look into role nutrient loading plays in recruitment



The division recommends the Commission approve the 2020 Bay Scallop FMP annual update to fulfill the scheduled review

- Management strategies within Amendment 2 will remain in effect
- Trends will be monitored annually
- If conditions change, the schedule can be adjusted



Action Item

Vote on final approval of Kingfishes FMP Update





Questions?

