

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

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) discussed future meeting and workload planning and appreciates the Council's consideration of the following recommendations.

As detailed in our supplemental report under Agenda Item H.2, the CPSAS asks that the Council specify a process for bringing forward requests to review existing methodologies (such as the Pacific sardine stock structure and related assumptions), as the current language in Council Operating Procedure 26 does not appear to provide such a pathway. To this end, we recommend that the Council schedule an agenda item at a future meeting to discuss where such methodology review requests would be most appropriately made. One idea raised in discussion with the CPS Management Team was to consider including existing methodology review requests under the same agenda item where management measures and specifications are considered. For Pacific sardine, this would be each April, and for Pacific mackerel, it would be each June. However, we note that linking methodology review requests to annual specifications agenda items could make it difficult to make requests associated with stocks that do not currently have annual specifications (e.g., northern anchovy), and would leave some question as to the appropriate process for making requests that are not specific to a single stock. Another option would be to change Council Operating Procedure 26 to include an explicit pathway for addressing existing methodology review requests. In either case, we suggest that further Council discussion and consideration will be needed to provide clarity in this matter, and note that the June 2021 meeting may offer an opportunity for that discussion, particularly if the Council were to use the time currently scheduled for the "Methodology Review – Final" agenda item.

Finally, the CPSAS requests that for the purposes of advisory body meeting agenda planning, Council staff continue to seek the CPSAS co-chairs' input and guidance on the timing and length of agenda items. Given the virtual nature of meetings at this time, adding an extra day to the CPSAS's schedule would be beneficial and may help to better ensure adequate opportunity at the meetings to fully accomplish subpanel tasks, including statement drafting, while seeking to be as efficient as possible. We understand that this arrangement may not be feasible once we return to in-person meetings, but for virtual meetings, it would allow for greater flexibility.

Thank you for your consideration.

PFMC  
11/17/2020