

## PACIFIC SARDINE STOCK ASSESSMENT AND HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR 2006

Per the coastal pelagic species (CPS) fishery management plan (FMP) annual cycle, the Council is scheduled to review the Pacific sardine stock assessment and adopt a recommendation to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce for a harvest guideline (HG) for the 2006 Pacific sardine fishing season. The current HG (which expires December 31, 2005) is 136,175 mt. The results of the most recent stock assessment, as presented to the CPS Advisory Bodies in October 2005, indicate a 2006 HG recommendation of 118,937 mt. The stock assessment document was not available for the briefing book. The Executive Summary of the 2005 Pacific Sardine Stock Assessment will be presented in the supplemental materials (Agenda Item D.1.a, Supplemental Attachment 1).

In June 2005, the Council approved a new long term allocation formula for Pacific sardine. Under this new allocation framework, the Pacific sardine HG is allocated seasonally in the following manner:

- (1) January 1, 35% of the HG to be allocated coastwide;
- (2) July 1, 40% of the HG, plus any portion not harvested from the initial allocation, to be reallocated coastwide; and
- (3) September 15, the remaining 25% of the HG, plus any portion not harvested from earlier allocations, to be reallocated coastwide.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) have reviewed the assessment and the recommended HG and provided statements to be presented under Agenda Item D.1.c. The Scientific and Statistical Committee is scheduled to review the assessment at the November meeting and will present their advice to the Council in a supplemental report.

### **Council Action:**

#### **Adopt Pacific Sardine HG for 2006.**

#### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item D.1.a, Supplemental Attachment 1: 2005 Pacific Sardine Stock Assessment Executive Summary.
2. Agenda Item D.1.c, CPSAS Report.
3. Agenda Item D.1.c, CPSMT Report.
4. Agenda Item D.1.c, Supplemental SSC Report.

#### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Agency and Tribal Comments
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Pacific Sardine HG for 2006

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