

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON STOCK  
ASSESSMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE - FINAL ACTION

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) held a meeting on November 2, 2022 to consider the draft Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Stock Assessment Terms of Reference (TOR). Members of Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) attended the meeting both in person and remotely in a hybrid format and, despite hybrid format challenges (see Future Agenda and workload planning report under agenda item C.10), were able to provide input on the draft TOR. The CPSMT finds the draft TOR to be a significant improvement over the combined CPS and Groundfish TOR for assessments that was first adopted in 2009. The CPSMT appreciates the work done to create separate TOR documents for CPS and Groundfish and agrees with the SSC suggestions ([Agenda Item I.4.a Supplemental SSC Report 1](#)) to revise Figure 1 to show the value of  $x_3 = 0.9$  clearly and delete the catch report for sardine in Appendix A.

The CPSMT notes that the TOR includes text about recent work related to the newly adopted approach of adjusting sigma values to account for the increase in scientific uncertainty with time since the last assessment (see page 10) and also notes that this has not been done with some recent CPS assessments. The CPSMT is encouraged to hear that the SSC plans to do so in the future and agrees that sigma values used for some groundfish stocks (i.e., flatfish) are the best proxies available to use at present. The CPSMT recommends developing specific values for CPS as soon as practicable to address the likelihood of higher scientific uncertainty for CPS over time than for groundfish.

The CPSMT recommends the Council proceed with adopting the CPS TOR as final with the revisions noted above.

PFMC  
11/05/22