



SC14 Meeting Report

Annex 12: Jack Mackerel Summary Advice

Stock status summary for Jack mackerel, September 2026

Stock: Jack Mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*)
Region: Southeast Pacific

In conformity with the approach by the SC since 2012, a comparison was made between the 1-stock (H1) and 2-stock (H2) model configurations for Jack mackerel. Since the 2026 benchmark assessment workshop focussed on improving the biomass indices, the scale of the stock(s) changed. Model results from the two areas differed over some periods, but both stocks under H2 showed increasing biomass since 2010 with fishing mortality on average being below F_{MSY} . This was also true under the H1 assessment model results.

Advice for 2027

The SC acknowledged that there appears to be more uncertainty on the status of the jack mackerel resource. Most members acknowledged that, to meet the management objective for jack mackerel in the medium term (2032) and long term (2036), fishing needs to be restricted to the fishing mortality similar to that of 2026. This gives a range of advice for 2027 as between 964 - 1,152 kt. In the interest of reducing the extent of TAC reduction, one member proposed evaluating the TAC in a step-wise manner. This gave a 2027 TAC of 1,319 kt.

In light of the accepted completion of the MSE, should the Commission decide to adopt a management procedure for this year, another Member proposed two candidates (CMP29 and CMP45) based on the extension from the 2026 TAC. This gives a 2027 TAC of 1,424 kt (both CMPs gave the same TAC advice due to specified constraints on TAC changes).

Stock status

		2027	2028
Fishing mortality in relation to:	F_{MSY}	Below	Below
Spawning stock biomass in relation to:	B_{MSY}	Above 80%	Above 80%

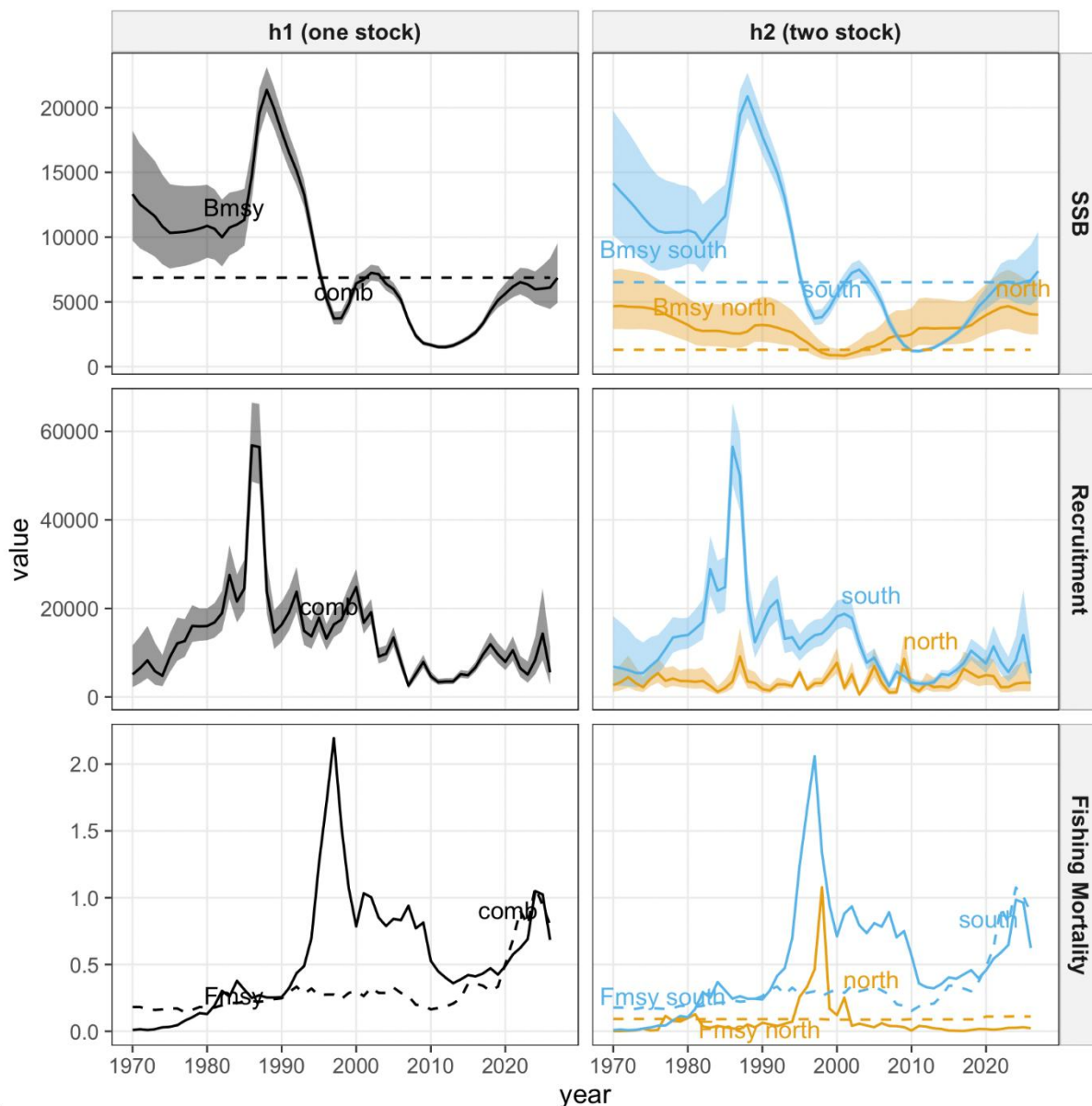


Figure 1. Jack mackerel in the southeast Pacific. Summary of stock assessment estimates over time showing spawning biomass (in thousands of tonnes; top), recruitment at age 1 (millions; middle), and total fishing mortality (as an instantaneous rate per year; middle). Columns show results for the one-stock hypothesis (H1, left) and two-stock hypothesis (H2, right, “north” stock in yellow and “south” stock in blue). Shaded areas refer to the estimated uncertainties.



