

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON  
THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) received a presentation from Dr. Annie Yau, Director of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) Fisheries Resources Division, on updates related to CPS research being conducted by the SWFSC.

**Sardine Stock Structure Workshop Report**

The CPSMT appreciates the SWFSC hosting the stock structure workshop and publishing the revised Sardine Stock Structure Workshop Report ([Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental REVISED NMFS Report 1, April 2023](#)). The results of the revised habitat model and new operational definition for the northern stock of Pacific sardine should alleviate issues related to stock structure that have been problematic in recent sardine assessments. The CPSMT recommends that this operational definition of the stock be reviewed on a regular basis as suggested by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) ([Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental SSC Report 1, April 2023](#)). The CPSMT recognizes the working hypothesis of two subpopulations of Pacific sardine off the West Coast of North America, and also looks forward to seeing the results from ongoing genetics and life history research being conducted by the SWFSC to further investigate this and other hypotheses. The CPSMT notes that archetype figures provided in the workshop report were designed to capture recent observations of sardine in the California Current Ecosystem and may not be representative of the full range of archetypes for the sardine population that have occurred in the past or could occur in the future.

**Integrated West Coast Pelagic Survey**

The CPSMT appreciates the goal of the Integrated West Coast Pelagics Survey to ensure the integrity of both the CPS and Pacific whiting surveys. The CPSMT supports conducting the joint survey on an annual basis and the CPS Advisory Subpanel recommendation ([Agenda Item H.1.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report 1, April 2023](#)) that industry representatives with extensive experience from both the CPS and Pacific whiting fisheries should be involved with any survey gear modifications.

The CPSMT was notified by Dr. Yau about proposed hybrid workshops for gathering input from stakeholders on the survey design. The CPSMT supports these workshops being held, but encourages better communication about future workshops with more advance notice for potential participants.