

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON THE 2021-2022
CALIFORNIA CURRENT ECOSYSTEM STATUS REPORT AND SCIENCE REVIEW
TOPICS

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) was briefed by two members of the HMSAS that attended the March 2 webinar on the California Current Ecosystem Status Report. The HMSAS was impressed with the comprehensive report and the potential of the scientific value of understanding changes in the California Current Ecosystem as we go forward. In particular, one part of the report identified the value of a successful cooperative project with the American Fisheries Research Foundation (AFRF). AFRF is an albacore industry supported research group that coordinates research projects with the Southwest Fisheries Science Center and others across the Nation. The AFRF project noted in the report is a collaboration with industry to provide samples of North Pacific albacore to the Southwest Fisheries Science Center for evaluation on stomach contents, otoliths, and other scientific purposes. These samples are an important contributor of data regarding the forage fish base in the offshore waters of the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem. Appendix C of the Report – *Changes In This Year's Report* – states “The report needs HMS information...” (see page S-5). We think this is a good example of a collaboration between industry and science and helps to address that need. We suggest that the Council support this project going forward.

PFMC
03/10/22