Appendix 1. Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Profile of the Sablefish stock in the Alaska - Report Card

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*With Contributions from:*

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# Current Year Update

The ecosystem and socioeconomic profile or ESP is a standardized framework for compiling and evaluating relevant stock-specific ecosystem and socioeconomic indicators and communicating linkages and potential drivers of the stock within the stock assessment process (Shotwell et al., In Review). The ESP process creates a traceable pathway from the initial development of indicators to management advice and serves as an on-ramp for developing ecosystem-linked stock assessments. Please refer to the last full ESP and partial ESP documents for further information regarding the ecosystem and socioeconomic linkages for this stock (*list references*).

## Management Considerations

Summary conclusions from ESP for ABC (risk table)

## Modeling Considerations

Summary of indicators with high importance in the Bayesian adaptive sampling routine and discussion of which indicators have had consistent high importance. List of research ecosystem model runs that are currently ongoing and potential for operational use in the future.

# Assessment

## Ecosystem and Socioeconomic Processes

One paragraph description of ecosystem and socioeconomic (if available) conceptual model(s)

## Indicator Suite

One paragraph description of LME level indicators relevant to stock (ESR summary)

### Ecosystem Indicators:

1.) Physical Indicators

a.) Spring\_Chlorophylla\_Peak\_EGOA\_Satellite: Derived chlorophyll a concentration during spring seasonal peak (May) in the eastern GOA were obtained from MODIS satellite sensor at a 4x4 km resolution and aggregated 8-day composite. Peak timing of the spring bloom was calculated for the eastern GOA (EGOA) region (Watson et al., 2020) for NMFS areas 640 and 650, federal waters from 10m-200m depth.

Code available at: <https://github.com/jordanwatson/ESP_Indicators>. (contact: Jordan Watson)

NA

b.) Spring\_Temperature\_Surface\_EGOA\_Satellite: Late spring (May-June) daily sea surface temperatures (SST) on a 5 km grid averaged over the eastern GOA (NMFS areas 640 and 650, no depth restriction) (Watson, 2020) from the NOAA Coral Reef Watch Program which provides the Global 5km Satellite Coral Bleaching Heat Stress Monitoring Product Suite Version 3.1, derived from CoralTemp v1.0. product (NOAA Coral Reef Watch, 2018), 1985 to present.

Code available at: <https://github.com/jordanwatson/ESP_Indicators>. (contact: Jordan Watson)

Despite marked inter-annual variability, there appears to only be a slight upward trend in the overall time series.

c.) Spring\_Temperature\_Surface\_SEBS\_Satellite: Late spring (May-June) daily sea surface temperatures (SST) on a 5 km grid averaged over the southeastern Bering Sea (deeper than 10 m) (Watson, 2020) from the NOAA Coral Reef Watch Program which provides the Global 5km Satellite Coral Bleaching Heat Stress Monitoring Product Suite Version 3.1, derived from CoralTemp v1.0. product (NOAA Coral Reef Watch, 2018), 1985 to present.

Code available at: <https://github.com/jordanwatson/ESP_Indicators>. (contact: Jordan Watson)

While inter-annual variability is evident, a generally increasing trend is apparent (from both linear and non-linear smoothers). However, a cold stanza is a dominant feature for a portion of the time series. Recent years appear remarkably warmer than the majority of the time series.

d.) Summer\_Temperature\_250m\_GOA\_Survey: Summer temperature profiles were recorded during the annual longline survey along the continental slope using an SBE39 (Seabird Electronics) attached to the groundline approximately one-third of the way in from the shallow portion of a station (Siwicke, In prep.). In the GOA, 13 stations had complete temperature profiles for the entire timeseries (2005–2019). Annual anomalies from the 15-year mean can be calculated by station at discrete depths, and an index for each year can be represented by the mean of these anomalies at a chosen depth. Interpolation between actual depth recordings in a profile was conducted using weighted parabolic interpolation (Reiniger and Ross, 1968). The 250 m isobath was selected to represent deeper water at the shelf-slope break where adult sablefish are typically sampled. Annual values come from this extent: Latitude (54.4 to 59.6) and Longitude (-157.8 to -134.0) and the survey is conducted by the Marine Ecology and Stock Assessment (MESA) program, Auke Bay Laboratories, Alaska Fisheries Science Center. (contact: Kevin Siwicke)

