

PACIFIC MACKEREL HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR 2005/2006 FISHERY

The Council is scheduled to review the current Pacific mackerel stock assessment and adopt a harvest guideline for the 2005/2006 Pacific mackerel fishing season, which opens July 1, 2005.

The 2004/2005 Pacific mackerel harvest guideline was 13,268 metric tons (mt) with a directed fishery of 9,100 mt and a reserve of 4,168 mt. This reserve was to be used for incidental landings following a potential closure of the directed fishery. At the April 2005 Council meeting, National Marine Fisheries Service announced the release of the reserve because Pacific mackerel landings were well below the directed fishery portion of the harvest guideline. As of May 2005, approximately 4,500 mt of Pacific mackerel had been landed.

Determination of the status of the Pacific mackerel population for the 2005/2006 fishing season was based on a new assessment model as documented in Agenda Item F.1.b, Attachment 1. This new assessment was reviewed by a STAR Panel in June of 2004 (Agenda Item F.1.b, Attachment 2) and adopted for use in management by the Council in September 2004.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) has completed the sixth annual Status of the Pacific Coast CPS Fishery and Recommended Harvest Guidelines – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) – 2005 document. This is included in the briefing book as Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1 with stock assessment and management recommendations available in Chapter 3 and Chapter 9. Once adopted, the 2005 Pacific Mackerel Stock Assessment and STAR Panel report will be included in the 2005 CPS SAFE as Appendix 3.

Council Action: Adopt Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline for the 2005/2006 Fishery.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.1.b, Attachment 1: *Assessment of the Pacific Mackerel (Scomber japonicus) Stock for U.S. Management in the 2005-2006 Season.*
2. Agenda Item F.1.b, Attachment 2: *Pacific Mackerel, Stock Assessment and Review Panel Report, June 2004.*

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. NMFS Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline for 2005/2006 Fishery

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