COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON STANDARDIZED BYCATCH REPORTING METHODOLOGY

At this meeting, the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) was tasked with reviewing the draft language to amend the CPS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) (Agenda Item C.8, Attachment 1) to make the FMP consistent with NOAA Fisheries' Final Rule on Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) (82 FR 631). The CPSMT has reviewed the draft language and finds it accurately reflects the text presented in September 2021 for incorporation into the FMP (Agenda Item E.5.a, Supplemental CPSMT Report 1 September 2021).

Previous CPSMT analysis found that the FMP conformed with the final rule. However, in September the CPSMT proposed adding language to the FMP and to the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document to improve clarity and provide more detailed information. The draft language contained in Agenda Item C.8, Attachment 1 accomplishes those objectives, and the changes now provide clear guidance on static SBRM requirements in the FMP. In addition, the CPSMT is incorporating more detailed information related to SBRM into the 2021 SAFE document and will maintain and update this information in future SAFE reports.

The CPSMT notes a minor typographical error carried forward with the text from September. On page 1 of Agenda Item C.8 Attachment 1, the word "described" should be changed to "describes" in the last sentence of paragraph 1 under the CPS draft language heading.

In conclusion, the CPSMT supports the draft language as proposed (with the minor correction) and recommends the Council approve it for inclusion in the CPS FMP, as well as using the analysis in the September 2021 CPSMT report as justification.

PFMC 11/19/21