

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
U.S.-CANADA ALBACORE TREATY UPDATES

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) requests the Council to continue to monitor the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty negotiations for 2014. The majority of the HMSAS also requests that the Council consider the joint letter from harvesters to Council Chair Dorothy Lowman dated March 7, 2014, which will be read as part the record at the end of this report. While a phase-out of the fishing regime under the Treaty continues to be the ultimate goal of US harvesters; equity in capacity and catch similar to the time period prior to 1998 should be a priority. Vessel numbers alone cannot achieve this goal as boats get larger with more capacity and range. The HMSAS also desires that the Council continue to encourage both nations work together on mutual research and international management goals affecting their respective fishing communities.

There is a minority of the HMSAS who feel that access to Canadian waters may be important and beneficial in the future.

PFMC  
03/11/14