

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS FOR KRILL MANAGEMENT

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) heard a presentation from Mr. Svein Fougner regarding the alternatives analysis for the management of krill prepared by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Southwest Regional Office. Given the lack of baseline scientific information on abundance and stock structure, and the recognized importance of krill to many marine predators, the CPSMT agrees that management measures to prevent development of directed krill fisheries would be prudent. The CPSMT reviewed the Council's November 2004 preliminary preferred alternative to incorporate krill into in the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to achieve conservation and management objectives.

The CPSMT agrees that incorporation of krill into the CPS FMP would provide a means to regulate potential krill fisheries. The CPSMT was concerned about the potential addition of considerable workload to achieve this goal, particularly when there is a great deal of work yet to be completed with regard to sardine conservation and management. The CPSMT urges NMFS to continue to take the lead in the development of an amendment. It is unclear at this time exactly how krill would be incorporated into the FMP, especially biological reference points such as unfished biomass, maximum sustainable yield, harvest control rules, and overfishing definitions would be required. The CPSMT recommends that the Council and NMFS investigate simplified management strategies under the CPS FMP which minimize the need for intensive analyses.

PFMC
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