

Pacific Sardine Stock Structure Workshop Report









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Sardine Stock Structure Workshop Report

NOAA FISHERIES

Nov 15-17, 2022

At the SWFSC and virtually, open to the public ~60 participants from NMFS, PFMC, industry, non profits, state agencies

Yau, Annie (ed.). 2023. Report from the Pacific Sardine Stock Structure Workshop, November 2022. Southwest Fisheries Science Center (U.S.).

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Motivation:

Comments received from the PFMC SSC about the 2021 catch-only assessment update of the northern subpopulation of Pacific sardine

- 1) Use recent years of data to update the habitat model (Zwolinski et al. 2011) used to delineate northern subpopulation sardine from CPS surveys
- 2) Revisit the method used to delineate northern subpopulation landings (Demer and Zwolinski 2014) given recent years of high catches from the Baja CA fleet being included in the stock assessment

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Two stock structure remains the working hypothesisno new scientific studies supporting an alternate stock structure hypothesis.

Being reviewed today by the SSC CPS subcommittee:

- 1) Habitat model was updated with minimal impacts to CPS survey biomass time series
- 2) Landings data separation using updated habitat model reduces assumed Baja CA landings attributed to northern stock

SWFSC has ongoing stock structure research

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Archetype (operational definition) of northern stock

Fig 1 from report

