

PACIFIC SARDINE HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR 2002

Situation: Per the coastal pelagic species (CPS) fishery management plan (FMP) annual cycle, the Council is scheduled to review the Pacific sardine stock assessment and adopt a recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce for a harvest guideline for the 2002 Pacific sardine fishing season. The current harvest guideline (which expires December 31, 2001) is 134,737 mt (based on a biomass estimate of 1,182,465 mt). The current stock assessment and harvest guideline recommendation are summarized in Exhibit H.3, Attachment 1.

Annually, the harvest guideline is divided between northern and southern sub-areas. For 2001, the north and south allocations were 44,912 mt and 89,825 mt, respectively. The location dividing the northern and southern sub-areas is Point Piedras Blancas, on the central California coast.

The CPS Management Team (CPSMT) and the CPS Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) have reviewed the assessment and the recommended harvest guideline. They will present their respective advice to the Council. The advisors will also present an update on the review of CPS stock assessment methods.

Council Action:

1. **Adopt Pacific sardine harvest guideline and sub-area allocation for 2002.**
2. **Guidance about how to proceed with review of CPS stock assessment methods.**

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit H.3, Attachment 1, *Status of the Pacific Sardine Resource and Fishery in 2001 With Management Recommendations for 2002.*
- ✓2. Exhibit H.3.b, Supplemental SSC Report. *received 11-1-01*
- ✓2. Exhibit H.3.b, Supplemental CPSMT Report. *received 11-1-01*
- ✓3. Exhibit H.3.b, Supplemental CPSAS Report. *received 11-1-01*

PFMC
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