

PACIFIC MACKEREL HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR 2006-2007 SEASON

The Council is scheduled to review the current Pacific mackerel stock assessment and adopt a harvest guideline for the 2006-2007 Pacific mackerel fishing season, which opens July 1, 2006.

The 2005/2006 Pacific mackerel harvest guideline was 17,419 metric tons (mt) with a directed fishery of 13,419 mt and a reserve of 4,000 mt. This reserve was to be used for incidental landings following a potential closure of the directed fishery. As of mid-May 2006, approximately 4,370 mt of Pacific mackerel had been landed.

On May 16-18, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee, the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS), held meetings to review the Pacific mackerel stock assessment as prepared by staff at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1). Reference materials include CPSMT and CPSAS statements with recommendations on the harvest guideline and management measures for 2006-2007. The full SSC will prepare a supplemental statement at the June meeting.

The CPSMT has completed the seventh annual Status of the Pacific Coast CPS Fishery and Recommended Harvest Guidelines – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) – 2006 document (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2). This document is included in an electronic format on the briefing book CD and is posted on the Council web page. Stock assessment and management recommendations can be found in Chapter 3 and Chapter 9. Once adopted, the 2006 Pacific Mackerel Stock Assessment and Stock Assessment Review Panel report will be included in the 2006 CPS SAFE as Appendix 2.

Council Action: Adopt Pacific Mackerel Harvest Guideline for the 2006/2007 Fishery.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1: *Assessment of the Pacific Mackerel (Scomber japonicus) Stock for U.S. Management in the 2005-2006 Season.*
2. Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 2 (**electronic copy on Council Briefing Book CD**): *Status of the Pacific Coast Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery and Recommended Acceptable Biological Catches – Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation 2006.*
3. Agenda Item C.1.b, CPSAS Report.
4. Agenda Item C.1.b, CPSMT Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Harvest Guideline for 2006-2007 Season

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