

Coastal Pelagic Species: Pacific Sardine

Exhibit E

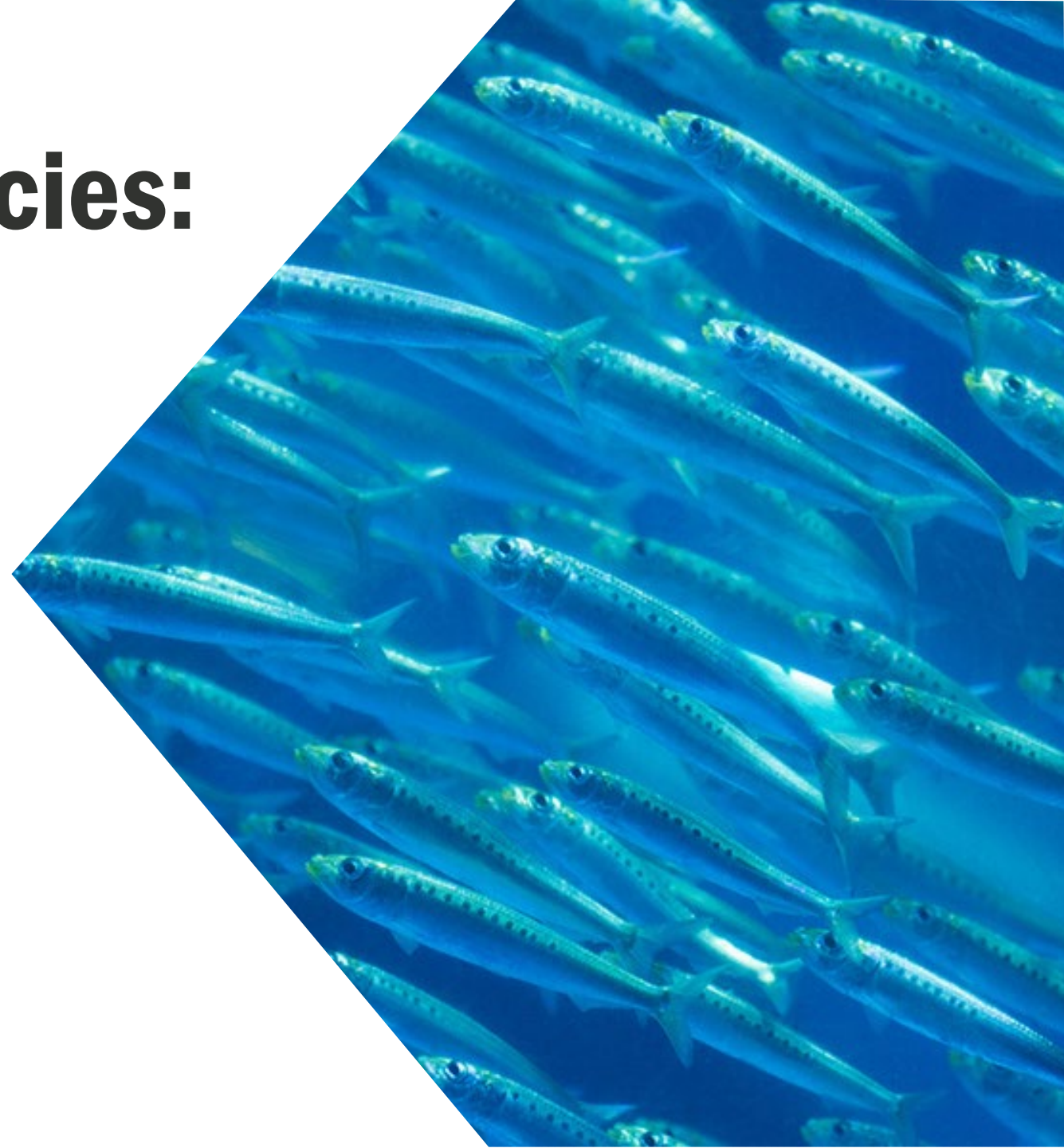
June 26, 2026

Lynn Mattes

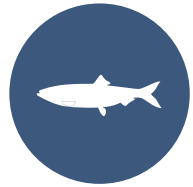
Marine Resources Program



Oregon Department
of Fish and Wildlife



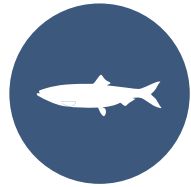
Issue: 2026-2027 Pacific Sardine Fishery Regulations