The 250-m slope temperature index is in prime sablefish habitat and has not deviated greatly from the long-term mean. However, this index has remained positive for the last five years, a deviation from the historical fluctuations around the mean, suggesting these deeper waters may remain somewhat warmer than average (~0.1°C) from 2017-2021.

### Socioeconomic Indicators:

1.) Fishery Performance Indicators

a.) Annual\_Sablefish\_Incidental\_Catch\_BSAI\_Fishery: Incidental catch estimates of sablefish in the Bering Sea fisheries excluding the sablefish fishery provided by AKFIN, 1991 to present. (contact: Kalei Shotwell)

NA

b.) Annual\_Sablefish\_Incidental\_Catch\_GOA\_Fishery: Incidental catch estimates of sablefish in the GOA fisheries excluding the sablefish fishery provided by from AKFIN, 1991 to present. (contact: Kalei Shotwell)

NA

## Indicator Monitoring Analysis

References for statistical tests for monitoring indicator suite by stage where relevant

### Beginning Stage: Traffic Light Test

One paragraph summary of indicator status and trends over time and last five years trend Report scores by category (if applicable) and overall ecosystem and socioeconomic indicators.

### Intermediate Stage: Importance Test

One paragraph summary of importance results with analysis of highly explanatory variables for stock assessment input of interest (e.g., recruitment estimates)

### Advanced Stage: Research Model Test

Update on ecosystem linked model in development and link to relevant literature or report on model

# Data Gaps and Future Research Priorities

Copy from full ESP

# Tables

Table 1: First stage ecosystem indicator analysis for Sablefish, including indicator title and the indicator status of the last five years. The indicator status is designated with text, (greater than = "high", less than = "low", or within 1 standard deviation = "neutral" of long-term mean). Fill color of the cell is based on the sign of the anticipated relationship between the indicator and sablefish (blue = good conditions for sablefish, red = poor conditions, white = average conditions). A gray fill and text = "missing" will appear if there were no data for that year.

| **Indicator category** | **Indicator** | **2017 Status** | **2018 Status** | **2019 Status** | **2020 Status** | **2021 Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Physical | Spring Chlorophylla Peak EGOA Satellite | neutral | low | neutral | low | neutral |
| Spring Temperature Surface EGOA Satellite | neutral | neutral | high | neutral | neutral |
| Spring Temperature Surface SEBS Satellite | neutral | high | high | high | neutral |
| Summer Temperature 250m GOA Survey | neutral | neutral | neutral | neutral | neutral |
| Lower Trophic | ANNUAL COPEPOD SIZE ANOM EGOA | neutral | low | low | neutral | NA |
| ANNUAL COPEPOD SIZE ANOM WGOA | neutral | low | high | neutral | NA |
| Annual Sablefish Growth YOY Middleton Survey | neutral | neutral | high | neutral | NA |
| Upper Trophic | Annual Sablefish Age Evenness Female Adult Model | low | low | low | low | NA |
| Annual Sablefish Incidental Catch Arrowtooth Target GOA Fishery | high | high | high | neutral | NA |
| Annual Sablefish Mean Age Female Adult Model | neutral | neutral | low | low | NA |
| Summer Sablefish Condition Female Adult GOA Survey | low | neutral | neutral | neutral | NA |
| Summer Sablefish Condition Female Age4 GOA Survey | low | neutral | low | NA | NA |
| Summer Sablefish CPUE Juvenile GOA Survey | high | NA | neutral | NA | NA |
| Summer Sablefish CPUE Juvenile Nearshore GOAAI Survey | neutral | high | high | high | high |

