COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON PACIFIC SARDINE FISHERY UPDATE

At the August 14-15 meeting of the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), the CPSMT held a discussion on the status of the 2001 Pacific sardine fishing season. State representatives provided brief overviews of landings to date, along with projections for the remainder of the year. Landings and remaining harvest guidelines for northern and southern allocation areas were discussed with respect to the October 1 reallocation authorized by the fishery management plan (FMP). The Oregon and Washington fisheries have had relatively high landings to date, but the Monterey, California fishery has had negligible landings due to poor resource availability. The Monterey fishery is anticipated to increase in the fall if a more typical season resumes. Given the possibility that the Oregon and Washington fisheries could preempt the Monterey fishery from the northern harvest guideline, the CPSMT recommends that the October 1 reallocation schedule, as specified in the FMP, be executed. This will ensure the harvest guideline is achieved, and the Monterey, California fishery is provided opportunity to harvest a reasonable share of the harvest guideline.

PFMC
09/11/01