

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2021 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 2021 whiting assessment indicates the median estimate of the 2021 relative spawning biomass (depletion) is 59 percent. The median relative spawning biomass has progressively declined since 2017 due to the aging of large cohorts (2010, 2014, and 2016) and the recent four years of record catches.

The Joint Management Committee (JMC) met March 15-17 to formalize their recommendations on the 2021 coastwide total allowable catch for Pacific whiting and could not come to an agreement. Mr. Phil Anderson or Mr. Frank Lockhart will brief the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) on the JMC process this year.

The Council should consider advisory body and public comment before deciding on any actions necessary regarding the 2021 U.S. annual catch limit for Pacific whiting and other associated issues.

Council Action:

Consider any other necessary action for implementation of the 2021 Pacific whiting fishery.

Reference Materials:

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

Agenda Order:

F.7 Implementation of the 2021 Pacific Whiting Fishery Under the U.S./Canada Agreement

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| | John DeVore |
| a. Joint Management Committee Report | Frank Lockhart/Phil Anderson |
| b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| c. Public Comment | |
| d. Council Action: Consider Necessary Actions for Implementing the 2021 Pacific Whiting Fishery | |