Adopt federal rules for
Pacific sardine fisheries
for the 2026-2027 fishing
season



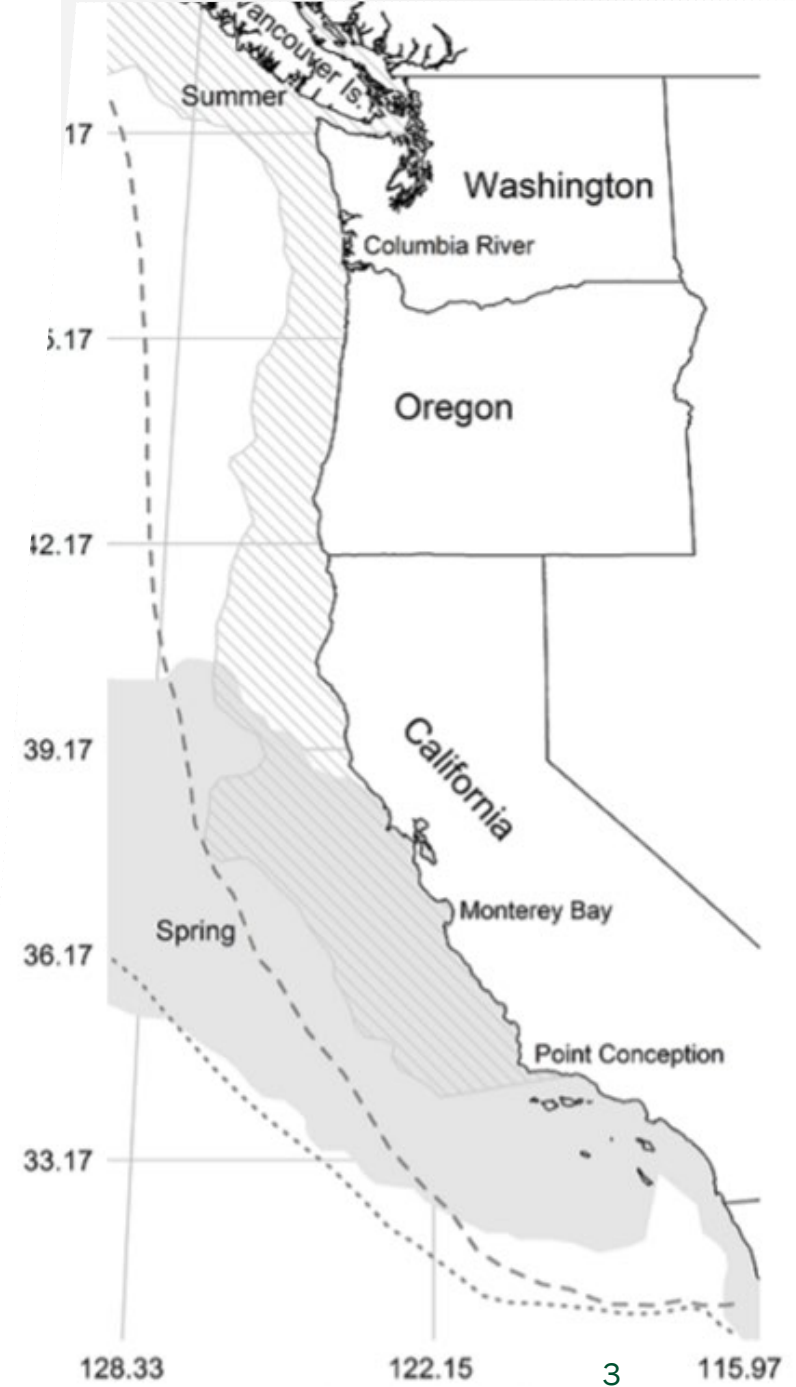
Background – Biology, Distribution



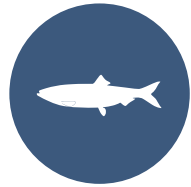
- 12-15 inches long
- 6–13-year lifespan
- Reproduce at age 1 or 2
- Plankton feeders
- Northern stock ranges from Mexico to southeastern Alaska
- Nearshore to 300 nautical miles offshore

