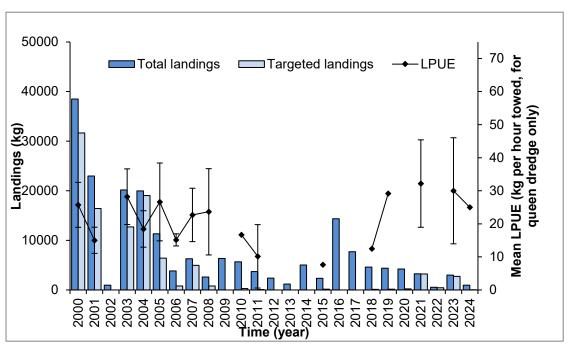
## **Queen Scallop Fishery**

The Shetland queen scallop (*Aequipecten opercularis*) fishery comprises some limited targeted queen fishing, with the majority of landings resulting from bycatch in the king scallop fishery (*Pecten maximus*). Local processing of queen scallops is minimal, and market conditions are believed to be the primary driver of the fishery, influencing both effort and landings.

Historically, the queen scallop fishery held significance in Shetland. Since the recording of data via the submission of SSMO logsheets, annual landings have fluctuated between one and 38 tonnes, reflecting the irregular nature of the fishery (Figure 1). The overall trend in queen scallop landings around Shetland declined between 2000 and 2015, with a slight peak in 2016 when landings exceeded 14 tonnes. However, landings have since dropped to below 5 tonnes annually from 2018 to 2024 (Figure 1). From 2008 to 2020, there was minimal targeted queen scallop fishing, until a notable increase was recorded in 2021 to 3.2 tonnes and has since fluctuated between 0.4 tonnes and 2.7 tonnes in 2022 and 2024, respectively.

The mean landings per unit effort (LPUE) from targeted fishing have exhibited variability, partly due to the sporadic nature of the fishery and significant variations in LPUE between vessels. Consequently, drawing conclusions from LPUE data is challenging.



*Figure 1 Total queen scallop landings, and the mean LPUE (catch per hour per dredge) obtained from SSMO logbook data with 95% confidence intervals shown.* 

Targeted queen fishing occurred in one SSMO square in 2024 on the west coast of the Mainland, K14 (Figures 2&3). The landings as bycatch were caught in Yell Sound and off the east coast around Whalsay (Figure 4). Typically, both the targeted and bycatch fisheries show consistent spatial distribution from year to year.

