

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
2018 EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFPs) NOTICE OF INTENT

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) reviewed two exempted fishing permit (EFP) proposals for coastal pelagic species (CPS). Ms. Diane Pleschner-Steele presented the proposal for aerial survey work in Southern California submitted by the California Wetfish Producers Association (CWPA) ([Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 1, November 2017](#)) and Mr. Mike Okoniewski briefed the SSC on the proposal submitted by the West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group ([Agenda Item C.2, Attachment 2, November 2017](#)).

The SSC supports the two EFPs moving forward if additional methodological details are included. Each proposal needs to provide a clear description of the sampling design and how it will achieve its objectives. The SSC posed numerous questions on issues that were not addressed in the proposals (e.g., how will the schools being sampled be chosen?) and passed on detailed suggestions to the applicants. The SSC is also concerned whether the proposed catch amounts, and associated sample sizes, are appropriate to accurately characterize the biomass, age-structure, and size-structure, as well as the variance associated with each. The rationale behind the amount requested should be provided.

The EFP proposal from 2010 ([Agenda Item F.1.a., Attachment 1, April 2010](#)) can provide guidance in addressing many of the recommendations brought up during our discussion.

PFMC
11/15/17