

PACIFIC MACKEREL HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR THE 2004/2005 SEASON

Situation: The Council is scheduled to review the current Pacific mackerel stock assessment and adopt a harvest guideline for the 2004-2005 Pacific mackerel fishing season, which opens July 1, 2004.

In 2003, a harvest guideline of 10,652 mt was established based on a biomass estimate of 68,924 mt. Because this relatively small harvest guideline could have interfered with harvest of other coastal pelagic species (CPS), a directed fishery was allotted 7,500 mt. The remaining 3,152 mt of the harvest guideline were to be used for incidental landings following closure of the directed fishery. However, by May 2004 less than 6,000 mt of Pacific mackerel had been harvested and the directed fishery remains open.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) have reviewed the new stock assessment and the recommended harvest guideline. They will present their respective advice to the Council.

The CPSMT has completed the fifth annual *Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery and Recommended Harvest Guidelines – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) – 2004* document. This is included in the briefing book as Attachment 1. The current stock assessment and management recommendations are summarized in Attachment 1, Appendix 2.

Council Action:

1. Adopt Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline for the 2004/2005 Season.

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit F.2.a, Attachment 1: *Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery and Recommended Harvest Guidelines – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) – 2004*.
2. Exhibit F.2.b, CPSMT Report.
3. Exhibit F.2.b, CPSAS Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline for the 2004/2005 Season

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PFMC
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