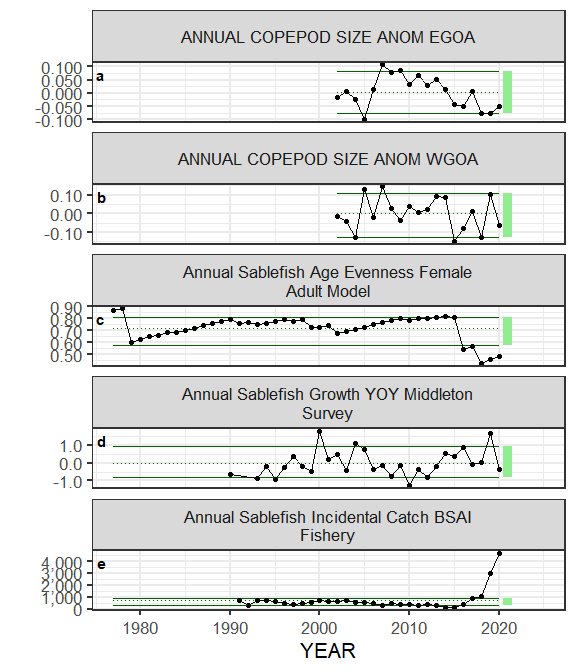
Table 2: First stage socioeconomic indicator analysis for Sablefish, including indicator title and the indicator status of the last five years. The indicator status is designated with text, (greater than = "high", less than = "low", or within 1 standard deviation = "neutral" of long-term mean). Fill color of the cell is based on the sign of the anticipated relationship between the indicator and sablefish (blue = good conditions for sablefish, red = poor conditions, white = average conditions). A gray fill and text = "missing" will appear if there were no data for that year.

| **Indicator category** | **Indicator** | **2017 Status** | **2018 Status** | **2019 Status** | **2020 Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fishery Performance | Annual Sablefish Incidental Catch GOA Fishery | neutral | high | high | neutral |
| Annual Sablefish Incidental Catch BSAI Fishery | neutral | neutral | high | high |
| Economic | Annual Sablefish Real Exvessel Price Fishery | high | neutral | low | low |
| Annual Sablefish Real Exvessel Value Fishery | neutral | neutral | low | low |

