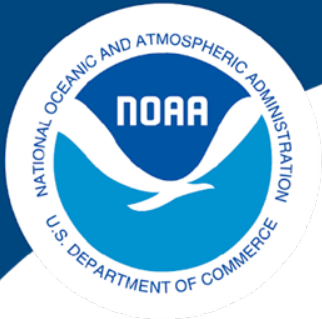


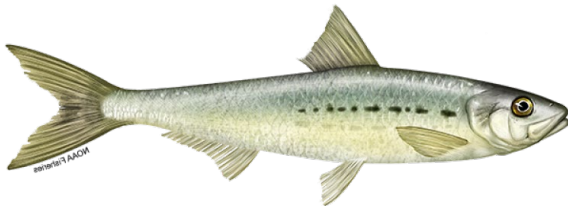


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Pacific Sardine Assessments: Timeline Updates

Presentation to the
Pacific Fishery Management Council
Sep 21, 2026

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Considerations for assessment timeline

In light of moving to manage U.S. Pacific sardine...

- Management considerations
 - For April 2027, need flexibility in being able to set harvest specs
- Scientific considerations
 - Life history of U.S. Pacific sardine vs NSP
 - Movement across border
 - Contribution of U.S. Pacific sardine to entire population
 - Data availability and quality from outside the U.S.
- Logistics
 - Staff time required for new analyses and their review



Proposed Schedule

For flexibility and continuity, with effort focused on 2028

	2026			2027				2028			
	Mar-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Feb	Mar-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Feb	Mar-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
U.S. biomass estimate - NSP update and SSP 1+biomass estimate				SSC CPS SC Review	Delivery						
Simulations											
U.S. benchmark assessment								STAR panel	Delivery		

Simulations as supporting analyses

Operating models that can be used to test uncertainties and questions, for example

- Assess uncertainty of trans-boundary movement
- Assess uncertainty due to data availability (or sparsity) from outside the U.S.
- Assess utility of alternative data sources
- Evaluate model structures and their parameterizations
- Quantify bias in parameter estimation for different model structures and/or softwares

What we know

The assessments for 2028 and beyond will produce U.S. estimates of Pacific sardine biomass.

We will continue to

- Conduct the Integrated Survey
- Provide assessments at requested frequencies
- Provide required biomass values
- Research topics that are of major impact or interest (see next slide)

Major areas of research

- eDNA for biomass time series, and validation
- Seasonal patterns in the Southern CA Bight
- Japanese sardine presence/absence/distribution
- Japanese sardine hybridization potential with Pacific sardine
- Survey method improvements
- Modeling/assessment improvements

(not a comprehensive list of CPS activities)