

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES UPDATE

Amendment 10

The final rule implementing Amendment 10 to the FMP was published in the Federal Register on January 27, 2003. The rules establishing the fleet capacity limit and the rules governing the transfer of limited entry permits were effective on date of publication, and new permits bearing each vessel's calculated gross tonnage were mailed to the fleet by January 31, 2003. Section 660.512(h), which governs the procedure for considering issuing new permits, was made effective on February 26, 2003.

The form used to apply for the transfer of a vessel, the regulations implementing Amendment 10, a compliance guide explaining the regulations, and a list of limited entry vessels in the coastal pelagic species fishery with each vessel's calculated gross tonnage is available on the Southwest Region's web site at <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov>. This material was also mailed to each holder of a limited entry permit.

2003 Sardine Fishery

On December 31, 2002, the announcement of the Pacific sardine harvest guideline for the January 1, 2003, to December 31, 2003, fishing season was published in the Federal Register. The harvest guideline of 110,908 metric tons (mt) is divided one-third north of Pt. Piedras Blancas (36,969 mt) and two-thirds south of Pt. Piedras Blancas (73,939 mt). During January, 4,161 mt were landed in the northern area and 4,546 mt were landed in the southern area.

2002 Sardine Fishery

A total of 100,963 mt of Pacific sardine was landed during the 2002 fishing season, which left 17,479 mt of the 2002 harvest guideline unharvested. A total of 78,583 mt was landed during the 2001 fishing season.

2002 - 2003 Pacific Mackerel Fishery

For the July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003 Pacific mackerel fishing season, only 3,457 mt have been landed. The harvest guideline of 12,535 mt was divided with at least 9,500 mt allocated to a directed fishery and 3,035 mt reserved for incidental landings should the 9,500 mt be landed.

Landings summaries from these fisheries follow.

2002 Pacific Sardine Harvest Status

The Pacific sardine resource off California, Oregon, and Washington is managed under the authority of the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan on a January through December fishing season. The harvest guideline for January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2002, is 118,442 metric tons (mt) (66 FR 66811, December 27, 2001). The northern allocation is 39,481 mt (north of Pt. Piedras Blancas 35° 40' 00" N. latitude), and the southern allocation is 78,961 mt.

Month	Pacific Sardine Harvest in Metric Tons	
	North	South
2002 Fishing Season		
January	226	4,772
February	1,120	7,669
March	162	6,355
April	65	5,144
May	1	2,052
June	2,912	629
July	11,603	3,020
August	20,205	4,432
September	6,055	4,066
October	7,069	3,809
November	2,248	3,340
December	337	3,672
Totals	52,003	48,960

As of February 14, 2003, the harvest for the 2002 fishing season was 100,963 mt, which left a total of 17,479 mt of the 118,442 mt harvest guideline unharvested.

2002 SARDINE HARVEST BY STATE

Month	California	Oregon	Washington
January	4,999	0	0
February	8,789	0	0
March	6,516	0	0
April	5,209	0	0
May	2,053	0	0
June	630	2,494	418
July	3,349	7,152	4,123
August	7,454	9,405	7,778
September	5,008	3,260	1,854
October	9,435	402	1,040
November	5,589	0	0
December	4,009	0	0
Total	63,040	22,713	15,213

Figures as of 02/14/2003

Notes

- The allocation of 39,481 mt north of point Piedras Blancas was expected to be reached on September 14; therefore, the fishery was closed (67 FR 62001). Estimated landings were 41,147 mt.
- Reallocation of unharvested sardine was implemented by emergency rule on September 20 (67 FR 60601).

HARVEST BY STATE NORTH OF PT. PIEDRAS BLANCAS

State	Metric tons
California	14,078
Oregon	22,713
Washington	15,213
Total	52,004

Pacific Mackerel Harvest Status

The Pacific mackerel resource off California, Oregon, and Washington is managed under the authority of the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan on a July 1 through June 30 fishing season. The harvest guideline for July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2003, is 12,535 metric tons (mt). Below is the monthly harvest beginning on July 1, 2002.

Month	Pacific Mackerel Harvest (mt)
July	208
August	568
September	1,048
October	973
November	372
December	166
January	119
February	3
March	
April	
May	
June	
Total	3,457

The harvest guideline is low (12,535 mt); therefore, there will be a directed fishery of at least 9,500 mt, with 3,035 mt of the harvest guideline utilized for incidental landings following the closure of the directed fishery. When the 9,500 mt is caught, no more than 40 percent by weight of a landing of Pacific sardine, northern anchovy, jack mackerel, or market squid can consist of Pacific mackerel.

The above landings are figures as of February 6, 2003 and includes Pacific mackerel caught off Oregon and Washington.