

UPDATE ON FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Situation: The Highly Migratory Species Plan Development Team (HMSPDT) will present a progress report on fishery management plan (FMP) development. The HMSPDT has met twice since they last reported to the Council (in June and July). The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) met August 26-27 and will also provide a report.

Public comment (Exhibit G.2.d) includes: 1 letter with suggested changes to specific sections of the FMP; 1 letter supporting inclusion of Pacific bonito in the FMP; a petition with 250 signatures supporting the Industry-sponsored longline proposal; 85 individual letters and email, and 81 form letters (166 total) in opposition to the use of pelagic longline gear. Previously (September 2000-June 2001), the Council received approximately 5,583 letters in opposition to the use of pelagic longline gear.

Council Task: Provide guidance to the HMSPDT and HMSAS on completion of the draft FMP.

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit G.2.b, Supplemental HMSPDT Report.
2. Exhibit G.2.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report.
3. Exhibit G.2.d, Public Comment.

PFMC
08/24/01