## Shetland Shellfish Stock Assessment 2024

U'HI SHETLAND
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						K07	L07	M07	N07 -	P07	Q07	R07							K07	L07	M07	N07 -	P07	Q07	R07							K07	L07	M07	N07 -	P07	Q07
					J08	K08	L08	MO8	N08	P08	Q08	R08						80L	K08	L08	M08	N08	P08	008	R08						J08	K08	L08	мов	N08	P08	Q08
				H09	J09	K09	L09	M09	N09	P09	009	R09 6	60.8°N —				H09	J09	K09	L09	M09	N09	P09	Q09	R09	60.8°N —				H09	J09	K09	L09	M09	N09	P09	Q09
			G10	H10	J10	К10	L10	M10	N10	P10	910	R10				G10	H10	J10	К10	L10	M10	5N10	P10	910	R10				G10	H10	J10	К10	L10	M10	N10	P10	910
			G11	ни	J11	K11	L11	(M1)	N11	P11	Q1	R11	60.6"N			G11	ни		K11	Å L11 J	M11	NII	P11	Q11	R11	60.6°N			G11	ни	J11	K11	ÅL11 &	(M1)	N11	P11	Q11
		F12	G12	H12	J12	С К12	) L12	M12	N12	P12	912	R12	00.014		F12	G12	H12	J12	 К12	L12	M12	N12	P12	912	R12	00.014		F12	G12	H12	J12 \	К12	L12	M12	N12	P12	912
	E13	F13	613	H13	J13	K13	413	M13	N13	P13	Q13	R13		E13	F13	613	H13	J13 4	( <u></u> <b>K</b> 13	L13	M13	N13	P13	Q13	R13		E13	F13	G13	Н13	j13	K13	L13	M13	N13	P13	Q13
1	E14	F14	G14	.× H14	J14	K14	L14W14	E M14	N/14	P14	Q14	R14	60.4°N 1	E14	F14	G14	× H14	J14	K14 L	14W14E	M14	N/14	P14	Q14	R14	60.4°N -	E14	F14	G14	» H14	J14	K14 L	14WL14E	M14,	NT4	P14	Q14
5	E15	F15	G15	-\? H15 (	J15		l L15₩15	E_M15	N15	P15	Q15	R15	5	E15	F15	G15	-\? H15 Ç	J15	K15N L	.15WL15E	M15	N15	P15	Q15	R15	5	E15	F15	G15	\? H15 ζ	J15	K15N	.15W/15E	_M15	N15	P15	Q15
3	E16	F16	G16	H16	J16	K15S K16	L16W216	É M16	N16	P16	Q16	R16 .	60.2°N 3	E16	F16	G16	H16	116 J	K15S K16 L	16W16E	M16	N16	P16	Q16	R16	60.2°N 3	E16	F16	G16	H16	- <b>J</b> ÎĜ	K15S K16 L	16W/16E	M16	N16 <	P16	Q16
, (	E17	F17	G17	Htt	J17	K17	417WL17	E M17	N17	) P17	Q17	R17	,	E17	F17	G17	HIZ	J17	K1754	17W17E	M17	N17	P17	Q17	R17	7	E17	F17	G17	HIZ	J17	K17	17W17E	M17	N17	P17	Q17
	E18	F18	G18	H18	J18	K18	L18WL18	€ M18	N18	P18	Q18		3	E18	F18	G18	H18	J18	K18	18W/18E	M18	N18	P18	Q18		3	E18	F18	G18	H18	J18	K18 L	18W18E	M18	N18	P18	Q18
)	E19	F19	G19	H19	J1/9	K19L	)9W/19E	M19	N19	P19	Q19	6	60.0°N —	E19	F19	G19	H19	J19	K19L)	9WL19E	M19	/N19	P19	Q19		60.0°N —	E19	F19	G19	H19	J1/9	K19L1	9W/19E	M19	N19	P19	Q19
	E20	F20	G20	H20	J20	К20	20	M20	N20	P20				E20	F20	G20	H20	JŻO	K20	20	м20	N20	P20				E20	F20	G20	H20	J20	K20	L20	м20	N20	P20	
			G21	H21	J21	K21	L21	M21	N21	P21			59.8°N —			G21	H21	J21	K21	L21	M21	N21	P21			59.8°N —			G21	H21	J21	K21	L21	M21	N21		en 2024 tch (kg)
			G22	H22	J22	K22	L22	M22								G22	H22	J22	K22	L22	M22								G22	H22	J22	К22	L22	M22			0 22 - 39
		F23	G23	H23	J23	к23	L23	M23		Quee	n 2024		59.6°N		F23	G23	H23	J23	K23	L23	M23					59.6°N —		F23	G23	H23	J23	к23	L23	M23			40 <b>-</b> 99
		F24	G24	H24	<b>J</b> 24	к24	L24		I	Landi	ngs (kg 0				F24	G24	H24	<b>J</b> 24	к24	L24	Que	en 202	4 LPUI	E (kg/hr	r)			F24	G24	H24	324	к24	L24				100 - 14 150 - 24
		F25	G25	H25	J25	K25	L25				24 <b>-</b> 24				F25	G25	H25	J25	K25	L25		24.50	- 25.49					F25	G25	H25	J25	K25	L25				248 - 27

Figure 2 Geographic distribution of queen scallop landings per SSMO statistical square in 2024. Figure 3 Geographic distribution of queen scallop LPUE per SSMO statistical square in 2024. Figure 4 Geographic distribution of queen scallop bycatch per SSMO statistical square in 2024.