

***Exploring Conditions In The
West Coast Coastal Pelagic
Species Fishery***

By

Samuel F. Herrick Jr.

NOAA Fisheries

Southwest Fisheries Science Center

- Introduction:
- Why hold this workshop?
 - Reason
 - Concern about what is happening in the fishery
 - Think about what might be done to improve current situation
 - Purpose
 - Increase understanding of the science, economics and policies related to catch shares
 - Help stake holders learn from the success, failures and challenges that others have experienced with catch share management
 - Based on old and newfound knowledge generate meaningful discussion and gauge current thinking as to their potential use in U.S. west coast CPS fisheries

- What will be covered
 - Background
 - Harvest policy
 - Amendment 11
 - Current situation
 - Catch shares as potential solution

- Background:

- From a management standpoint

- CPS include Pacific sardine, Pacific mackerel, northern anchovy, jack mackerel, market squid

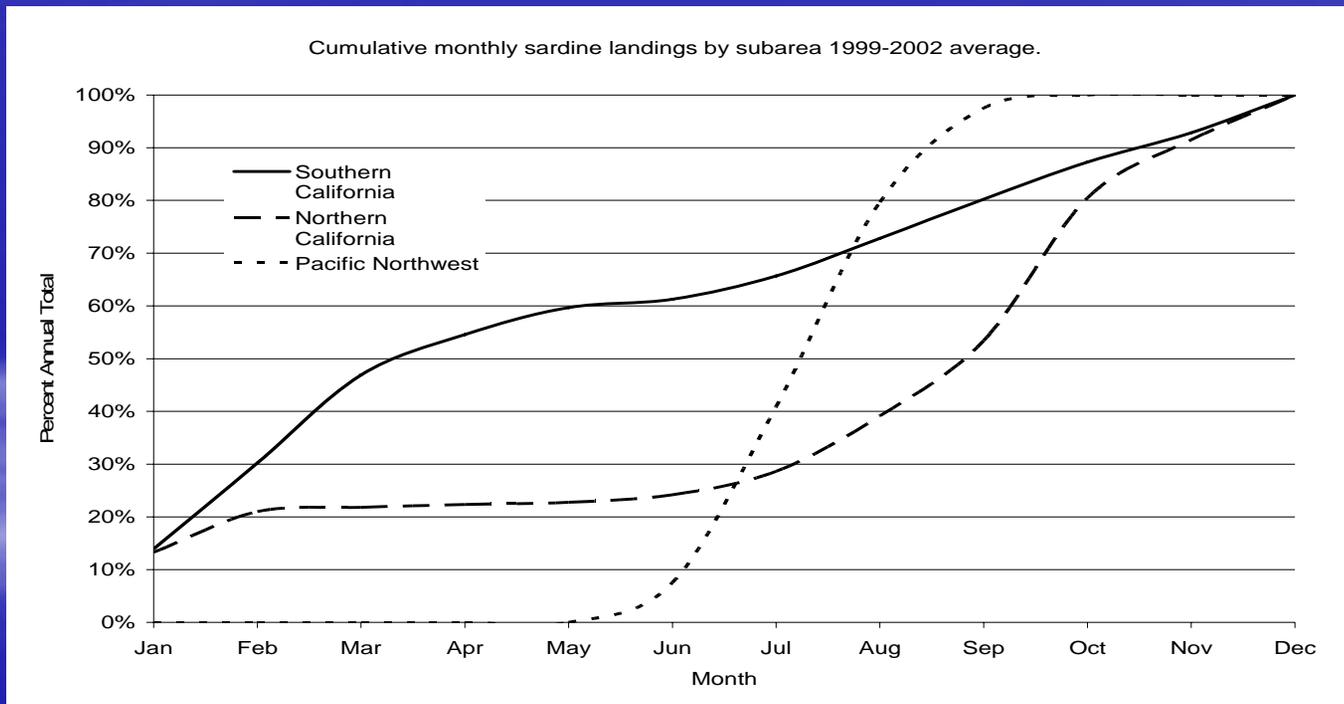
- Fisheries for P. sardine and P. mackerel actively managed under the Pacific Fishery Management Council's CPS Fishery Management Plan

