

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT: DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) believes that if the Council wishes to address performance objectives for the drift gillnet (DGN) fishery at a future meeting, that it should have its own agenda item. If the Council schedules performance objectives at a future meeting, the HMSAS believes that the Council should revisit and update the purpose and need of this action in light of National Marine Fisheries Service withdrawal of the hard caps proposed rule.

That being said, the HMSAS agrees with the following recommendation in the Highly Migratory Species Management Team Report under this Agenda Item stating: "...the Council [should] consider whether the ratio estimator still constitutes an appropriate bycatch estimation method in rare-event and limited observer coverage circumstances, given the availability of better methodologies (i.e. Bayesian inference and regression trees) which address known shortcomings of the ratio estimator."

PFMC
06/12/17