

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF NEW 2020 EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

The Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries Management Plan allows for exempted fishing permit (EFP) activities to be conducted under a permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Council Operating Procedure (COP) 23 describes the process for proposing EFPs. Under COP 23, an initial notice of intent is to be submitted in time for inclusion in the November Briefing Book, with final action typically occurring at the subsequent April Council meeting.

Two notices of intent are included in the November Briefing Book materials. One is for aerial survey work in Southern California, submitted by the California Wetfish Producers Association (Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1), and the other is survey work and biological sampling in the Pacific Northwest, submitted by the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group (Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 2).

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt the preliminary EFP proposals for public review, with final approval scheduled for April 2020. Proponents would be required to submit updated proposals for the advance April Briefing Book. If approved by the Council in April, the proponents would then apply to the NMFS for the actual permit.

Council Action:

Adopt preliminary EFP proposals for public review.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 1: California Wetfish Producers Association Notice of Intent and Proposal (**Electronic Only**).
2. Agenda Item D.2, Attachment 2: West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group Notice of Intent and Proposal (**Electronic Only**).

Agenda Order:

- D.2 Preliminary Review of New 2020 Exempted Fishing Permits Kerry Griffin
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary EFPs for Public Review