

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
MARINE PLANNING ISSUES

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) thanks the Marine Planning Committee (MPC) for another thorough and well thought out report. We remain concerned about the possible habitat effects of numerous, industrialized offshore wind energy projects on CPS species across the West Coast. Several published studies emphasize the importance of currents and upwelling to the recruitment and survival of sardines and other CPS. No known studies delineate the effect industrialized offshore wind energy projects will have on these processes. Due to the essential role of CPS in the marine ecosystem and Pacific fisheries, we strongly urge the Pacific Fishery Management Council to press the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to undertake studies of these potential impacts prior to advancing coastwide development to ensure that environmental costs are not disproportionate to the benefits from development.

PFMC
09/18/24