

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT
ON FISCAL MATTERS

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) would like to remind the Council of our September request to secure funding to help send two to four industry representatives to the April 2016 Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Workshop in Yokohama, Japan. MSE, over the next few years, will be a very important issue as far as how albacore gets managed in the Pacific into the future. Other nations involved will have substantial industry presence at this workshop in advisory roles. U.S. industry representatives need to be present in order to answer technical questions about the albacore fisheries that are involved in the MSE process.

The HMSAS is quite concerned over the lack of funding in the budget to support adequate representation for international HMS management. A dedicated segment of the Council budget should be increased and applied to HMS management both at the federal and international levels. To facilitate HMSAS input when planning future Council agendas, the HMSAS requests that the chair or a designee be authorized an expense reimbursement to stay at Council meetings until the Future Agenda and Workload Planning agenda item is considered by the Council.

PFMC
11/14/15