

PACIFIC MACKEREL STOCK ASSESSMENT AND HARVEST GUIDELINE
FOR 2007-2008

The Council is scheduled to review the current Pacific mackerel stock assessment and adopt a harvest guideline for the 2007-2008 Pacific mackerel fishing season, which opens July 1, 2007.

Full assessments for Pacific mackerel typically occur every third year, necessitating a three-year cycle for the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Stock Assessment Review (STAR) process. The National Marine Fisheries Services, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, took the lead in developing a new full assessment of Pacific mackerel for the 2007-2008 fishing season (Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 1). The full assessment was reviewed during a May 1-4, 2007 STAR Panel meeting in La Jolla, California. The STAR Panel and the assessment team agreed on an assessment for use in managing the upcoming Pacific mackerel season and recommended additional analyses for review at the next CPS STAR Panel meeting scheduled for September 18-21, 2007. The full report of the STAR Panel can be found under Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 2.

On May 8-10, 2007, the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS), held meetings to review the Pacific mackerel stock assessment and STAR Panel report. CPSMT and CPSAS statements with recommendations on the harvest guideline and management measures for 2007-2008 are included in the reference materials under Agenda Item F.2.c. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will prepare a supplemental statement at the June meeting.

The CPSMT has completed a draft of the seventh annual Status of the Pacific Coast CPS Fishery and Recommended Harvest Guidelines – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) – 2007 document (Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 3). Stock assessment and management recommendations can be found in Chapter 3 and Chapter 9. Once adopted, the 2007 Pacific Mackerel Stock Assessment and Stock Assessment Review Panel report will be included in the 2007 CPS SAFE.

Council Action:

Adopt Pacific Mackerel Assessment and a Harvest Guideline for the 2007/2008 Fishery.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 1: *Assessment of the Pacific Mackerel (Scomber japonicus) Stock for U.S. Management in the 2007-2008 Season.*
2. Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 2: *Pacific Mackerel, Stock Assessment Review Panel Report.*
3. Agenda Item F.2.b, Attachment 3 *Draft Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery and Recommended Acceptable Biological Catches – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation 2007 (electronic copy on Council Briefing Book CD).*
4. Agenda Item F.2.c, CPSMT Report.
5. Agenda Item F.2.c, CPSAS Report.
6. Agenda Item F.2.c, Supplemental SSC Report

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. NMFS Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Approve Stock Assessment and Harvest Guideline

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PFMC
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