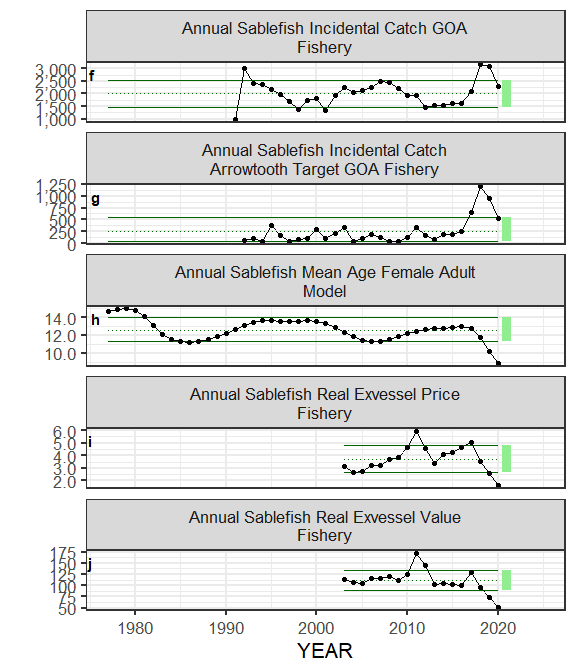
# Figures



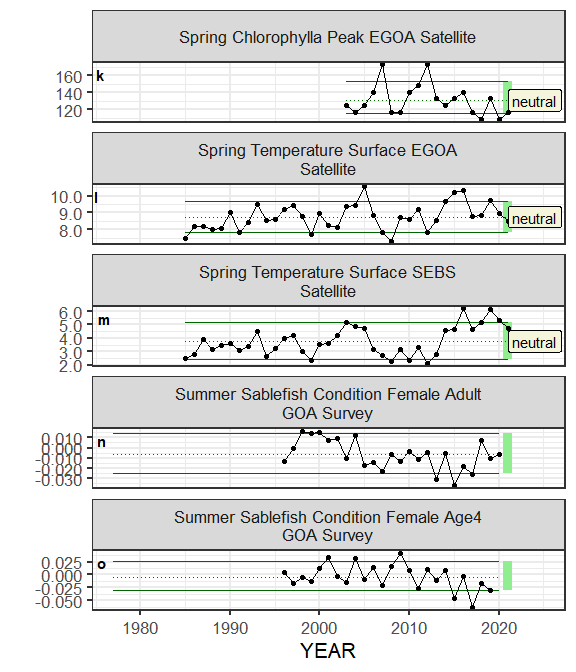
##### Figure 1. Life history conceptual model for Sablefish summarizing ecological information and key ecosystem processes affecting survival by life history stage. Red text means increases in process negatively affect survival, while blue text means increases in process positively affect survival.



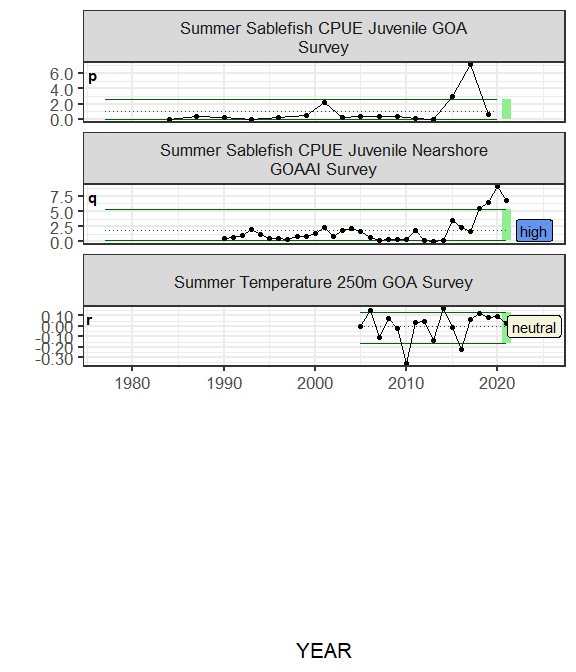
##### Figure ??. Selected indicators for Sablefish with time series ranging from 1977 – present. Upper and lower solid green horizontal lines are 90th and 10th percentiles of time series. Dotted green horizontal line is the mean of the time series. Light green shaded areas represent the most recent year of the traffic light analysis results.



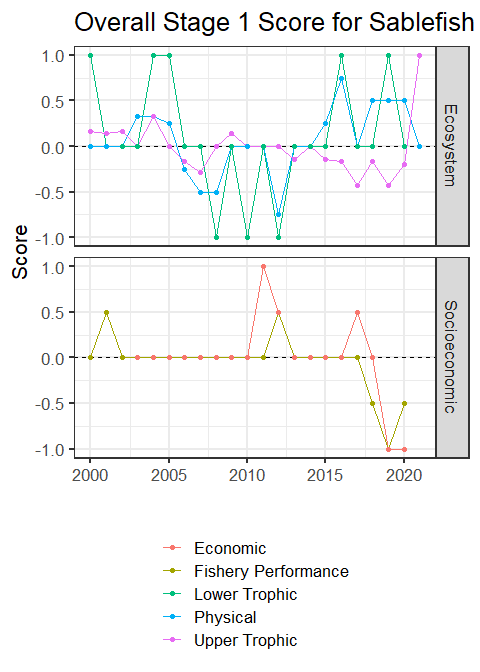
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##### Figure 2. Simple traffic light score for overall ecosystem and socioeconomic categories from 1977 to present.



##### Figure 3. Bayesian adaptive sampling output showing (a) standardized covariates prior to subsetting and (b) the mean relationship and uncertainty (95% confidence intervals) with log Sablefish recruitment, in each estimated effect (left bottom graph), and marginal inclusion probabilities (right bottom graph) for each predictor variable of the subsetted covariate set