EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFPs) FOR 2021-2022 - FINAL ACTION

The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan allows for EFP activities to be conducted under a permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Operating Procedure 23 describes the process for proposing EFPs, in which initial consideration occurs at the November Council meeting, with final action scheduled for the subsequent March or April Council meeting.

Three EFP notices of intent were submitted for the November 2020 Council meeting and were approved for consideration of full proposals at the April 2021 meeting. If approved, the allowed take of Pacific sardine under EFPs will be considered along with the management measures for the 2021-2022 Pacific sardine management measures (see Agenda Item E.4). The proposals are included in April Briefing Book materials (Agenda Item E.2, Attachments 1, 2 and 3).

Council Action:

Approve EFP Proposals for 2021.

Reference Materials:

- 1. Agenda Item E.2 Attachment 1: West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group Proposal.
- 2. Agenda Item E.2 Attachment 2: California Wetfish Producers Association Point Sets Proposal.
- 3. Agenda Item E.2 Attachment 3: California Wetfish Producers Association Biological Sampling Proposal.
- 4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

E.2 Exempted Fishing Permits for 2021-2022 - Final Action

Kerry Griffin

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Adopt Final EFP Recommendations for 2021-2022 Fisheries

PFMC 03/18/2021