

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL COMMENTS ON
STATUS OF PLAN AMENDMENT

1. Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for Squid

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) is uncomfortable assigning an MSY for squid when the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) has previously reported there is inadequate data to determine a mathematical MSY.

In the absence of adequate data, scientific guidelines allow the Council to set a proxy for MSY. If this is the preferred avenue of the Council, the CPSAS will support Option 1 on page 2 of Attachment D.3.b. However, we would only support this MSY proxy if the ABC level was amended to equal MSY (Option 1 on page 3 of Attachment D.3.b.).

Furthermore, the CPSAS would like the Council to ask the CPSMT to look at other ways MSY could be computed following the completion of the studies currently being conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game.

2. Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery Management Plan Bycatch Provisions

The majority of the CPSAS supports both Options 1 and 3 as listed on page 5 of Attachment D.3.b.

PFMC
03/08/00