



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
MEGHAN HERTEL, Director

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
DECLARATION OF FISHERIES RESTRICTION
DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT
CAUSED BY ELEVATED LEVELS OF DOMOIC ACID IN NORTHERN ANCHOVY,
AND PACIFIC SARDINE

Pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I find and declare that

I.


On June 26, 2026, the Director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in consultation with the State Public Health Officer at the California Department of Public Health determined that northern anchovy and Pacific sardine in waters south of Pigeon Point, San Mateo County (37° 11.000' N. lat.) to a line due west from Point Lobos, Monterey County (36° 31.461' N. lat.), pose a human health risk due to elevated levels of domoic acid and recommended restricting commercial take of northern anchovy and Pacific sardine for human consumption in the affected area.

II.

THEREFORE, under the authority granted by Fish and Game Code Section 5523, I am restricting the commercial take of northern anchovy and Pacific sardine for human consumption in waters south of Pigeon Point (37° 11.000' N. lat.) to a line due west from Point Lobos (36° 31.461' N. lat.). Under the restriction, northern anchovy and Pacific sardine, taken from the affected area shall not be possessed or sold for human consumption, except:

1. Commercial or incidental take for use as bait or unmarketable fish is allowed. Any northern anchovy or Pacific sardine sold for use as dead bait shall be clearly labeled as not for human consumption or use in pet food.

These restrictions on take for human consumption will remain in place until I am notified by the public health agencies named above, that a health hazard regarding northern anchovy and Pacific sardine no longer exists.

Signed by:


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Meghan Hertel, Director

6/26/2026

Date/Time