*Potential habitat for the northern subpopulation of *P. sardine*
(Zwolinski et al., 2014).*

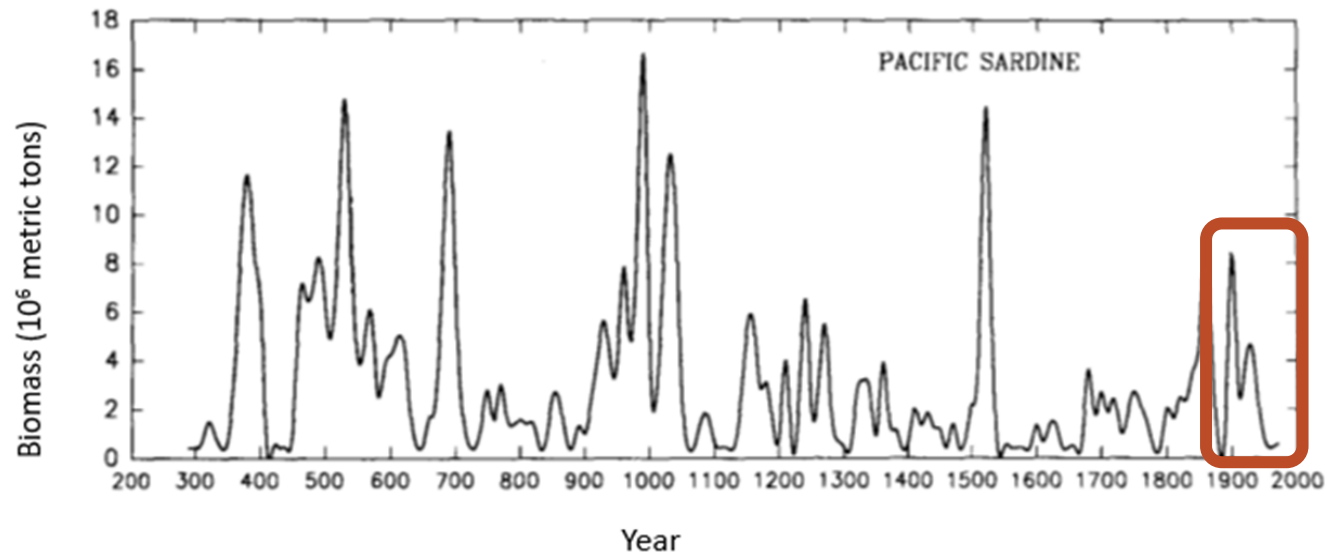
Darker shading = spring, lighter shading = summer



Background



Abundance of Pacific sardines fluctuates greatly, primarily driven by ocean conditions

