

Table 1.2-2. Commercial databases used in NFMP data analyses, summaries, reports, etc.

CFIS - CMASTR (Commercial Fisheries Information System - commercial landings database)

Strengths	Weaknesses
Most recent record of commercial landings and activity (number of participants, boats, dealers, dates, etc.), and documents actual landings data	Recorded landings by “market categories” and not by actual species (though, in many cases market category designations and species are synonymous - therefore a major point of confusion and need for caution in interpreting data)
Only record of commercial landings (best available data)	Catch location and landing location may not be the same
Long-term database (1916 to the present)	Missing or incorrect information
Statewide, comprehensive by port	
Provides additional information on value of catch	

CALCOM (California Cooperative Survey - commercial landings sampling program)

Strengths	Weaknesses
Species compositions of sampled market categories are estimated	Major target: groundfish (but not all groundfish)
Provides biological data: lengths, sex ratios, weights, ages of many species	Sampling logistics very difficult in certain ports
Provides a check link between sampling activity and commercial landings activity	Not enough samples and/or sampling due to personnel constraints
Provides landings estimates of species (known as “expanded” landings data)	Sampling concentrated in northern and central portions of the state with less data from southern portion