

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL COMMENTS ON  
NMFS REPORT

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) would like to recommend that National Marine Fisheries Service trigger an automatic action to reopen the directed pacific mackerel fishery. Further, the CPSAS recommends this fishery begin no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>. The Council is not slated to discuss the mop-up fishery until the April meeting. However, given the mackerel landings to date, and the amount of harvest guideline which has not been landed, the CPSAS believes there is urgency to beginning the mop-up fishery as soon as possible. Due to time constraints, if NMFS waits until after the April council meeting to begin this process, it will likely be May before the mop-up fishery begins. Beginning the process prior to the April Council meeting will ensure that the industry has a higher probability of harvesting the majority of the harvest guideline available.

PFMC  
03/14/02