

PACIFIC MACKEREL HARVEST GUIDELINE AND OTHER SPECIFICATIONS FOR 2001-2002

Situation: Per the coastal pelagic species (CPS) fishery management plan (FMP) annual cycle, the Council is scheduled to review the Pacific mackerel stock assessment and adopt for recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce a harvest guideline for the 2001-2002 Pacific mackerel fishing season. The current year's harvest guideline for Pacific mackerel (20,740 mt) was reached and the fishery closed on March 27, 2001 (66FR17373). The 2001-2002 fishery opens July 1, 2001. The current stock assessment and management recommendations are summarized in Attachment 1.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) have reviewed the assessment and the recommended harvest guideline. They will present their respective advice to the Council.

The CPSMT has completed the second annual *Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE)* document. This is included in the briefing book.

According to the annual management plan, the CPS SAFE document will be prepared and presented in two sections. The main section will be submitted at the June Council meeting. This portion of the SAFE will include the annual Pacific mackerel assessment, evaluation of the fisheries based on the calendar year, and the status of monitored species. The second (supplemental) section will include the Pacific sardine assessment and status of the sardine fishery. The supplemental section will be presented at the November Council meeting.

Council Action:

1. Adopt Pacific mackerel fishery management specifications for 2001-2002 fishing season.

Reference Materials:

1. Stock Assessment of Pacific Mackerel with Recommendations for the 2001-2002 Management Season, Executive Summary (Exhibit G.2, Attachment 1).
2. Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Through 2001 and Recommended Acceptable Biological Catches for 2002 (Exhibit G.2, Attachment 2).
3. Exhibit G.2.b, CPSMT Report.
4. Exhibit G.2.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report.