

PACIFIC SARDINE STOCK ASSESSMENT AND COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES (CPS)
MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2011

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt harvest specifications and management measures for the 2011 Pacific sardine fishing season; and to adopt harvest specifications for monitored Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) stocks (jack mackerel, northern anchovy, and market squid). The Council will also hear reports on the 2010 Pacific sardine stock assessment and the 2010 aerial sardine survey.

Full assessments for CPS stocks typically occur every two to three years. The intervening years employ updates based on the same methodology and assessment protocols used for the previous full assessment. 2010 was an update year, using essentially the same methodology that was approved by a Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel for the previous assessment year (2009). New abundance data from two survey methods were employed in the update assessment: The Southwest Fisheries Science Center's (SWFSC) Daily Egg Production Model, and the industry-led aerial sardine survey (Agenda Item I.2.b, Attachment 1). The Stock Assessment Team (STAT) incorporated data from both of these surveys in the *Assessment of the Pacific Sardine Resource in 2010 for U.S. Management in 2011* (Agenda Item I.2.b, Attachment 2). In October 2010, the results of both surveys and the updated stock assessment were reviewed by a panel consisting of members of the CPS subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT), and a representative of the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS).

At the November Council meeting, the SSC will review aerial survey results, the Pacific sardine assessment, the SSC's CPS subcommittee report, and recommendations from the CPSMT before making its recommendations on harvest levels for the 2011 Pacific sardine fishery. The CPSMT and the CPSAS will also be in session at the November meeting and will provide recommendations on management measures for the 2011 Pacific sardine fishery, including harvest set-asides for incidental landings of Pacific sardine in other CPS fisheries, and for research activities conducted under an EFP.

The Council and NMFS are currently working on implementing Amendment 13 to the CPS Fishery Management Plan to address revised National Standard 1 guidelines. The Council is anticipated to adopt management measures, including annual catch limits, for Pacific sardine and monitored stocks per Amendment 13 at this meeting. Additionally, the Council is anticipated to consider status determination criteria and management measures for the northern subpopulation of northern anchovy per Amendment 13. Because Amendment 13 will not be finalized until the first quarter of 2011, NMFS and the CPSMT will likely recommend a management structure that will allow NMFS to regulate CPS fisheries in early 2011 in the absence of Amendment 13, until such time as Amendment 13 and the corresponding Federal regulations are approved.

A full assessment of sardine is scheduled for 2011, and may employ new survey methods. New methods will be considered under Agenda Item I.3, Terms of Reference for Stock Assessment and Methodology Review Panels. As part of the 2011 management measure process, the Council may set aside a portion of the allowable harvest of Pacific sardine for anticipated survey research to be conducted under an EFP in 2011. Formal review of such survey proposals will commence at the March 2011 Council meeting.

Council Action:

1. **Adopt Pacific Sardine Assessment, Harvest Specifications, and Monitored Stocks Management Measures for 2011, including consideration of set-asides for incidental landings and research.**
2. **Provide guidance on implementation of Amendment 13.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.2.b, Attachment 1: *West Coast Aerial Sardine Survey Sampling Results in 2010*.
2. Agenda Item I.2.b, Attachment 2: *Assessment of the Pacific Sardine Resource in 2010 for U.S. Management in 2011*. (Executive Summary, **for full document, see electronic files on the Briefing Book CD or Council website**).
3. Agenda Item I.2.c, CPSMT Report 1: *Management Measures for Monitored Stocks*.
4. Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental SSC Report.
5. Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental CPSMT Report 2.
6. Agenda Item I.2.c, Supplemental CPSAS Report.
7. Agenda Item I.2.d, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Survey and Assessment Report
 - c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - d. Public Comment
 - e. **Council Action:** Approve the Pacific Sardine Assessment and Final 2011 Management Measures for CPS
- Kerry Griffin**
Tom Jagielo, Kevin Hill

PFMC
10/15/10