

## **National Marine Fisheries Service Report - Updated**

### **Fishing Activities**

**Pacific Mackerel - 2006-2007 Landings:** The current Pacific mackerel harvest guideline is 19,845 mt with a directed fishery of 13,845 mt and a reserve of 6,000 mt. As of February 16<sup>th</sup>, 6,551 mt of Pacific mackerel had been landed. NMFS, with help from the state, will continue to monitor landings to determine whether it will be necessary to close the directed fishery and institute an incidental-only fishery, however at this time the release of the incidental set-aside is not warranted. The Pacific mackerel season began on July 1, 2006, and ends on June 30, 2007.

### **CPS Regulatory Activities**

**Final Rule; Annual Specifications for Pacific Mackerel:** On January 31, 2007, the final rule implementing the 2006/2007 Pacific mackerel harvest guideline was published in the Federal Register (72 FR 44611).

**Proposed Rule; Implementation of New Reporting Requirements and Conservation Measures within Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries:** On December 7, 2006, NMFS published a proposed rule to implement new reporting requirements and conservation measures under Amendment 11 to the CPS FMP (71 FR 70941). These measures relate to possible interactions between southern sea otters and coastal pelagic species fisheries and stemmed from the Endangered Species Act consultation process for the implementation of the amendment. The final rule for this action will soon be published in the Federal Register.

**Notice of Availability; Amendment 12 to the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan:** A Notice of Availability for Amendment 12 (Krill Harvest Prohibition) to the CPS FMP was published on February 26, 2007 (72 FR 8335). NMFS will be accepting comments on this action through April 27, 2007. A proposed rule to implement Amendment 12 has been submitted for Secretarial review and approval. NMFS expects to publish and request public comment on the proposed regulation to implement the amendment in the near future.