

COASTAL PELAGIC SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND FLEXIBILITY - SCOPING

The Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) has the following recommendation for prioritization of adaptive management and flexibility measures.

Recognizing the limited resources available for scientific research and the uncertainties in stock conditions due to environmental variability, the CPSAS favors prioritizing adaptive management measures and research that develop additional means of collecting data on CPS stocks, such as eDNA, drones, and fishery dependent data (e.g., bycatch rates in non-target fisheries) and incorporation of information from those sources into stock biomass estimates. The current reliance on annual surveys provides incomplete information on CPS stocks, which are highly mobile and are harvested throughout the year coastwide. Supplemental data (including improving the accuracy of current surveys and providing stock information at other times of the year) could provide more accuracy in those estimates and could be more directly applied to fishery management decisions of the Pacific Fishery Management Council and National Marine Fisheries Service. These additional data sources may provide more direct management uses and benefits, in comparison to long-term modeling efforts that require substantial staff time for development and have greater uncertainty as they attempt to extrapolate to conditions that are beyond the range of those observed in the past.

PFMC
09/15/25