

SMALL-SCALE FISHERY MANAGEMENT FINAL ACTION

At its November 2016 meeting, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) considered a suite of alternatives to allow small-scale directed fishing to continue when directed Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) finfish fisheries are closed. The issue became apparent during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 Pacific sardine fishing seasons, when all directed sardine fishing was precluded, except for limited amounts of tribal harvest, live bait, and recreational fishing. Small harvesters in the bait and human consumption markets, who usually take no more than several hundred pounds per day or harvest by hand using nets at the beach, were also closed down. The Council selected a preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) at its November 2016 meeting, with final action scheduled for April 2017.

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) report (Agenda Item G.4.a, CPSMT Report) includes a description and analysis of the alternatives, including the PPA. If the Council takes final action, Council and agency staff will prepare an amendment to the CPS fishery management plan and transmit it to National Marine Fisheries Service along with implementing regulations. Proposed amendment language is expected to be included in the supplemental briefing book materials.

Council Task:

1. **Consider the small-scale fishery alternatives and analysis.**
2. **Consider proposed amendment language.**
3. **Adopt a final preferred alternative.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.4.a, CPSMT Report.
2. Agenda Item G.4.b, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

G.4 Small-Scale Fishery Management Final Action

Kerry Griffin

- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Preferred Alternative for Small-Scale Fishery Management