

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF NEW EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS FOR 2023

The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) allows for exempted fishing permit (EFP) activities to be conducted under a permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Under Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Operating Procedure (COP) 23, an initial notice of intent is to be submitted for the November Briefing Book, with final action occurring at the subsequent April Council meeting.

Three notices of intent are included in the November Briefing Book materials for continuing EFP activities. Two were submitted by the California Wetfish Producers Association, one for biological sampling off California (Agenda Item I.2., Attachment 1) and another for point sets supporting aerial survey activities in California (Agenda Item I.2., Attachment 2). The third is for biological sampling in the Pacific Northwest to support acoustic-trawl survey research, submitted by the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group (Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 3).

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt the preliminary EFP proposals for public review, with final approval scheduled for April 2023.

Council Action:

Adopt preliminary EFP proposals for public review.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 1: California Wetfish Producers Association Notice of Intent and Proposal for Biological Sampling.
2. Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 2: California Wetfish Producers Association Notice of Intent and Proposal for Aerial Survey Point Sets.
3. Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 3: West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group Notice of Intent and Proposal for Biological Sampling.

Agenda Order:

- I.2 Preliminary Review of New Exempted Fishing Permits for 2023 Jessi Doerpinghaus
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary EFPs for Public Review