

DRAFT REGULATORY AMENDMENT AND ANALYSIS FOR CHANGES TO SARDINE ALLOCATION

Situation: The Council will review Exhibit I.2.b, CPSMT Report – *Discussion and Analysis of Management Alternatives for an Interim Revision to the Pacific Sardine Allocation Framework within the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan*. This draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared per Council guidance at the November 2002 meeting. Based on its review of the EA, advisory reports, and public comment, the Council is scheduled to consider preliminary action on the allocation alternatives and provide guidance to the advisory bodies.

At the November 2002 meeting, the Council adopted a set of proposed management alternatives and directed the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Management Team (CPSMT) to analyze these alternatives for the purpose of developing a regulatory amendment to the CPS fishery management plan (FMP). The basis of this action was information prepared by the CPSMT and advice from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on the form and schedule the management action could take. The proposed schedule calls for preliminary action at the March 2003 Council meeting, final action at the April 2003 Council meeting, and NMFS implementation of a regulatory amendment in August 2003.

In considering preliminary action, the Council may want to indicate a preferred management alternative and provide specific direction for completion of the regulatory amendment package. In taking this action, the Council may also want to consider the brief period of time between the March and April Council meetings and the constraint on workload this may create.

**Council Action:**

- 1. Consider preliminary action to guide regulatory amendment process and guidance to advisory bodies.**

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit I.2.b, CPSMT Report – *Discussion and Analysis of Management Alternatives for an Interim Revision to the Pacific Sardine Allocation Framework within the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan*.
2. Exhibit I.2.c, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Consider Preliminary Action to Guide Regulatory Amendment Process and Guidance to Advisory Bodies

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