

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Regional Office
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Small Entity Compliance Guide for the 2009 Pacific Sardine Annual Specifications

For 2009 the harvest guideline (HG) for Pacific sardine is 65,732 metric tons (mt). This is divided into a directed harvest fishery of 59,232 mt and an incidental set aside of 6,500 mt. The directed and incidental set aside amounts are divided throughout the year in the following way: January 1-June 30, 22,006 mt is allocated for directed harvest with an incidental set-aside of 1,000 mt; July 1-September 14, 25,293 mt is allocated for directed harvest with an incidental set-aside of 1,000 mt; September 15-December 31, 11,933 mt is allocated for directed harvest with an incidental set-aside of 4,500 mt.

	January 1- June 30	July 1- September 14	September 15 – December 31	Total
Directed Harvest Allocation (mt)	22,006	25,293	11,933	59,232
Incidental Set Aside (mt)	1,000	1,000	4,500	6,500

If the Regional Administrator, NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Region, determines that a directed harvest allocation is reached or is estimated to be reached, fishing will be closed to directed harvest. During a directed harvest closure, Pacific sardine may only be landed 1) as part of the live bait fishery, or 2) when caught incidental to other species/fisheries, with incidental harvest constrained by a 20-percent by weight incidental catch rate. After such a closure, any incidental Pacific sardine landings will be counted against that period's incidental set aside.

In the event that an incidental set aside is projected to be attained, no fishery would be allowed to retain Pacific sardine for the remainder of the period. If the *set aside* is not fully used or is exceeded in a given seasonal period, the directed harvest allocation in the following seasonal period would automatically be adjusted to account for the discrepancy. Additionally, if during any seasonal period the *directed harvest allocation* is not fully used or is exceeded, then the following period's directed harvest total would be adjusted to account for this discrepancy.

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