

## COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR CENTRAL SUBPOPULATION OF NORTHERN ANCHOVY

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) provided a report on the Management Framework for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy (CSNA) ([Agenda Item H.3.a, CPSMT Report 1](#)), which described a tool, the flowchart, that addresses the frequency for assessments and changes to harvest specifications. At this meeting, the Council is to consider the flowchart and provide guidance on next steps.

The flowchart provides a quantitative, prescriptive process that incorporates regular stock assessments to update the overfishing limit (OFL), reviews of short-term stock status with defined triggers and formulas for when and how to adjust the acceptable biological catch (ABC), and evaluations of fishery performance relative to the ABC. Additionally, as proposed by the CPSMT, consideration of CSNA management through the flowchart would be a regular Council agenda item. This is in contrast to current CSNA management in which an agenda item must be added to one of its meetings as there is no standing or routine harvest specification schedule for CSNA. Although the flowchart is more prescriptive than existing management, it generally maintains the current management framework for CSNA by using a long-term OFL. The CPSMT sees it as a useful tool and would be supportive of Council adoption of the flowchart.

### *Implementation Considerations*

If the Council chooses to adopt the flowchart, the CPSMT sees value in evaluating how well this conceptual framework works in practice in terms of the parameter values chosen by the CPSMT before exploring alternative choices. Based on extensive analysis the CPSMT recommended parameter values designed to achieve the goals outlined by the Council when this process began, e.g., fishery stability, prioritizing allocation of resources, taking only necessary management actions, and being responsive to changes in biomass. The parameter values proposed by the CPSMT could potentially be modified in the future, but the CPSMT would not recommend doing so until a need for change has been identified.

Should the Council choose to move forward with the flowchart, at present the CPSMT thinks that it can be implemented through changes to the Council Operating Procedure (COP) as outlined in [Agenda Item H.3.a, CPSMT Report 1](#). The CPSMT could work with Council staff to provide the Council with a draft revised COP 9, Schedule 3 for adoption at a future meeting. The CPSMT has not identified a reason why the CPS FMP would need to be amended but can continue to work with Council and National Marine Fisheries Service staff to determine whether a modification of the CPS FMP is required.