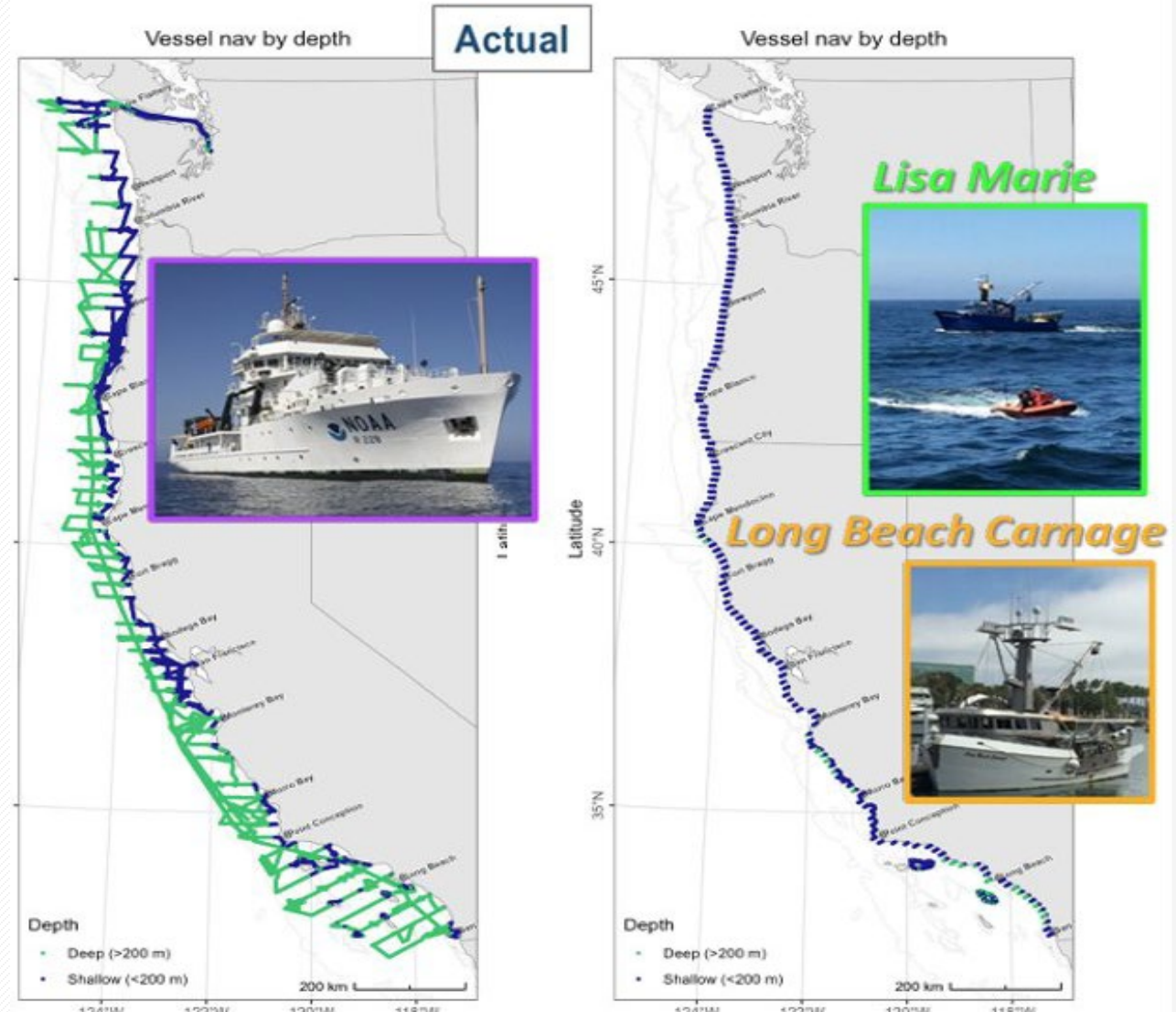


1700-year hindcast Pacific sardine biomass off California and Baja California (Baumgartner, 1992).



Science and Federal Management

- Pacific Sardine are included in the Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan
- Regular scientific surveys along the entire coast produce data for assessments



Population Trend

Graphs from the 2025 update assessment of Pacific sardine, showing the population estimates from the 2024 benchmark and 2025 update assessments

