

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFPs) FOR 2021-2022 – FINAL ACTION

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) received late notice requesting final comment on the three Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) proposals. The SSC usually does not review late requests; however, some members were able to read through the proposals and offer comments. Particular emphasis was placed on the California Wetfish Producers Association EFP proposals for collecting biological samples from a limited directed Pacific sardine fishery ([Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 3](#)) and obtaining additional point sets to validate the aerial survey estimates of biomass for the nearshore area ([Agenda Item E.2, Attachment 2](#)). The SSC confirmed its April 2019 and November 2020 conclusions that continuation of the collection of age-composition data was useful, particularly if the data helped to inform the age composition of the aerial survey estimate of abundance.

The SSC supports the three EFPs moving forward and commends the applicants for their dedication to the continued research needed to improve assessment of the Northern Subpopulation of Pacific Sardine and the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy.

PFMC
04/07/21