

From: Daniel Goethel - NOAA Federal daniel.goethel@noaa.gov
Subject: Re: sablefish
Date: Jan 22, 2025 at 2:44:35 PM
To: Robert Alverson [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Chris Lunsford - NOAA Federal
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Hi Bob,

Generally it is assumed that sablefish are a single genetic 'population' across their distribution in the north Pacific (SoCal to BS), but this population is managed as 3-4 'stocks' (West Coast, BC, AK fed, AK state) based on fleet structure and management convenience. So, the AK federal 'stock' is a single unit (BSAI to Canada border), but some movement into and out of AK state waters and BC/WC stocks does occur.

There has been some ongoing work (has paused recently due to lack of funding) by the Pacific Sablefish Transboundary Assessment Team (PSTAT) to explore implications of movement among stocks/management regions across the Pacific coast. I have pasted a few paragraphs from the SAFE below that relate to these two topics. Not sure if these are what you might have saw?

We also have a spatially explicit model for sablefish in AK that is almost finished, which models the AK stock by management unit in AK (5 region model). We will probably be disseminating results of that work in the coming months and plan to have a presentation at the 2025 Plan Team on it.

Does that answer your question?

FYI, the 2024 SAFE doc is available from <https://meetings.npfmc.org/CommentReview/DownloadFile?p=69c507ce-ad17-46ca-ab0f-ff7e2ca07869.pdf&fileName=Sablefish%20Assessment%202024.pdf>

Also, at the meeting last week someone asked about sablefish