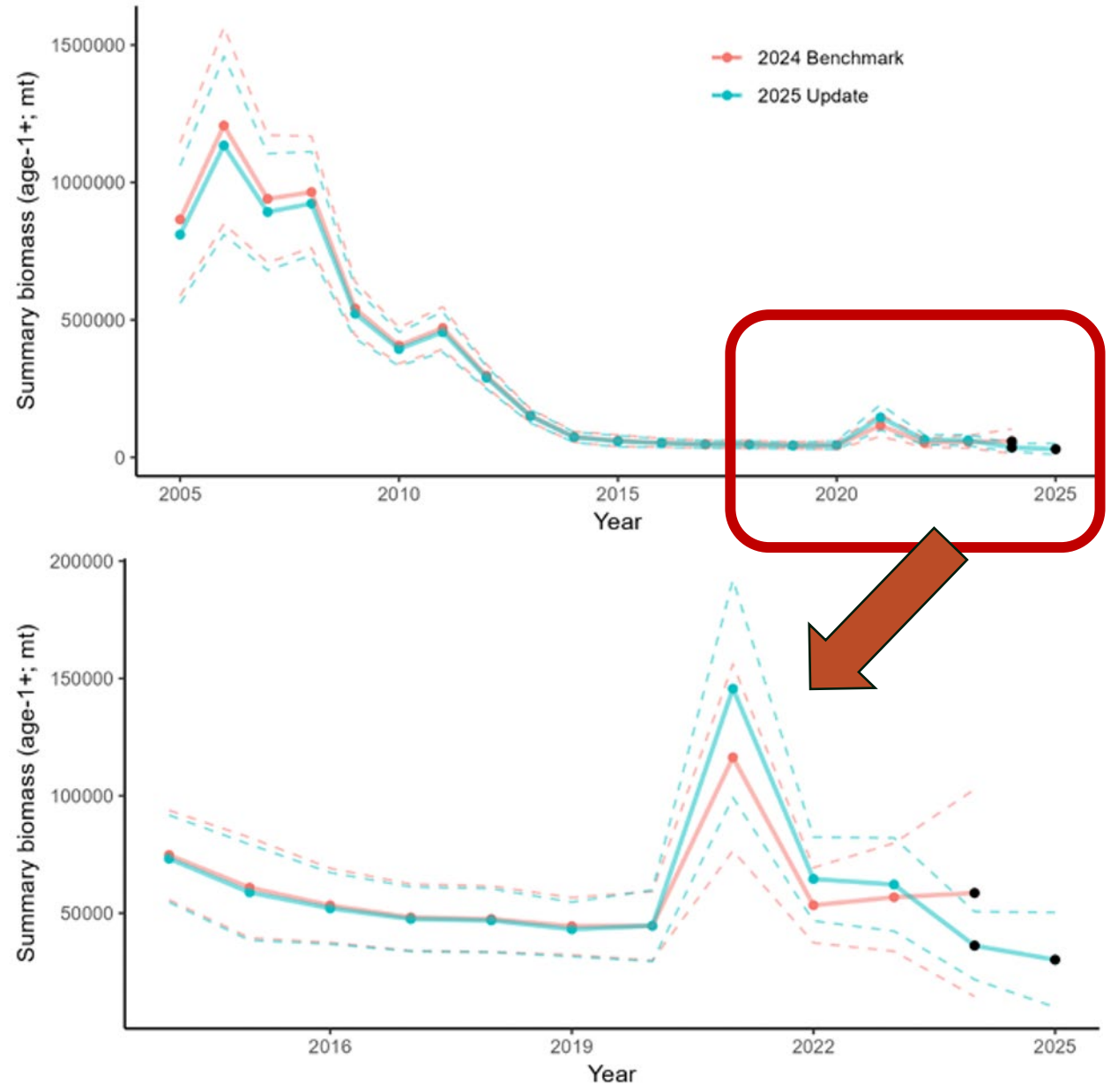
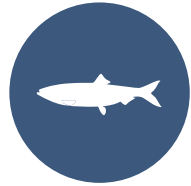


Figure ES.2. Time series of summary biomass (age-1+; mt) 2025 update assessment (blue). Dotted lines represent 95% confidence intervals. Black points indicate forecasted age-1+ biomass.

Council Decisions on Pacific Sardine Harvest and Management

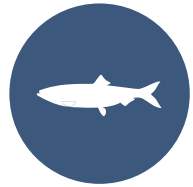


Pacific Council required to set:

- Overfishing Limit (OFL);
- Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC);
- Annual Catch Limit (ACL); and,
- Can also set Annual Catch Target (ACT)



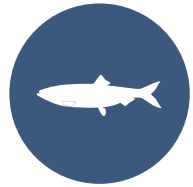
Council Decisions on Pacific Sardine Harvest



Based on a stock biomass
of 30,158 mt

Overfishing Limit (OFL)	4,645 mt
Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC)	3,613 mt
Annual Catch Limit (ACL)	2,200 mt
Annual Catch Target (ACT)	2,100 mt

Council Decisions on Pacific Sardine Harvest and Management

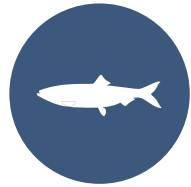


Harvest Control Rules for Pacific Sardine in the CPS FMP:

- No directed fishery when biomass <150,000 mt
- The CPS FMP does allow for:
 - limited harvest of Pacific sardine for live bait,
 - minor directed fisheries, and
 - incidental catch in other fisheries



Council Decisions on Pacific Sardine Harvest

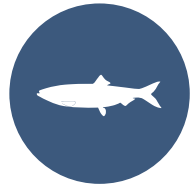


Accountability measures adopted:

1. Incidental landing limit in CPS fisheries of 20 percent
2. If the ACT of 2,100 mt is attained, a per-trip limit of 1 mt of Pacific sardine applies to all CPS fisheries
3. Incidental 2 mt per-landing allowance in non-CPS fisheries until the ACL is reached

