

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON STOCK ASSESSMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ACCEPTED PRACTICES

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) reviewed the draft Stock Assessment Terms of Reference and Accepted Practices Guidelines ([Agenda Item I.1, Attachment 1](#) and [Agenda Item 1.1, Attachment 3](#)). CPSMT-proposed edits and reasoning for the draft Terms of Reference are provided below in underline/strikethrough format.

- Section 5.4, page 14:
The state data stewards should verify and if necessary, provide updated catch information to the STAT no later than eight weeks prior to the STAR panel.
 - Reason: The STAT should be able to pull all catch information from PacFIN and will verify the data with the data stewards for accuracy. If needed, state data stewards can provide updated information. This change would allow some flexibility with the data stewards.
- Section 5.4, page 14, Section 5.9, page 17, and Section 9, Page 23:
No changes to catch values will be allowed after submission to the STAT, at the discretion of the STAT/STAR panel chair.
 - Reason: The CPSMT notes that this language is too strong and does not allow the STAT any flexibility for allowing data to be corrected or updated, and this decision should be at the discretion of the STAT and STAR panel chair.
- Section 7, page 20:
Alterations to the assessment such as removing a data source that is no longer consistent with other data, can be considered as long as the update assessment clearly documents and justifies the need for such changes and provides a step-by-step transition (via sensitivity analysis) from the last full assessment to an update assessment under review.
 - Reason: The CPSMT found that the strikethrough language does not clearly articulate the potential reasons for data source removal and potentially leads to confusion, so recommends it be removed from the sentence.

In Appendix E, the CPSMT agrees with the CPS subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) on moving to an ‘as needed’ update frequency for Accepted Practices Guidelines and Terms of Reference documents.

In Appendix I, the CPSMT notes an incorrect definition of the term F_{MSY} in the SSC edited text:
...where F_{MSY} is the fishing mortality exploitation rate that maximizes catch biomass in the long term.