

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE EFP APPLICATION CO-SPONSORED BY THE PACIFIC MARINE
CONSERVATION COUNCIL AND THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME.

1. Effective dates for the EFP: August – October 2001, June – October 2002
2. Maximum number of trips: Approximately four trips per month per vessel to prosecute fishing for yellowtail rockfish under the EFP.
3. Number of observers to participate in the project: CDFG has identified funding that would allow for up to 5 trained observers to participate in the at-sea data collection portion of this project.
4. The number of fishermen participating in the project is constrained by the number of available observers as the EFP will only be in effect with an observer on-board. The EFP will be open to OA vessels in the state of California that meet the landing history criteria set for yellowtail (to be analyzed).
5. Full retention of all rockfish species will be required, with some level of the amount of yellowtail rockfish in excess of the current OA trip limit to be retained by the vessel to cover expenses incurred as a result of participation in the project. The current OA limit is 100 pounds per trip, the EFP applicants are requesting a limit of 1000 pounds per month with the vessels permitted to retain 500 pounds per month. As noted in the EFP application fish caught in excess of 500 pounds per month will be forfeited to the state.
6. A cap of 30 pounds of canary rockfish per observed trip under the EFP is proposed. Upon reaching this cap the fisherman would no longer be allowed to target yellowtail rockfish and would have to target other species. Upon reaching the 50-pound limit on canary rockfish the vessel would be required to retain all canary rockfish caught however, all fish caught above the 50-pound limit would be forfeited to the state.
7. Data to be collected includes: length and weight of all species captured, species composition, soak time, location, depth fishing, gear, and logistical information on the vessel. These data will be analyzed and a report written Jennifer Bloeser of PMCC or a specified biologist at CDFG and provided to the Council at the conclusion of the project.