- P. mackerel almost exclusively a California fishery

- Focus on Pacific sardine

- P. sardine distributed coastwide with fishery sectors in southern California, northern California and Oregon and Washington (together Pacific Northwest)

- The sardine fishery in each sector occurs during different times of the year



- The CPS harvest policy
 - Annual stock assessment to estimate the stock biomass
 - Harvest control rule is then applied to the biomass estimate to come up with a harvest guideline (ABC)

Estimated biomass, annual harvest guideline (HG) and total U.S. west coast landings of Pacific sardine (metric tons), 2006-2009

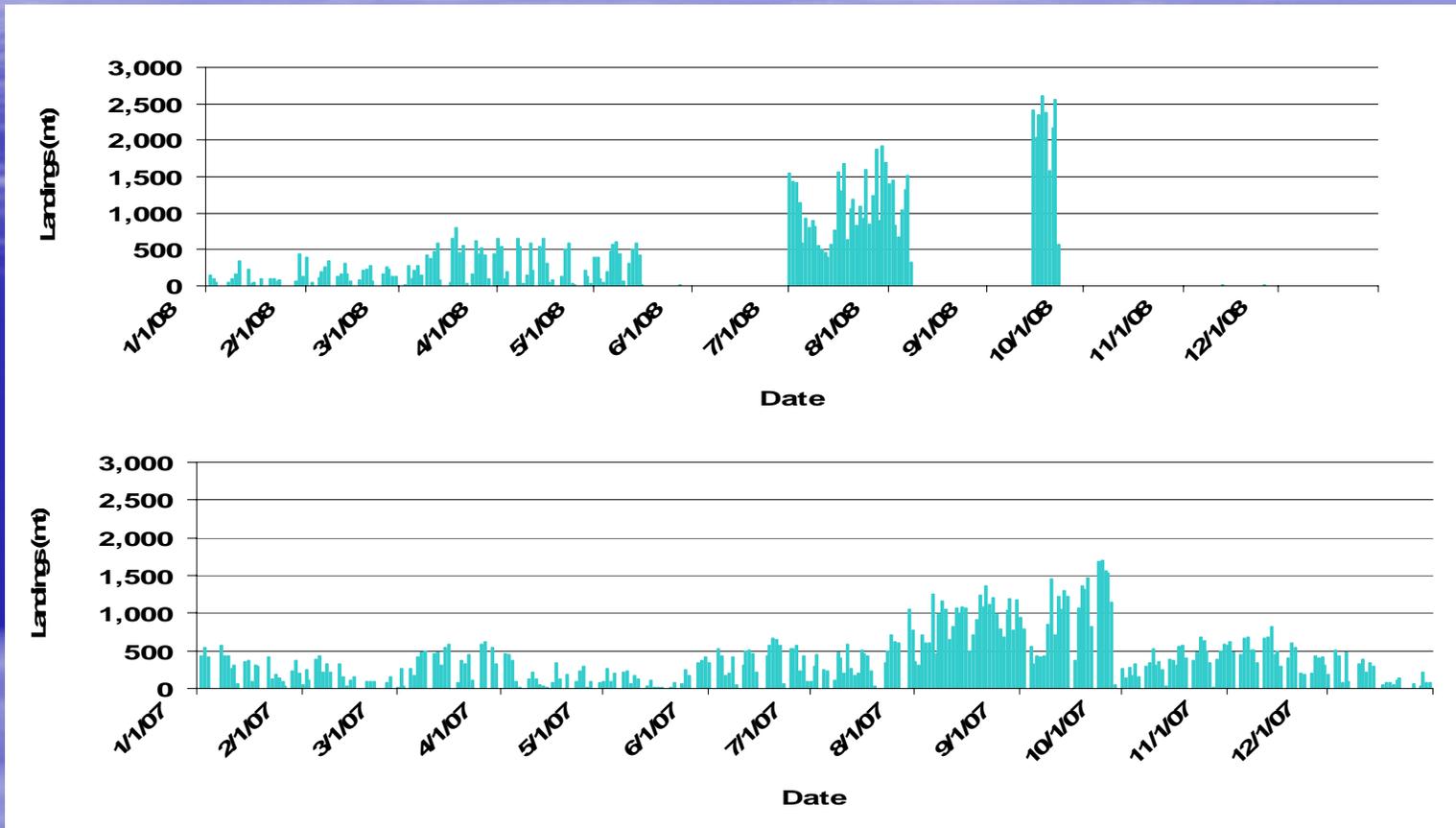
Year	Estimated Biomass	HG	U.S. Landings	% HG Utilized
2006	1,093,800	118,937	91,039	77%
2007	832,546	152,564	127,789	84%
2008	586,369	89,093	87,184	98%*
2009	662,886	66,932	n/a	n/a
2010	702,204	72,039	n/a	n/a

