



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Southwest Region  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4000  
Long Beach, California 90802-4213

## **NOTICE OF PACIFIC SARDINE DIRECTED FISHING CLOSURE**

This notice announces that the directed harvest of Pacific sardines will be closed effective 12:01 AM, Friday morning February 20, 2009. Except for vessels fishing in the live bait fishery, fishing vessels with Pacific sardine on board taken in the directed harvest fishery must be at dock and in the process of offloading at the time of closure. From the time of closure until July 1, 2009, Pacific sardines may only be landed when caught incidental to other species.

The above closure is necessary because the directed fishing harvest allocation for the first allocation period (January 1, 2009 – July, 2009) is estimated to be reached in the near future. During this closure, Pacific sardine may only be landed (i) 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.

For any further questions please contact Josh Lindsay at 562-980-4034 or by email at [joshua.lindsay@noaa.gov](mailto:joshua.lindsay@noaa.gov)

