

## CA Anchovy, Mackerel, Sardine Purse Seine Fishery

**Fishing gear type:** Purse Seine

**Current Category:** Category II\*

**Basis for current classification on the LOF:** The total annual mortality and serious injury of bottlenose dolphins (CA/OR/WA offshore) in this fishery is greater than 1% and less than 50% of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

**Current list of marine mammal species/stocks injured/killed (a <sup>(1)</sup> indicates those stocks driving the fishery's classification):** Bottlenose dolphin, CA/OR/WA offshore <sup>(1)</sup>; California sea lion, U.S.; Harbor seal, CA.

**Estimated number of current participants:** 63

**Take Reduction Teams/Plans that affect this fishery:** None.

**Year added to LOF:** 1996

**Category when originally listed:** Category II

**Basis for original classification on the LOF:** This fishery was originally classified as Category II based on observer data from 1991-1993, and logbook data from 1990-1992. The total mortality and serious injury of offshore bottlenose dolphin was 0.33 animals/year, or 2% of PBR.

**Estimated number of participants when originally listed:** 150

**Past names, if any:** CA anchovy, mackerel, tuna purse seine (until 2007).

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**Gear description/method for fishing:** The fishery uses purse seines, drum seines, and lampara nets using standard seining techniques. A typical purse seine net is 185 fathoms (1,110 ft; 338 m) long, 22 fathoms (132 ft; 40 m) deep, and 1,600 meshes deep with each mesh measuring 1.25 in (3 cm). The bag portion of the purse seine must not extend more than 20 percent of the corkline of the net. Off portions of California, no more than 125 mt of fish may be possessed or landed at any one time. The typical pursing procedure, which includes a skiff being released off the back of the larger vessel to circle the net, the pursing of the net, and the loading of the fish onto the boat, takes approximately one hour. This fishery is typically conducted during the night time hours in southern California, but may be conducted either day or night in other areas.

**Target species:** Wetfish (anchovy, mackerel, and sardine), with the target species primarily driven by availability and market demand.

**Spatial/temporal distribution of effort:** The fishery operates year-round predominantly in southern CA (including the Channel Islands) from San Diego, Oceanside, Dana Point, and San Pedro then north to San Francisco. The Pacific sardine fishing season is apportioned based on the following allocation scheme: 35 percent of the annual harvest guideline quota (HG) is allocated coastwide on January 1; 40 percent of the HG, plus any portion not harvested from the initial allocation is then reallocated coastwide on July 1; and on September 15 the remaining 25 percent, plus any portion not harvested from earlier allocations will be released.

**Levels of observer coverage each year<sup>†</sup>:** A pilot observer program was operated from July 2004- January 2006. A total of 93 sets were observed with 1 CA sea lion killed, and 54 sea lions and one southern sea otter released alive.

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\* The fishery is classified based on mortalities and serious injuries of a marine mammal stock greater than 1% and less than 50% (Category II) of the stock's Potential Biological Removal (PBR) level.

<sup>†</sup> Observer coverage levels include the latest information reported in the most current final Stock Assessment Reports (SAR).

There was a small level of observer coverage on this fishery in 2008 (less than 1%). Under the Marine Mammal Authorization Program, the following mortalities were self-reported: 4 California sea lions drowned in 2003 after chewing through a bait barge net used by the anchovy lampara net fishery.

**Management and regulations:** This fishery is a limited entry fishery, and the mackerel and sardine fisheries are quota fisheries. The fishery is managed in accordance with the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

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### **History of Changes on the LOF**

2008 LOF: Estimated number of participants was updated from 100 to 63.

2007 LOF:

- Reorganized the CA purse seine fisheries based on gear types and FMP management. The tuna portion of the “CA anchovy, mackerel, and tuna purse seine” fishery was split into its own “CA tuna purse seine” fishery. The existing “CA sardine purse seine” fishery is merged into this fishery to make the “CA anchovy, mackerel, sardine purse seine” fishery. The gear used and areas fished for tuna are different than for the other 3 species, and harvest for tuna is managed under the Highly Migratory Species FMP. Gear, fishing methods, and areas fished for anchovy, mackerel, and sardine are similar and harvest is managed jointly under the Coastal Pelagic Species FMP.
- Estimated number of participants was updated from 110 to 100.

2006 LOF: Added a superscript “1” in Table 1 after bottlenose dolphin (CA/OR/WA offshore), indicating that takes of this stock are driving the classification of this fishery.

2005 LOF: Estimated number of participants was updated from 150 to 110.