*Preliminary

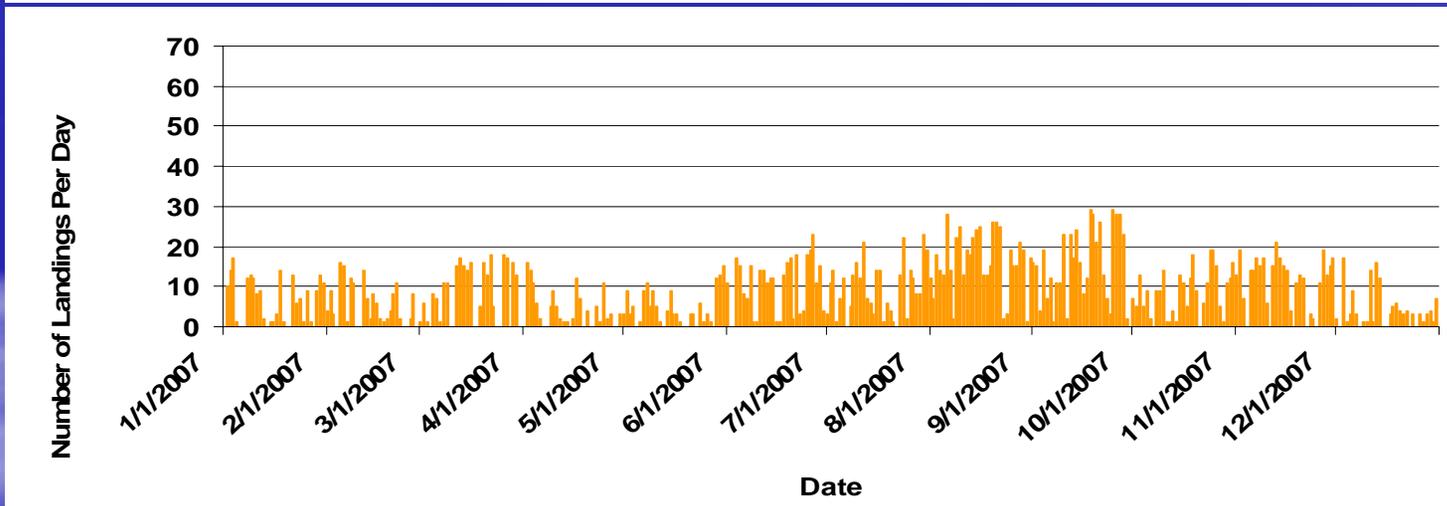
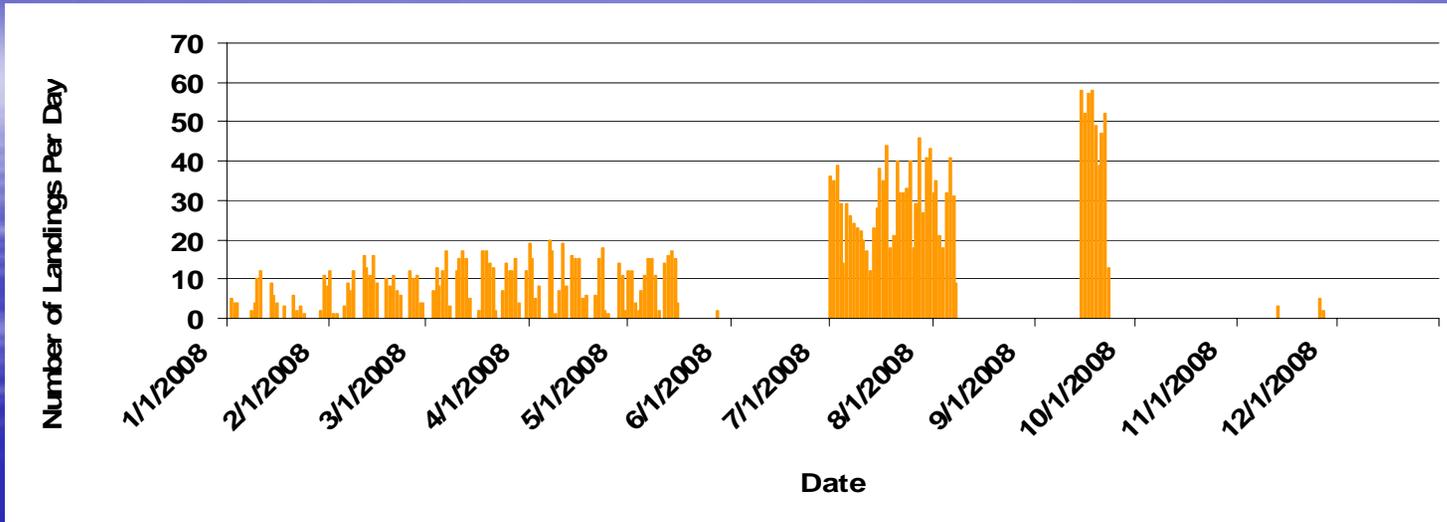
- Other Management measures
 - California fisheries under federal limited entry program
 - Oregon and Washington fleets under respective state limited entry programs

