COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON CALIFORNIA CURRENT ECOSYSTEM AND INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT REPORT AND SCIENCE REVIEW TOPICS

The Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) received a presentation of the California Current Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (CCIEA) California Current Ecosystem Status Report, 2018 from Dr. Toby Garfield during a joint CPSMT- Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel webinar on February 21, 2018. The CPSMT thanks Dr. Garfield for the presentation. The CPSMT finds the status report to be useful for generally informing its discussion and evaluation of ecosystem considerations relevant to CPS, and particularly valuable for providing supporting material for the annual CPS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation.

National Marine Fisheries Service Report 3
The CPSMT considered the five ecosystem science topics proposed for Science and Statistical Committee review in September 2018 (Agenda Item F.1.a) and recommends the following based on their relevance to CPS.

- Using the J-Scope approach for short-term forecasts of ocean conditions and species distribution

  The J-SCOPE approach for short-term forecasts may be useful for CPS (especially sardines) in a few ways, including assisting the Southwest Fisheries Science Center in planning their coastwide survey schedule/locations, and perhaps providing some indication of possible or potential near-term sardine recruitment for comparison to stock assessment model projections. The approach, if it proves effective over time, could possibly be of use to the CPS industry in determining whether and where to gear up their facilities regionally, and in directing marketing efforts for the upcoming sardine season.

- Development of a new forage community composition indicator

  Understanding the forage base is fundamental to understanding the status of the California Current Ecosystem. The CPSMT sees strong value in evaluating an approach that can potentially address the challenges posed by needing to integrate data from three very different surveys, and thus be better able to translate that survey information into a more comprehensive indicator of forage community status.

PFMC
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