

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON CENTRAL
SUBPOPULATION OF NORTHERN ANCHOVY ASSESSMENT AND HARVEST
SPECIFICATIONS

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS), Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) jointly received a presentation from Dr. Peter Kuriyama of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) on the benchmark assessment for the central subpopulation of northern anchovy (CSNA, Agenda Item D.1, Attachment 1). The CPSAS appreciates the efforts made by the stock assessment team to provide the benchmark assessment and by members on the stock assessment review panel) that reviewed the first draft of the assessment in December 2021.

The CPSAS shares the same concerns as the CPSMT with regards to the 10-year average of biomass estimates to set the overfishing limit (OFL) and the default acceptable biological catch (ABC_d). Currently assessments only go back seven years because the acoustic-trawl (AT) surveys conducted by the SWFSC only go back to 2015. Prior to that, assessments were not consistent with the time period from 2015 to present. Following the CPSMT lead, the CPSAS will accept the Stock Assessment Review Panels and SSC use of the information needed to manage fisheries for this stock and set harvest specifications.

The CPSAS defers to CPSMT and recognizes the SSC's calculations of the OFL and ABC utilizes the best available scientific information to implement the harvest control rules in the Fishery Management Plan and the CSNA framework in Council Operating Procedure 9. The statement by the CPSMT provides details on how the OFL and ABC were determined.

The CPSAS would like to see future biomass estimates available in a more timely manner. We recognize the 2021 estimate was delayed because of the international aspect of the survey.

Finally, the CPSAS recommends following the CPSMT lead and adopt the assessment, OFL, and ABC recommended by the SSC (Table 1). Further, the CPSAS wishes to follow the recommendation from the management team that the ACL be set to 60,945 mt.

The conservation representative supports public comment requesting that National Marine Fisheries Service include in the 2023 specifications rule a requirement that National Marine Fisheries Service specify new catch limits if the short-term biomass drops below the numeric threshold of 40 percent as outlined in Council Operating Procedure 9; however, others on the CPSAS are unsure of how this would actually function if in regulation and have concerns about potential impacts. If the Council is interested in this policy, the CPSAS suggests taking this up at a future meeting to understand how this mechanism could work.

Table 1. Management quantities for the central subpopulation of northern anchovy (CSNA) based on the 2022 assessment of the stock and the Council Operating Procedure 9 including the 10-year average biomass of age-1+ fish, the overfishing limit (OFL) and the default acceptable biological catch (ABC_d).

E _{MSY}	0.493
10-year average CSNA age-1+ biomass	603,025 mt
OFL	243,779 mt
ABC _d	60,945 mt
ACL	60,945 mt

PFMC
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