- Amendment 11:
 - HG allocated coastwide on a seasonal basis since 2006
 - 35 % allocated January 1
 - 40% plus any portion not harvested from the initial allocation reallocated July 1
 - 25% plus any portion not harvested from earlier allocations reallocated September 15
 - In 2006 and 2007 the full HG was more than adequate to meet the needs of industry
 - In 2007 the HG was more closely approached as increased global demand for sardines had stimulated harvest rates fishery.
 - 42% reduction in HG for 2008
 - Reduction in the HG resulted in quick utilization of the seasonal allocations and premature closures of the fishery in 2008

- Faced with impending closures a derby-like fishery ensued



Combined California, Oregon and Washington daily sardine landings, 2007 and 2008.



Combined California, Oregon and Washington sardine number of landings per day, 2007 and 2008

- Current situation:
 - The patterns of fishing intensity that occurred in 2008 appeared to continue in 2009
 - When the harvest guideline is at full utilization, seasonal allocations create economic incentives that can stimulate a race to harvest the available catch
 - These incentives counter incentives to operate efficiently and conservatively especially at a time when stock production appears to be in decline

- **Some contextual issues:**
 - **Physical and ecological aspects**
 - With a climate regime shift in the California Current Ecosystem, the sardine stock could become inaccessible to one or more of the domestic fishery sectors
 - **Structure of the CPS fishing industry and fisheries**
 - There is a strong sense of community that characterizes the socioeconomic fabric of the sardine fishery sectors
 - **Interests of the non-industry parties**
 - Number of non-commercial resource interests
 - **Transboundary management of CPS resources**
 - The Pacific sardine resource is currently shared by Mexico, the U.S. and Canada

■ Catch shares:

- Increase understanding of the science, economics and policies related to catch shares
- Learn from the success, failures and challenges that others have experienced with catch share management
 - Presentations
 - Catch shares and fisheries management
 - Rights-based management: variety in the programs for fisheries
 - West coast groundfish trawl rationalization
 - Rights-based fishery management in Chile: How it was done and how it has worked
 - Namibian fisheries management with emphasis on the use of individual catch quotas
 - Assessment and management of the south Australian sardine fishery: A good example of the benefits of individual transferable quotas
 - Thinking through catch share programs: Questions about property rights and institutional design raised by the New Zealand rock lobster experience
 - Quota-based catch share programs in the Bering Sea pollock fishery
 - Analysis of the price response in the U.S. Pacific sardine fishery
 - Case study panel sessions
 - Opportunity for in depth questions and answers dealing with presentations

- Generate meaningful discussion and gauge current thinking as to the potential use of catch shares in U.S. west coast CPS fisheries
 - Interest group panel session
 - Representation of interests in conservation and management
 - Generate large audience participation
 - Identify discussion points for further deliberation
 - Breakout sessions
 - More in depth analysis of discussion points
 - Wrap up
 - Report from breakout groups
 - Round robin discussion