PACIFIC MACKEREL ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2025-27 – FINAL ACTION

At this meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will adopt harvest specifications and management measures for Pacific mackerel, including an overfishing limit (OFL), acceptable biological catch (ABC), and annual catch limit (ACL), for two consecutive fishing years (2025-26 and 2026-27). 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 catch-only projection estimate (Agenda Item G.4, 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. This estimate will be reviewed by the full Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) during the April Council meeting.

Council Tasks:

- 1. Adopt the Pacific Mackerel Stock Assessment.
- 2. Adopt a P*, ABC, ACL, and, if appropriate, ACT specifications and management measures.
- 3. Adopt incidental catch allowances for Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) and non-CPS fisheries.

Reference Materials:

- 1. Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 1: Pacific Mackerel Catch-Only Projection Estimate.
- 2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

- G.4 Pacific Mackerel Assessment and Management Measures for 2025-27 Final Action Katrina Bernaus
 - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action**: Adopt Catch-Only Update, Final Harvest Specifications, and Management Measures for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 Fishing Seasons

PFMC 03/21/25