

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON COP 9 SCHEDULE 3
TO INCORPORATE THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR CENTRAL
SUBPOPULATION OF NORTHERN ANCHOVY

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) provided two reports on the Management Framework for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy (CSNA) in June 2021 ([Agenda Item H.3.a, CPSMT Report 1](#) and [Agenda Item H.3.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 2](#)), 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 changes to Council Operating Procedure (COP) 9 Schedule 3 that provide the revisions needed to incorporate that framework as the Council requested in June.

In examining the COP to make the revisions related to CSNA, the CPSMT noted that the schedules for the various fishery management plans contain only text, but that including the CSNA flowchart to depict the process visually in conjunction with text would be helpful. Thus, the CPSMT provides revisions to COP 9 Schedule 3 for Council consideration in Attachment 1 that incorporates the flowchart diagram from [Agenda Item H.3.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 2](#) as well as text that includes a schedule. Note that the schedule differs slightly from [Agenda Item H.3.a, CPSMT Report 1](#). To reduce the potential for a compressed timeline as was noted by the SSC in its June report on the CSNA framework that could be problematic especially in years when an assessment is conducted ([Agenda Item H.3.a Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)), the Council would adopt any management changes in June rather than in April.

The CPSMT recommends that the Council adopt the version of COP 9 Schedule 3 in Attachment 1 to this CPSMT report that clearly captures the intricacies of the CSNA flowchart.

PFMC
11/01/21

Attachment 1

SCHEDULE 3. Management cycles and activities related to coastal pelagic species management.

| Month | Entity and Management Activity |
|-------|--------------------------------|
|-------|--------------------------------|

PACIFIC MACKEREL

Pacific mackerel assessments will be conducted on a rotating cycle. Every four years, a full assessment is conducted, and every alternating four years an update assessment is conducted. Annual specifications are set on a biennial basis. In assessment years (either full or update), the following schedule will be followed:

| | |
|-------|--|
| April | <i>Assessment authors</i> prepare draft assessment documents. |
| May | <i>Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS), and public</i> review draft assessments, executive summaries, and recommended harvest guidelines. |
| June | <i>Assessment authors</i> submit final assessments, executive summaries, and recommended harvest guidelines to Council staff for inclusion in June Council meeting briefing book. <i>SSC</i> reviews assessments, executive summaries, and recommended harvest guidelines. <i>Council</i> adopts annual harvest level specifications and management measures. Annual harvest level specifications for Pacific mackerel are adopted for two consecutive fishing years. <i>U.S. Department of Commerce</i> implements annual harvest level specifications and management measures, for two consecutive fishing years. Pacific mackerel season opens July 1. |
| March | <i>Council</i> may consider inseason action to transfer unused incidental set-aside to the directed fishery. |

PACIFIC SARDINE

| | |
|----------|--|
| February | <i>Assessment authors</i> prepare draft assessment documents. |
| March | <i>CPSMT, CPSAS, and public</i> review draft assessment, executive summary, and recommended harvest guideline. |

| | |
|-------|---|
| April | <p>SSC reviews assessment executive summary, and recommended harvest guideline.</p> <p>Council adopts annual harvest level specification and management measures.</p> <p>U.S. Department of Commerce implements annual harvest level specification and management measures. Pacific sardine season opens July 1.</p> |
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MONITORED SPECIES

CENTRAL SUBPOPULATION OF NORTHERN ANCHOVY

The schedule and process for the management for the central subpopulation for northern anchovy is described below and the flowchart in Figure 1.

A benchmark assessment will be conducted every eight years unless a trigger is met, and a new benchmark assessment is conducted sooner. Assessment results will provide the mean long-term biomass estimate for the previous 10-year period used to establish a new overfishing limit (OFL) and acceptable biological catch (ABC).

During intervening years between benchmark assessments, at two-year intervals both the short-term three-year mean biomass estimate from survey results and catch attainment will be examined:

- 1) At each biennial evaluation the trigger for a change to the ABC would be a short-term biomass that results in an ABC at least a proportion of 0.4 less than the ABC from the last assessment (i.e., less than or equal to 60% of ABC). If that ABC trigger is hit, the ABC would be reduced for the next two fishing years. When next evaluated, if short-term biomass is no longer below that trigger threshold, the ABC for the following two fishing years would revert to the ABC determined from the last assessment.
- 2) If catch has exceeded 90% of the ABC for two years, then the Council will evaluate if a new assessment should be scheduled for the following year.

