

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL STATEMENT ON AMENDMENT 10 TO THE
COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) reviewed the draft of Amendment 10 to the CPS fishery management plan (FMP).

The CPSAS unanimously supports final adoption of limited entry capacity goal options. Specifically, the CPSAS supports Option A.1: maintain a larger, diverse CPS finfish fleet which also relies on other fishing opportunities such as squid and tuna, with harvesting capacity equal to the long-term aggregate harvest level. This limited entry capacity goal reflects the current CPS limited entry finfish fleet.

Regarding conditions for the transfer of existing permits, the CPSAS supports Option B.3. which allows finfish limited entry permits to be transferred with restrictions on the harvesting capacity of the vessel to which it would be transferred to. The CPSAS also support Option C.4. which allows restoration of the target capacity fleet when it has been exceeded by 5% through further restrictions on transfer options. The CPSAS supports Option D.2. which outlines the issuance of new limited entry permits if and when it becomes necessary.

On the issue of establishing a maximum sustainable yield (MSY) proxy for the market squid fishery, the majority (8 out of 9 members) support Alternative 4, the CPS Management Team's preferred option utilizing an Egg Escapement Method as a proxy for MSY with an egg escapement threshold of 0.3 (30%).

A minority (1 of 9) of the CPSAS believes that other methods of establishing a squid MSY proxy may be better than the Egg Escapement Method. In addition, if the Egg Escapement model proposed in Alternative 4 is adopted, the minority opinion believes that an Egg Escapement threshold of 0.4 (40%) should be considered and adopted as part of the preferred alternative. This is a reasonable alternative to consider because (1) the environmental concerns from the rapid increases in catches, (2) the fisheries propensity to crash during El Niño events, (3) its importance to the ecosystem as a prey species, and (4) since 0.4 (40%) is used as the threshold in the Falkland Islands squid fishery.

PFMC
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