

STOCK ASSESSMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE- PRELIMINARY

In March 2022, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) agreed with the recommendation of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) that a separate Terms of Reference (TOR) be developed for CPS stock assessments. Attachment 1 provides a preliminary draft TOR developed by the SSC CPS Subcommittee at their May 5, 2022 webinar. Members of the CPSMT and the CPS Advisory Sub-panel (CPSAS) also participated in the webinar and provided comments on the TOR. The Council is scheduled to approve the final TOR at its November 2022 Council meeting for use in the 2023 stock assessment process.

Additionally, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) is expected to provide an update on two proposed workshops related to the Pacific sardine stock assessment. In April 2022, the [SSC](#), [CPSAS](#), and [CPSMT](#) recommended that the scheduled 2023 Pacific Sardine benchmark assessment be postponed until 2024 in order to work towards resolving uncertainties associated with the stock assessment.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt for public review a draft terms of reference for CPS stock assessments.**
- 2. Provide guidance as needed.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1: Draft Terms of Reference for Coastal Pelagic Species Stock Assessments for 2023-2024.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- D.2 Stock Assessment Terms of Reference- Preliminary Jessi Doerpinghaus
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary Stock Assessment TOR for Public Review and Provide Guidance as Needed