The details of this flowchart process and explicit calculation formulas can be found in the Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document. Assessments are done every eight years, but trigger points are checked every two years which may change the assessment cycle. The following schedule will be used for assessments and examination of survey results and catch attainment in years that they occur:

| Month | Entity and Management Activity |
|--------------|--|
| <u>April</u> | <u>Assessment authors prepare draft assessment documents. CPSMT reviews available abundance estimates from NMFS CPS surveys for</u> |

short-term (three-year mean) biomass and catch attainment for last two years and determines whether management action triggers occurred.

May **CPSMT, CPSAS, and public** review draft assessment, executive summary, and calculated harvest specifications in years that an assessment occurs.

June **SSC** reviews assessment, executive summary, and recommends harvest specifications. If the CPSMT reports that management action triggers occurred, the SSC reviews survey results and catch attainment and recommends a new short-term ABC or the ABC from the last assessment if indicated by survey results.

Council adopts long- and/or short-term harvest level specifications and management measures. If catch attainment exceeded 90 percent of the ABC for two years in a row, Council evaluates and determines if a new assessment should be conducted the following year.

U.S. Department of Commerce implements annual harvest level specification and management measures. Central subpopulation of northern anchovy season opens January 1.

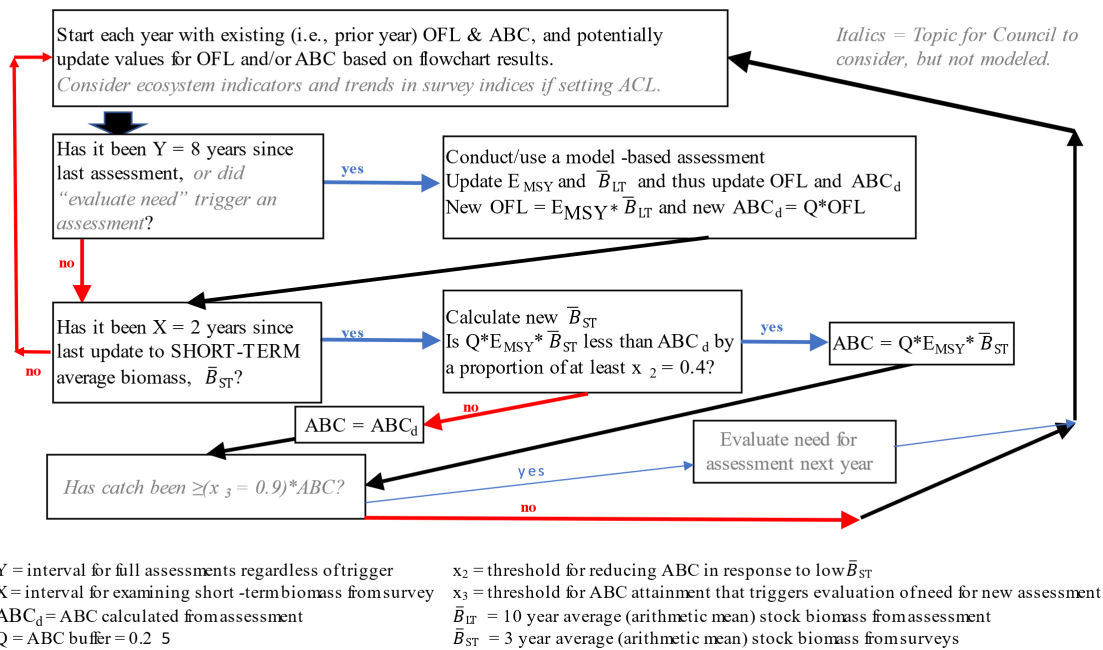


Figure 1. Flowchart depicts the framework for managing the central subpopulation of northern anchovy with the parameter values to be utilized.

For other monitored stocks the CPS FMP characterizes monitored stock management as specifies tracking trends in landings, and qualitative comparison to available abundance data, but without periodic stock assessments or periodic adjustments to target harvest levels. After harvest specifications have been established, they will remain in place until the Council takes action to adjust the harvest specifications, or to move a monitored species to active management. If the Council wishes to adjust harvest level specifications or management measures, the process will follow that for Pacific mackerel and Pacific sardine. Assessment authors will present a draft stock assessment in advance of a review by the CPSMT, CPSAS, and the public. Final assessments and recommended harvest specifications and management measures will be included in the appropriate briefing book, for review by the SSC. The Council adopts final specifications, and the U.S. Department of Commerce implements the harvest specifications and management measures.

NOTE: The Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document for coastal pelagic species will be prepared and presented in two sections. The main section will be submitted at the June Council meeting. This portion of the SAFE will include the annual Pacific mackerel and Pacific sardine assessments, evaluation of the fisheries based on the calendar year, and the status of monitored species. The second (supplemental) section will include any relevant information regarding the status of the CPS fisheries. The supplemental section, when compiled, will be presented at the November Council meeting.