

## NMFS Report

### CPS Regulatory Activities

#### **Pacific Sardine:**

**Long-term Allocation—Amendment 11 to CPS FMP:** NMFS published a Notice of Availability for Amendment 11 in the Federal Register on October 28 and the proposed rule to implement Amendment 11 on November 16, 2005. These notices went through their requisite public comment periods and on January 26, NMFS sent a letter to the Council approving Amendment 11 to the CPS FMP (Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 2). NMFS expect to publish the final rule for the amendment in early March.

Based on the new long-term allocation scheme, 35% of the harvest guideline would be released coastwide on January 1; 40% of the harvest guideline, plus any portion not harvested from the initial 35% would be released coastwide on July 1; and on September 15 the remaining 25%, plus any portion not harvested from the earlier releases would then be available for harvest.

**2005 Estimated Landings:** The harvest guideline for January 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005, was 136,179 metric tons (mt). As of January 13, an estimated 89,553 mt of this had been landed coastwide. 37,616 mt of which were landed in the southern subarea (Southern California =29,948 mt; Monterey = 7,668 mt) and 51,937 mt in the northern subarea.

**2006 Harvest Guideline:** Based on the estimated biomass of 1,061,391 mt, and the formula in the FMP, a harvest guideline of 118,937 mt was calculated for the 2006 sardine fishery. NMFS published the proposed rule to implement the 2006 sardine harvest guideline in the Federal Register on January 17, 2006. The final rule for the 2006 harvest guideline will be published concurrently with the final rule for Amendment 11 to the CPS FMP.

#### **Pacific Mackerel:**

**2005-2006 Landings:** NMFS published the final rule to implement the annual harvest guideline for Pacific mackerel in October 2005. The 2005-2006 Pacific mackerel harvest guideline was 17,419 mt with a directed fishery of 13,419 mt and a reserve of 4,000 mt. The Pacific mackerel season began on July 1, 2005, and ends on June 30, 2006. As of February 8, 2006, 3,118 mt of Pacific mackerel had been landed.