

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON STOCK
ASSESSMENT PLAN AND TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) – FINAL ACTION

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) received an update from staff officer Kerry Griffin on the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Groundfish and CPS Stock Assessment Review Process for 2021-2022 (Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3). We thank Council staff and management bodies for their work on updating the TOR, and for addressing comments provided by the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team during an April 21, 2020 webinar.

We make the following recommendations regarding the TOR for the Council's consideration:

- In Appendix A, the 2021 Groundfish and CPS Stock Assessment Review Calendar, we note that the review for the central subpopulation of northern anchovy (CSNA) is described as a catch-only projection review. However, in June 2019, the Council requested a full benchmark assessment for CSNA, to be conducted in 2021. We recommend that the calendar in Appendix A be edited to include a model-based benchmark assessment review for CSNA in 2021.
- Although the current TOR applies to both groundfish and CPS reviews, there are numerous differences between groundfish and CPS assessments and their review processes. Given significant differences between the life histories, biological characteristics, and behavior of groundfish and CPS, we recommend that a separate Stock Assessment Review TOR be developed for CPS going forward. We propose the Council consider a stand-alone TOR for CPS in November 2020, as it would align with implementation of the new CPS stock assessment prioritization process.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

PFMC
06/15/20