

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT ON
COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

Recent regulatory activities:

Amendment 19 to the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan - Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a Notice of Decision on July 8, 2022 ([87 FR 40744](#)).

2022-2023 Pacific Sardine Harvest Specifications: NMFS published the proposed rule (May 9, 2022, [87 FR 27557](#)) and final rule (July 1, 2022, [87 FR 39384](#)) to implement the Council's recommendations from the April 2022 meeting.

2022-2023 Exempted Fishing Permits: NMFS published a notice of receipt of three EFP applications on June 16, 2022 ([87 FR 36309](#)) after the Council recommended them at the April 2022 meeting and subsequently issued EFPs in July 2022.

Amendment 20 to the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan - Management Categories: The Notice of Availability of Amendment 20 was published March 23, 2023 ([88 FR 17515](#)). The comment period is open until May 22, 2023. The associated Proposed Rule will publish shortly after and the comment period will be open for 30 days.

Expected future regulatory activities in 2023:

2022-2023 Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy (CSNA) Harvest Specifications: Based on a new CSNA stock assessment and the CSNA management framework (COP 9) the Council recommended new harvest specifications for CSNA at the June 2022 meeting. NMFS has reviewed the Council's recommendation and intends to publish a proposed rule on this action in the coming months.

2023-2024 Pacific Sardine Harvest Specifications: The Council is slated to make recommendations to NMFS at the April 2023 meeting. As such, NMFS expects to subsequently publish a proposed rule in May 2023 and a final rule in June 2023 so the specifications are in place by the start of the season on July 1, 2023.

Amendment 21 to the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan - Housekeeping: The Council is slated to take final action at this meeting, April 2023. If the Council recommends Amendment 21, NMFS will wait for a Secretarial decision on Amendment 20 before commencing implementation.

2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Pacific Mackerel Harvest Specifications: The Council is slated to make recommendations to NMFS after reviewing the mackerel assessment at the June 2023 meeting for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 mackerel specifications. As such, NMFS expects to subsequently publish a proposed and final rule in 2023.

2023-2024 Exempted Fishing Permits: The Council is slated to make recommendations to NMFS after reviewing EFP applications at the April 2023 meeting. As such, NMFS would subsequently review and potentially issue any EFPs in summer of 2023.