

## ANCHOVY GENERAL STATUS OVERVIEW

This agenda item is intended to update the Council regarding the current status and management of northern anchovy. At the June 2015 meeting, the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) presented information to the Council, relative to landings in recent years, acceptable biological catch, and annual catch limits for northern anchovy (June 2015 Agenda Item G.3.a, CPSMT Report). At this meeting, the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) will summarize available data and recent survey information. The information available is intended to provide the Council with an indication of changes in relative abundance and distribution of northern anchovy in light of the major shifts in environmental conditions in the California Current.

There are two subpopulations of northern anchovy. The central subpopulation extends approximately from Punta Baja, Mexico to northern California. The northern subpopulation ranges from northern California to British Columbia, Canada. Council discussion and public comment at recent Council meetings have included concerns that the anchovy population – especially the central subpopulation – may be in decline, and that more attention should be afforded to this stock. Neither subpopulation has been assessed for about 20 years. Under the following Agenda Item (H.4), the SWFSC will present related information on data-limited stock assessment methods for CPS stocks.

### **Council Task:**

### **Discussion and guidance.**

### Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.3.b, Public Comment.

### Agenda Order:

#### H.3 Anchovy General Status Overview

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- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- b. Public Comment
- c. Discuss Issues and Provide Guidance as Appropriate