

DRAFT
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES
FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

HMS Plan Development Team
November 1, 2001

Council Considerations

- **Should the draft HMS FMP be distributed for public review?**
- **Direct HMS Team to make changes, if necessary**
 - **Ensure all options that the Council wants included are included in the draft documents**
- **Consider adopting preferred options**
- **Set the schedule for public hearings**

The FMP Provides:

- **A public process for the development of conservation and management measures for HMS fisheries**
- **A vehicle to resolve inconsistencies in state regulations and address management issues**
- **A mechanism to cooperate with other councils to achieve consistent management of U.S. fisheries in the Pacific Ocean**
- **A foundation for improving knowledge of the species and fisheries involved**
- **Guidance for how recommendations of international bodies should be applied to West Coast fisheries**

FMP Contents

- **Description of the West Coast HMS Fisheries**
- **Status of Fish Stocks**
- **Essential Fish Habitat**
- **Bycatch of Fish in HMS Fisheries**
- **Interactions of HMS Fishing Gears With Protected Species**
- **Current Management**
- **Management Under the HMS FMP**
- **Relationship to Other Laws & Directives**

Management Options Decision Tree

- **Step One – Management Authority**
 - **Option 1: Status Quo – No Federal FMP**
 - **Option 2: Adopt Federal FMP**
 - **If Choose Option 1, Then End of Show**
 - **If Choose Option 2, Then Proceed to Required Elements**

Decisions Con't

- **Step Two – Required Elements**
 - **Management Unit Species (MUS)**
 - **5 Options for MUS, Including Council and Team Preferred:**

Albacore tuna

Bigeye tuna

Bluefin tuna

Skipjack tuna

Yellowfin tuna

Striped marlin

Swordfish

Blue shark

Bigeye thresher shark

Common thresher shark

Pelagic thresher shark

Shortfin mako shark

Dorado (Dolphinfish)

Decisions Con't

- **Step Two – Required Elements Con't**
 - **Control Rules (MSY Proxies)**
 - **Essential Fish Habitat**
 - **Framework Management**
 - **2 Options for Framework Mgmt, including Point of Concern Process (*Team Preferred*)**
 - **Treaty Indian Fishing**

Decisions Con't

- **Step Two – Required Elements Con't**
 - **Management Cycle**
 - **4 Options including No Cycle; Annual; Biennial; and Multi-Year Cycles**
 - **Legal Gears – Commercial**
 - **2 Options—one including pelagic longline gear (*Team Preferred*) and one excluding longlines**
 - **Legal Gears – Recreational**
 - **Monitoring & Reporting**

Decisions Con't

- **Step Three – Discretionary Elements**
 - **Prohibited Species**
 - **3 Options (*All Team Preferred*)—include prohibited taking of basking sharks, white sharks, megamouth sharks, Pacific halibut, and salmon (unless those seasons are open)**
 - **If Desired, Council Can Proceed to “B” Document for Additional Regulatory Measures**

“B” Document – Regulatory Options

- **Permits – Commercial**

- Require federal vessel permit for all commercial HMS fisheries

- *(Team Preferred)* - Require federal vessel permit with endorsements for individual fisheries

- No Action Would Result in Current State Laws Remaining in Effect Which Vary by State

“B” Options Con’t

- **Permits – Recreational**
 - Require a federal recreational angler permit (16 yrs +)
 - *(Team Preferred)* – Require a federal recreational vessel permit
 - Require a federal or state recreational vessel permit
 - **No Action Would Result in Current State Laws Remaining in Effect Which Vary by State**

“B” Options Con’t

- **Far Offshore Fisheries Declaration**
 - **Allow HMS fisheries which are allowed inside and outside EEZ to fish outside EEZ without filing a far offshore fishery declaration**
 - **No Action Would Result in Current State Laws Remaining In Effect Which Vary by State**

“B” Options Con’t

- **Drift Gillnet Fishery**

- *(Team Preferred)* – Incorporate existing time/area closures off WA, OR, and CA for shark protection
- Close the portion of the EEZ north of 45 degrees N latitude for shark protection and to address bycatch concerns
- Close the portion of the EEZ off OR and WA east of a longitudinal line (~125 degrees)

“B” Options Con’t

- **Drift Gillnet Fishery Con’t**
 - *(Team Preferred)* - Incorporate specific directives for reducing takes of protected species with DGN gear into the FMP
 - No Action Would Result in the DGN Fishery Being Allowed Throughout the EEZ Unless Management is Deferred to the States

“B” Options Con’t

- **Pelagic Longline Fishery**

- *(Team Preferred)* - Allow high seas longline fishery outside the EEZ subject to WPFMC regulations
- Authorize a pelagic longline fishery within the EEZ
- Impose an indefinite moratorium on pelagic longline within the EEZ with re-evaluation after a bycatch reduction research program is completed
- *(Team Preferred)* – Do not allow pelagic longline gear within the EEZ and initiate the EFP process

“B” Options Con’t

- **Pelagic Longline Fishery Con’t**
 - **No Action Would Result in Pelagic Longline Fishery Being Allowed Throughout EEZ and Outside EEZ Unless Management is Deferred to the States**

“B” Options Con’t

- **Purse Seine Fishery**
 - *(Team Preferred)* – Incorporate existing time/area closures off WA to address bycatch and protected species concerns
 - Close the area within the EEZ north of 44 degrees N latitude to address bycatch and protected species concerns
 - No Action Would Result in Purse Seine Fishery Being Allowed Throughout EEZ Unless Management is Deferred to the States

“B” Options Con’t

- **Recreational Fishery**
 - *(Team Preferred)* – Adopt formal catch-and-release program for HMS recreational fisheries
 - No Action Would Result in Status Quo and Bycatch in the Recreational Fishery Would Not be Reduced

“B” Options Con’t

- **Prohibit the Sale of Striped Marlin**
 - *(Team Preferred)* – Prohibit the taking and sale of striped marlin by commercial HMS fisheries
 - **No Action Would Result in Legalizing the Take and Sale of Striped Marlin by Commercial HMS Fisheries Which is Currently Prohibited by CA State Law**

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