

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The National Standard 1 (NS1) revisions reflect advances in fisheries science and address a range of technical issues, including:

- Providing regulatory stability for commercial and recreational fishing – so that businesses can increase their resilience to stock changes over time.¹

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) offers the following comments on the revised 2016 NS1 guidelines. Specifically, we suggest the possible carry-over of a portion of unharvested annual catch limits for stocks managed under the CPS Fishery Management Plan (FMP). We believe application of the carry-over provisions could be a valuable tool for CPS fisheries, with Pacific mackerel being a candidate for initial consideration. We recommend the Council consider scheduling further analysis during upcoming meetings.

Because Pacific mackerel is a longer-lived species (8 – 12 years per Dr. Kevin Hill), it makes sense to consider carry-over of unused quota to a future year. This will help promote stability for an important leg of the CPS stool. New NS1 guidelines provide for a carry-over of unused quota if the stock's condition warrants **and** the reason for the underage is valid. The CPS fishery targets a complex, focusing on species during their time of abundance. Pacific mackerel life history is characterized by rapid spikes in abundance, typically following an upsurge in anchovy. Current conditions indicate a large recruitment of anchovy that should result in a rapid upsurge in Pacific mackerel abundance. Although Pacific mackerel is an actively managed stock, the current harvest framework provides for biannual assessments with a full assessment only every four years. Having the ability to carry over unharvested Pacific mackerel quota at a time of increasing abundance would increase the resilience of the fleet, benefit dependent fishing communities and expand fishing opportunities.

PFMC
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¹ http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter/2016/10_October/13_10_.html