

## Workshop on Scallop Aging (WKSA)

**2019WK/EPDSG04A Workshop on Scallop Aging (WKSA)**, focusing on age reading of the king scallop (*Pecten maximus*), chaired by David Palmer\*, UK, and Karen Vanstaen\*, UK, will meet in Aberdeen, Scotland, UK, 9–13 March 2020 to:

- a) Review and compare current scallop age reading methodologies (including quality assurance) and agree on best practice; ([Science Plan codes](#): 3.1);
- b) Develop, agree and write a standard procedure for use in future scallop exchanges; (Science Plan codes: 3.1);
- c) Assess the potential use of SmartDots for king scallops; ([Science Plan codes](#):: 4.1, 4.4);
- d) Start a reference collection of scallop shells with a consensual age; ([Science Plan codes](#): 3.1);
- e) Discuss the benefits of future exchanges or workshops; ([Science Plan codes](#): 3.1).

WKSA will report by 1 May 2020 (via EPDSG) for the attention of WGScallop, WGBIOP and SCICOM.

### Supporting information

Priority	<p>WGScallop review and undertake scallop stock assessments and a number of institutes utilise age based models. It is fundamental to get reliable age readings in order to contribute to accurate assessments and the issues surrounding aging methodologies are considered to have a very high priority.</p> <p>A scallop exchange program was undertaken in 2018 but one of the main problems identified was the lack of common procedures and that the various laboratories involved were utilising different methodologies. The results of the exchange will be discussed at WGScallop 2019 it is expected that the percentage agreement between readers will be very low.</p>
Scientific justification	<p>The aim of the workshop is to identify the current aging problems between readers and standardize the age reading procedures in order to improve the accuracy and precision in the age reading of this species.</p>
Resource requirements	<p>No specific resource requirement beyond the need for members to prepare for and participate in the meeting.</p>
Participants	<p>In view of its relevance to the DCF, and ICES WG, the Workshop will try to join international experts on growth, age estimation and scientists involved in assessment in order to progress towards a solution.</p> <p>The workshop is expected to be attended by some 20–25 researchers from United Kingdom, France, Norway, Iceland and interest has been received from Canada and the United States.</p> <p>Participants should announce their intention to participate in the WK no later than two months before the meeting.</p>
Secretariat facilities	<p>Standard support</p>
Financial	<p>No financial implications.</p>
Linkages to advisory committees	<p>There are no obvious direct linkages with the advisory committees.</p>
Linkages to other committees or groups	<p>WGBIOP</p>
Linkages to other organizations	<p>There is a direct link with the EU DCF.</p>

