COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF NEW EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS FOR 2021

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) discussed requests for three exempted fishing permits (EFPs) by the California Wetfish Producers Association (CWPA) in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and by the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group (WCP) in cooperation with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. All collaborative projects intend to address the continuing need for data to assess CPS biomass inshore of current National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Acoustic Trawl Method surveys.

Both the WCP and CWPA are working collaboratively with the National Marine Fisheries Service Southwest Fisheries Science Center in an effort to improve survey data collection that will lead to better-informed stock assessments and fishery management. The CPSAS urges the Council to adopt these EFP proposals for public review.

PFMC 11/17/20