Table 2: Advised catch, Catch Limits and reported catch of Jack Mackerel in the southeast Pacific.

Year	Advice	Recommended Maximum Catch	Catch Limit CMM area	Catch Limit throughout range	Catch throughout range
2013	Projection results under the assumption of recent average recruitment at the levels estimated for the recent period (2000–2012) indicate that fishing mortality should be maintained at or below 2012 levels to improve the likelihood of spawning biomass increasing. This results in catches for 2013 on the order of 441kt or lower.	441,000	360,000	438,000	355,540
2014	In sum, the advice to the Commission is to aim to maintain 2014 catches for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 440 kt.	440,000	390,000	440,000	415,367
2015	The Commission should aim to maintain 2015 and 2016 catches for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 460 kt.	460,000	410,000	460,000	395,210
2016	The SC agreed that the recommendation from 2014 for catches in 2016 is still appropriately precautionary. Namely, that the Commission should set 2016 catches limits for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 460 kt, based on a status quo fishing mortality of 2014.	460,000	410,000	460,000	389,101
2017	On the application of the adjusted rebuilding plan adopted by the 2nd Meeting of the Commission as proposed from SC02, the Commission should aim to maintain 2017 catches for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 493 kt.	493,000	443,000	493,000	406,125
2018	Given current stock status, the second tier of the Jack mackerel rebuilding plan could be applied, thereby substantially increasing the potential catch. Considering the uncertainties in the assessment however, the Scientific Committee adopts a precautionary approach and advises to maintain 2018 catches for the entire Jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 576 kt.	576,000	517,582	576,000	527,538
2019	The SC recommended status quo fishing effort which gives 2019 catches throughout the range of the Jack mackerel stock(s) at or below 591 kt. Although the stock is estimated to be in the “second tier” of the harvest control rule (>80% of B_{MSY}), the retrospective analysis shows a tendency of overestimating the stock size. In addition, there is information that suggests that the growth of jack mackerel has been underestimated. These two factors warrant additional precaution and further investigation.	591,000	531,061	591,000	635,569
2020	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (“Adjusted Annex K”) and because the Jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above B_{MSY} , the SC recommended a 15% increase in 2020 catches throughout the range of Jack mackerel resulting in a total catch limit at or below 680 thousand tonnes.	680,000	618,001	680,000	725,945
2021	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (“Adjusted Annex K”) and because the Jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above B_{MSY} , the SC recommended a 15% increase in 2020 catches throughout the range of Jack mackerel resulting in a total catch limit at or below 782 thousand tonnes.	782,000	710,702	782,000	802,040
2022	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (outlined in the SCW14 report) and because the Jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above 100% of B_{MSY} , the SC recommended: a precautionary 15% increase in 2022 catches throughout the range of Jack mackerel- at or below 900 kt.	900,000	817,943	900,000	961,598
2023	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (outlined in the SCW14 report) and because the jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above B_{MSY} , the SC recommended a precautionary 15% increase in 2023 catches throughout the	1,035,000	981,832	1,080,000	1,113,4379



Year	Advice	Recommended Maximum Catch	Catch Limit CMM area	Catch Limit throughout range	Catch throughout range
	range of jack mackerel- at or below 1,035 kt. This advice for catch limits in 2023 does not depend on the stock structure hypothesis that is used.				
2024	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (outlined in the SCW14 report) and because the jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above BMSY, the SC recommended a precautionary 15% increase in 2024 catches throughout the range of jack mackerel- at or below 1,242 kt. This advice for catch limits in 2024 does not depend on the stock structure hypothesis that is used.	1,242,000	1,135,295	1,242,000	1,330,070*
2025	In line with the accepted rebuilding plan (outlined in the SCW14 report) and because the jack mackerel biomass is estimated to be above BMSY, the SC recommended a precautionary 15% increase in 2025 catches throughout the range of jack mackerel- at or below 1,428 kt. This advice for catch limits in 2025 does not depend on the stock structure hypothesis that is used.	1,428,000	1,419,119	1,552,500	1,494,544*
2026	The SC lacked consensus on the interpretation of the harvest control rule as outlined in the SCW14 report. As such, the SC provided two aforementioned approaches: · that the 2026 TAC be at or below 1,642.2 kt, (15% increase over the 2025 SC catch advice) · that the 2026 TAC be at or below 1,785.4 kt, (15% increase over 2025 TAC).	1,642,200 or 1,785,400	1,531,071	1,674,975	1,101,496*
2027	Given the uncertainty of the stock status and the pending status of the completed MSE, the SC was unable to come to a consensus on a single recommendation for specific maximum catch limits.	964,000 - 1,152,000 (assessment) or 1,319,000 (stepwise**) or 1,424,000 (CMPs 29 and 45**)			

2013 advice was given by the Science Working Group.

* Preliminary values estimated at SC14

** Advice recommended by some members of the SC