

PACIFIC MACKEREL ASSESSMENT AND BIENNIAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES-
FINAL ACTION

At this meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will adopt biomass estimates for 2023 and 2024, and resulting management and harvest specifications for Pacific mackerel, including overfishing limit (OFL), acceptable biological catch (ABC), and annual catch limit (ACL), for two consecutive fishing years (2023-24 and 2024-25). The Council may also choose to adopt an annual catch target (ACT), as with the past two fishing years. The fishing year for Pacific mackerel begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the following year.

A stock assessment team from the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Science Center produced a benchmark assessment (Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1), in accordance with Council Operating Procedure 9, which calls for a full benchmark stock assessment every four years, with a catch-only projection estimate for the alternating four years. A Stock Assessment Review (STAR) panel reviewed the assessment in April 2023. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will consider the assessment and STAR panel report (Attachment 2) and provide a recommendation on the adoption of the assessment, biomass estimate, as well as an OFL and category designation. The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) advisory bodies and the Council should make recommendations on a P* to determine the ABC, ACL, and other management measures as appropriate. Incidental catch allowances for CPS and non-CPS fisheries should also be considered.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt the Pacific mackerel stock assessment and biomass estimate.**
- 2. Adopt an OFL.**
- 3. Recommend a P*, ABC, and ACL.**
- 4. Adopt any management measures, including ACT specifications and incidental catch allowances for CPS and non-CPS fisheries, as needed.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 1: Assessment of Pacific mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*) for U.S. management in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 fishing years (***Electronic only***).
2. Agenda Item G.2, Attachment 2: STAR Panel Report.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see [e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.2 Pacific Mackerel Assessment and Biennial Management
Measures – Final Action Jessi Doerpinghaus
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Fishing Years