

Abalone Slide Show Script

Slide 1- Abalone

- These are Northern, or Pinto abalone
- Abalone are marine snails
- Abalone species can be found all over the world, in British Columbia the abalone species is the Pinto abalone, *Haliotis kamtschatkana*, which were once very abundant off the west coast

Slide 2- Habitat

- Abalone live in subtidal and intertidal zones off the shores of British Columbia's west coast
- They can be found off rocky, exposed shorelines where there is an abundance of algae

Slide 3- Shell 1, Slide 4- Shell 2 and Slide 5- Shell measure

- These are photos of abalone shells
- Their shells provide protection from predators and exposure
- Pinto Abalone can live up to 15 years old and grow to be a maximum of 14cm
- Abalone were highly valued by the First Nations People of coastal British Columbia. Abalone meat was considered a delicacy and their shells were used for jewelry

Slide 6- Kelp

- Abalone eat algae, such as this giant kelp
- Abalone use an organ with many sharp teeth, called a radula, to eat their food

Slide 7- Urchin

- Sea urchins share the abalone's habitat and compete for the same food source, kelp
- The abalone's predators include octopus, crab, sea stars, sea otters and humans

Slide 8- Habitat

- The abalone have long been harvested for their meat and their populations remained stable until the 1970s when SCUBA equipment was introduced to abalone harvesting
- Populations sharply declined due to the increased harvesting using
- In 1990, a complete ban was placed on the harvesting of Northern Abalone
- Poaching continued due to the high value of abalone meat
- Abalone were designated a threatened species in 1999

Slide 9- Hatchery Tank

- The Bamfield Huu-ay-aht Community Abalone Project in Bamfield,

B.C. was created in response to the plight of the abalone (Bamfield is on the west coast of Vancouver Island)

- The Abalone Project is a partnership between the Huu-ay-aht First Nation, the Bamfield Community School Association and the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre
- The goal is to replenish wild stocks, remove abalone from its threatened status, and develop an aquaculture system for market use of abalone
- The Project includes a hatchery and grow-out facility to breed and raise abalone for reintroduction into the wild, and eventual commercial sales

Slide 10- Brood Stock

- Adults from the wild have been used as brood stock to generate young for the Bamfield hatchery

Slide 11- Spats

- These are abalone spats; this stage of development lasts approximately 3 weeks to 3 months after fertilization
- This is when abalone larvae first settle and feed on diatoms from their surrounding environment

Slide 12- Hatchery Juveniles

- These are abalone juveniles at the Bamfield hatchery
- Abalone are juveniles for 2-3 years before they reach their adult stage
- These juveniles are approximately one year old

Slide 13- 2 year olds

- These juveniles at the Bamfield hatchery are approximately 2 years old

Slide 14- Abalone