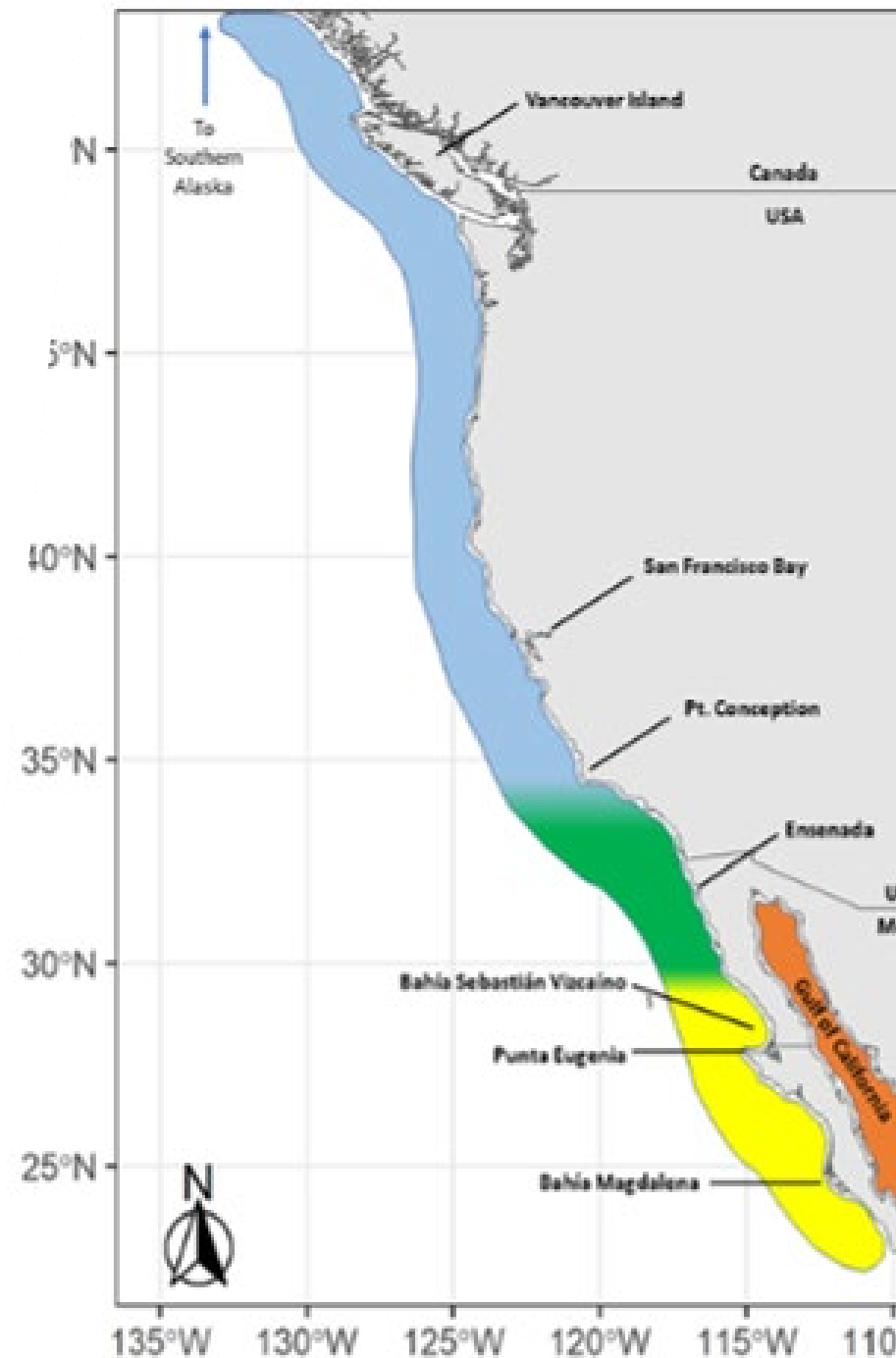


Ongoing Council Action

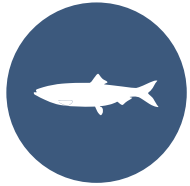


Stock definition for Pacific sardine

- New research indicates one panmictic stock
- Management changes possible beginning with the 2027-28 fishery



