COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON ANCHOVY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) received an update on the 2016 fishery for the northern subpopulation of northern anchovy (NSNA). Fisheries harvesting this stock have landed approximately 4,800 mt to date, which exceeds the Annual Catch Target (ACT) of 1,500 mt for this stock. Generally the purpose of ACTs is to account for management uncertainty so as not to exceed an Annual Catch Limit (ACL). For the NSNA, the ACL is 9,750 mt. At the time the ACT was established for NSNA, the Council agreed that representatives from ODFW and WDFW would consult if an ACT was attained. The CPSMT notes that the consultation occurred and is ongoing.

Since 2000, landings of NSNA have been well below the ACT, ranging between 68 mt and 850 mt prior to 2016. Fisheries for NSNA include Oregon, Washington non-treaty, and tribal harvests. Historically, landings were primarily into Washington and averaged approximately 200 mt. However, in 2016 nearly all harvest has been landed in Astoria, Oregon by three purse seine vessels fishing in the lower Columbia River. The fishery in Washington remains similar to recent years in terms of participant levels and catches.

Information provided by Oregon suggests that at current daily average landing tonnage of 87 mt the fishery could continue until at least the end of October, and probably longer, without exceeding the ACL or constraining potential harvests by Washington non-treaty fisheries or tribal harvests. Historically, the fishery operates through the end of October. Oregon, Washington, and the Quinault Indian Nation are closely monitoring activities in NSNA fisheries and providing landings information to National Marine Fisheries Service.

PFMC 09/15/16