

## CA Tuna Purse Seine Fishery

**Fishing gear type:** Purse Seine

**Current category:** Category II\*

**Basis for current classification on LOF:** This fishery is classified as Category II by analogy with other Category II CA purse seine fisheries.

**Current list of marine mammal species/stocks injured/killed:** None documented.

**Estimated number of current participants:** 10

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

**Year added to the LOF:** 1996

**Category when originally listed:** Category II

**Basis for original classification on the LOF:** 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:** This 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 measures 1.25 in (3 cm).

**Target species:** Tuna (yellowfin, skipjack, and bluefin).

**Spatial/temporal distribution of effort:** The fishery operates from May to October south of Point Conception to the U.S.-Mexico border and in the Southern California Bight. This fishery is considered an opportunist fishery, meaning that fishers only target tuna when certain oceanographic and market conditions exist to make the fishery viable. Effort in the fishery is highly variable, ranging from zero to ten participants annually over the past several years.

**Levels of observer coverage each year<sup>†</sup>:** A pilot observer program for this fishery began in July 2004 and ended in January 2006. A total of 9 trips and 15 sets were observed with no marine mammal interactions.

**Management and regulations:** The fishery is managed under the Pacific Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan (HMS FMP).

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\* The fishery is classified by analogy to other gear types or fisheries that are known to cause mortality or serious injury of marine mammals.

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

## History of Changes on the LOF

### 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 was merged into the remaining components of that 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 HMS 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.
- The list of marine mammal species/stocks incidentally killed/injured in the larger fishery was also delineated to correspond to just the tuna portion of the fishery. There were no documented interactions between marine mammals and the tuna portion of the larger purse seine fishery.
- Added a superscript “2” after this fishery in Table 2, indicating that the fishery is classified by analogy.

*Changes on the LOF when the “CA tuna purse seine” fishery was included in the larger “CA anchovy, mackerel, tuna purse seine” fishery*

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.