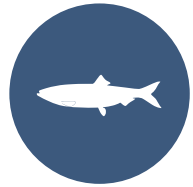
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Adopt federal rules for Pacific sardine fisheries for the 2026-2027 fishing season

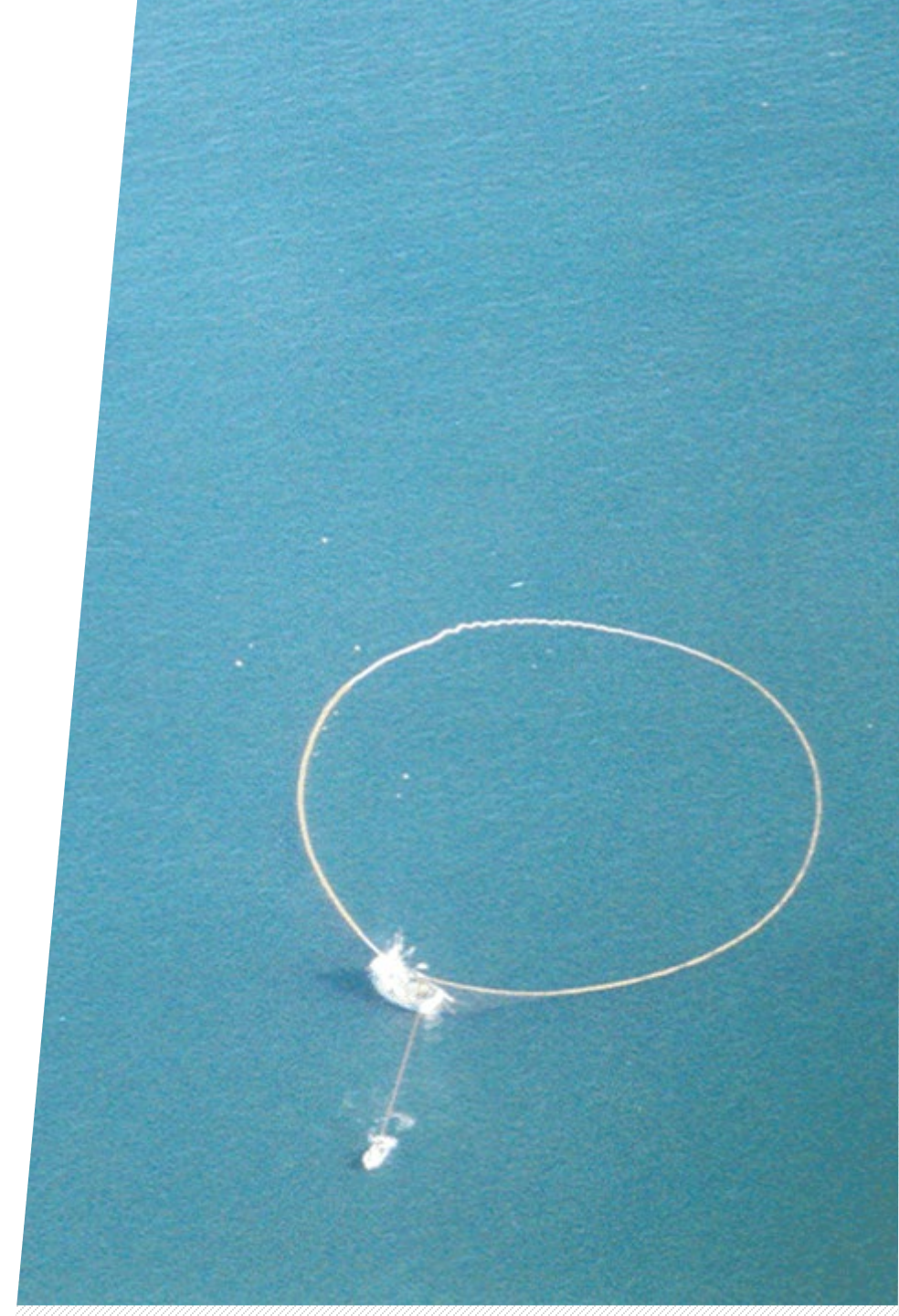


2026-2027 Pacific Sardine Fishery Regulations



Commission Action:

Adopt federal regulations for Pacific sardine fisheries for the 2026-2027 fishing season into state regulations



Thank you



**Oregon Department
of Fish and Wildlife**

