EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFP) FOR 2011

At its November 2010 meeting, the Council adopted harvest specifications and management measures for the 2011 Pacific sardine fishery. As part of the management measures the Council set aside 4,200 metric tons (mt) of the 2011 harvest guideline as a research set aside. The intent of the research set aside is to continue and expand on aerial surveys that were conducted in 2008 and 2010 by industry representatives. The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Advisory Subpanel and the CPS Management Team supported the 4,200 mt set aside to continue the aerial survey that has contributed to the sardine stock assessment in the past two years. Because all or part of the aerial survey may be conducted during a period closed to directed harvest, an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will be required.

The pilot survey conducted in 2008 was limited to areas in the Pacific Northwest. The 2009 and 2010 surveys expanded into areas off California. The 2010 EFP included an 800 mt set aside for a fall pilot project aimed at expanding knowledge about multiple survey methods, including the incorporation of LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) into survey methods. This survey methodology may potentially be utilized for other CPS stock assessments as well, and is scheduled to be considered by a methodology review panel in early May, 2011, concurrent with the mackerel Stock Assessment Review Panel.

The only EFP proposal submitted for consideration at this meeting includes 2,100 mt, for survey activity in the Pacific Northwest, submitted by the Northwest Sardine Survey, LLC (Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1).

At the March meeting the Council is tasked with adopting an EFP proposal for 2011 Pacific sardine research for public review. The Council is scheduled to make final recommendations on EFPs at its April 2011 meeting in San Mateo, California. Any portion of the EFP set aside not allocated to an EFP would be reallocated to the third period (September 15-December 31) of the directed fishery as adopted by the Council in November 2010 and implemented in regulation by NMFS.

**Council Action:**

**Adopt Exempted Fishing Permit for Public Review.**

**Reference Materials:**


**Agenda Order:**

a. Agenda Item Overview  
   Kerry Griffin
b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Agencies  
c. Public Comment  
d. **Council Action:** Adopt EFP Proposals for Public Review

PFMC  
2/10/11