

## PACIFIC SARDINE FISHERY UPDATE

**Situation:** The Pacific sardine fishing season began January 1, 2002 with a harvest guideline (HG) of 118,442 mt. The harvest guideline is allocated between Subarea A, north of 35°40' N latitude (Pt. Piedras Blancas) to the Canadian border, and Subarea B, south of 35°40' N latitude to the Mexican border. The northern area is allocated 33% (39,481 mt) and southern area is allocated 66% (78,961 mt) of the HG. The HG is in effect until December 31, 2002, or until it is reached and the fishery closed.

Per the coastal pelagic species (CPS) fishery management plan (FMP), nine months after the start of the fishing season (in this case, October 1, 2002) any uncaught portion of the HG will be totaled and reallocated, each subarea receives 50% of the total. The FMP authorizes National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to reallocate the HG as an "automatic measure," which is an action that could be initiated by NMFS without prior public notice, opportunity for public comment, or a Council meeting.

The coastal states will each report on sardine fisheries occurring in their respective areas. The states may also report to the Council about specific aspects unique to their fisheries.

Based on this information, reports from the CPS advisors, and public testimony, the Council may consider recommending to NMFS the HG be reallocated as per the FMP.

### **Council Action:**

#### **1. Consider reallocation of HG per CPS FMP inseason action.**

#### **Reference Materials:**

1. Exhibit G.2.b, Supplemental State Reports.
2. Exhibit G.2.c, Supplemental CPSMT Report.
3. Exhibit G.2.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report.

#### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agendum Overview
  - b. State Agency Reports and Comments
  - c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
  - d. Public Comment
  - e. **Council Action:** Consider Reallocation of HG per CPS FMP Inseason Action
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PFMC  
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