

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2020 PACIFIC WHITING FISHERY UNDER THE U.S./CANADA AGREEMENT

A new [stock assessment](#) for Pacific whiting has been conducted and endorsed by the [Scientific Review Group](#) in the U.S./Canada Pacific Whiting Treaty Process. The 2020 whiting assessment indicates the median estimate of the 2020 relative spawning biomass (depletion) is 65 percent. The median relative spawning biomass reached a historical low of 33 percent in 2010, increased due to large estimated 2010 and 2014 cohorts, and has gradually declined since 2017 during a period of record catches.

The Joint Management Committee (JMC) met March 11-13 to formalize their recommendations on the 2020 coastwide total allowable catch for Pacific whiting and could not come to an agreement. Mr. Phil Anderson or Mr. Frank Lockhart will brief the Council on the JMC process this year and the U.S. delegation's recommendation for a 2020 U.S. Pacific whiting total allowable catch.

The Council should consider advisory body and public comment before deciding on any actions necessary regarding the 2020 U.S. annual catch limit for Pacific whiting and other associated issues.

Council Action:

Consider any necessary action for implementation of the 2020 Pacific whiting fishery.

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are Electronic Only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.3 Implementation of the 2020 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement
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| a. Joint Management Committee Report | John DeVore |
| b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | Frank Lockhart/Phil Anderson |
| c. Public Comment | |
| d. Council Action: Consider Necessary Actions for Implementing the 2020 Pacific Whiting Fishery | |