

OPTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT MEASURES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FMP ("A" OPTIONS)

Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
<p>MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (Required - Pick One)</p>			
<p>1 <u>Status quo or no-action alternative:</u> Do not adopt a federal fishery management plan for west coast-based HMS fisheries.</p>	<p>To minimize federal regulation and costs of management and to maintain maximum state authority</p>	<p>Limits federal regulatory burden to that required to protect marine mammals, birds and turtles; issues of national concern, such as bycatch, essential fish habitat, shark conservation, and tunas and billfish management issues may not be addressed; inconsistencies in state regulations may not be resolved, the Western Pacific Council may choose to regulate West Coast fisheries, and collaboration with other councils to promote consistent management of all U.S. fisheries would not be achieved; essentially all of the problems and issues listed in the FMP would remain absent a mechanism to address them.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>2 (Team Preferred Option) <u>Federal FMP:</u> Adopt a federal fishery management plan to manage west coast-based HMS fisheries.</p>	<p>To have a federal FMP for west coast-based HMS fisheries to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a foundation to support the State Department in cooperative international management of HMS fisheries • Promote inter-regional collaboration in management of fisheries of shared stocks which occur in the Pacific Council's managed area and other Councils' areas • Provide consistency among federal and state regulations for HMS fisheries • Ensure fisheries on shared stocks are in compliance with Magnuson-Stevens Act 	<p>Problems and issues in the FMP would be addressed or would have a coordinated mechanism to address. With adoption of a federal FMP, the Council has alternatives for designating management authority. An HMS FMP could largely supplant existing state management of HMS fisheries, but where prudent and practicable, the Council may want to defer or delegate management authority to the states.</p>	<p>Proceed to Options 3-7</p>

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	MANAGEMENT UNIT SPECIES (MUS) (Required - Pick One)			
3	Define MUS as: Albacore tuna Blue shark Bigeye tuna Bigeye thresher shark Bluefin tuna Common thresher shark Skipjack tuna Pelagic thresher shark Yellowfin tuna Shortfin mako shark Striped marlin Swordfish	To include species identified in PFMC 1999; these species meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • occur in the Pacific Council's management area, and • occur in west coast HMS fisheries, and • are defined as HMS in the Magnuson-Stevens Act or the Law of the Sea Annex I, and • have importance (moderate to high value) in the landings or to the fishery, and • are managed by the Western Pacific Council 	These species would be federally managed under this FMP and subject to the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., control rules, definitions of overfishing, rebuilding plans).	Proceed to Option 8
4	(Team Preferred Option - Tentatively approved by the Council) Define MUS as: Albacore tuna Blue shark Bigeye tuna Bigeye thresher shark Bluefin tuna Common thresher shark Skipjack tuna Pelagic thresher shark Yellowfin tuna Shortfin mako shark Striped marlin Dorado (Dolphinfish) Swordfish	To include species identified in PFMC 1999 with the addition of dorado (dolphinfish) and approved by the Council; these species meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • occur in the Pacific Council's management area, and • occur in west coast HMS fisheries, and • are defined as HMS in the Magnuson-Stevens Act or the Law of the Sea Annex I, and • have importance (moderate to high value) in the landings or to the fishery, and • are managed by the Western Pacific Council 	These species would be federally managed under this FMP and subject to the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., control rules, definitions of overfishing, rebuilding plans).	Proceed to Option 8
5	Define MUS as: Albacore tuna Blue shark Bigeye tuna Common thresher shark Bluefin tuna Shortfin mako shark Skipjack tuna Striped marlin Yellowfin tuna Swordfish	To include species which meet all of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • occur in the Pacific Council's management area, and • occur in west coast HMS fisheries, and • are defined as HMS in the Magnuson-Stevens Act or the Law of the Sea Annex I, and • have importance (moderate to high value) in the landings or to the fishery, and • sufficient data exists to calculate a bio-analytically-based MSY, including a reasonable proxy based on catches and yields that are stable over time 	These species would be federally managed under this FMP and subject to the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., control rules, definitions of overfishing, rebuilding plans).	Proceed to Option 8

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6	Define MUS as: Albacore tuna Blue shark Bigeye thresher shark Bluefin tuna Common thresher shark Skipjack tuna Pelagic thresher shark Yellowfin tuna Shortfin mako shark Striped marlin Dorado (Dolphinfish) Swordfish Sixgill shark	To include species which meet all of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> occur in the Pacific Council's management area, and occur in west coast HMS fisheries, and are defined as HMS in the Magnuson-Stevens Act or the Law of the Sea Annex I, and have importance (moderate to high value) in the landings or to the fishery or have special biological characteristics (low productivity) 	These species would be federally managed under this FMP and subject to the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., control rules, definitions of overfishing, rebuilding plans).	Proceed to Option 8
7	Define MUS as: Albacore tuna Yellowfin tuna Bigeye tuna Striped marlin Bluefin tuna Swordfish Skipjack tuna Dorado (Dolphinfish)	To include non-shark species which meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> occur in the Pacific Council's management area, and occur in west coast HMS fisheries, and are defined as HMS in the Magnuson-Stevens Act or the Law of the Sea Annex I, and have importance (moderate to high value) in the landings or to the fishery, and are managed by the Western Pacific Council 	These species would be federally managed under this FMP and subject to the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (e.g., control rules, definitions of overfishing, rebuilding plans).	Proceed to Option 8
	CONTROL RULES (Required)			
8	(Team Preferred Option) Adopt default control rules as identified in Section 3.2.2 which define MSY (or MSY proxy) and OY values for management unit species	To consider the biological limitations of species in addition to the effects from fishing in setting control rules	Due to different and unique life histories, HMS have differing vulnerabilities to exploitation that require differing management strategies. For example, most tunas are widespread and productive while many sharks, with delayed sexual maturity and low fecundity, are not. Precautionary quotas for these more vulnerable species may be appropriate.	Proceed to Option 9
	ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT (Required)			
9	(Team Preferred Option) Adopt essential fish habitat designations for management unit species as described in Section 4.2 and Appendix A.	To identify and describe essential fish habitat for the different life stages of the MUS consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act	Essential fish habitat (EFH) has been identified and described in Section 4.2 and in Appendix A of the FMP. This option would formalize those descriptions as the legal designations for EFH for west coast HMS.	Proceed to Options 10-11

	Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
10	<p>FRAMEWORK MANAGEMENT (Required - Pick One)</p> <p>Adopt framework procedures to allow the Council to adopt regulatory measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • time/area restrictions • reporting requirements • permits • quotas or harvest guidelines • gear restrictions • allocations • at-sea observers • size limits/bag limits/trip limits • bycatch measures <p>without a plan amendment</p>	<p>To allow the Council to adopt regulatory measures for HMS fisheries without a plan amendment</p> <p>NOTE: Regulations implemented pursuant to the FMP will remain in effect until changed by the framework process or by plan amendment</p>	<p>Adoption of framework procedures would provide for the adjustment of management measures within the scope and criteria established by the FMP and implementing regulations, without the need for amending the FMP. Framework adjustments may be implemented more quickly allowing for more timely management response. FMP amendments would still be required for major or controversial actions which are outside the scope of the original FMP.</p>	<p>Proceed to Options 12-13</p>
11	<p>(Team Preferred Option)</p> <p>Adopt framework procedures outlined in Option 10, with the addition of a "point of concern" process by which the Council must respond when a "point of concern" is raised. A "point of concern" must meet criteria before it is addressed.</p>	<p>To allow the Council to adopt regulatory measures for HMS fisheries without a plan amendment with the addition of a formal "point of concern" process</p> <p>NOTE: Regulations implemented pursuant to the FMP will remain in effect until changed by the framework process or by plan amendment</p>	<p>Adoption of framework procedures would provide for the adjustment of management measures within the scope and criteria established by the FMP and implementing regulations, without the need for amending the FMP (see Option 10). Adoption of the point of concern process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may increase the responsiveness of the Council to stakeholders in a formal manner • specifies formal criteria that must be satisfied to raise a conservation issue to the Council • creates additional administrative burdens and costs if a point of concern is raised outside of the framework process • diminishes the Council's discretion in determining which issues should be analyzed by the HMSMT • is similar to the processes included in the Council's FMPs for groundfish and coastal pelagic species 	<p>Proceed to Options 12-13</p>

	Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
	TREATY INDIAN FISHING (Required - Pick One)			
12	Adopt and include in the FMP a framework process similar to that used for treaty Indian fisheries under the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan.	To give the Council prior notice of proposed treaty fisheries so that allocation and other issues can be addressed before fisheries commence; would also recognize the Indians' treaty rights; describe U & A grounds for the four ocean fishing tribes; provide an orderly procedure, through the Council process, for the implementation of treaty rights; and contain various measures related to the exercise of treaty rights	Inclusion of this framework process in the FMP would provide for the adjustment of management measures within the scope and criteria established by the FMP and implementing regulations without the need for amending the FMP. Any revision to the framework would require a plan amendment. Implementing regulations would refer to the framework in the FMP.	Proceed to Options 14-17
13	Authorize adoption of the framework to accommodate treaty fishing rights in the implementing regulations.	To give the Council prior notice of proposed treaty fisheries so that allocation and other issues can be addressed before fisheries commence; would also recognize the Indians' treaty rights; describe U & A grounds for the four ocean fishing tribes; provide an orderly procedure, through the Council process, for the implementation of treaty rights; and contain various measures related to the exercise of treaty rights	The framework would be described in the implementing regulations rather than in the FMP (see Options 10 and 11). The initial proposed regulations would be set out in the framework described in Chapter 8, p. 13.	Proceed to Options 14-17
	MANAGEMENT CYCLE (Required)			
14	Do not establish a management cycle	To not have an annual management cycle; regulations would be in effect until changed.	The HMSMT would prepare an annual SAFE document which is presented to the Council in March. There is no fixed schedule for addressing management issues. The Council will adopt or amend management measures whenever a problem is identified which requires management action. Measures stay in effect until changed.	Proceed to Options 18-19

Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
15 Establish an annual management cycle	To establish a fixed schedule for addressing proposed HMS issues and regulation changes on an annual basis.	<p>An annual management cycle would be established as follows:</p> <p>Mar SAFE document is presented to the Council. If necessary, the Council directs the HMSMT to prepare draft regulatory analysis to implement annual harvest levels and/or management measures.</p> <p>June Council adopts proposed actions for public review.</p> <p>Sept Council adopts final action and submits to NMFS for approval.</p> <p>Jan Measures effective. Fishing year starts.</p>	Proceed to Options 18-19
16 Establish a biennial management cycle	To establish a fixed schedule for addressing proposed HMS issues and regulation changes on a biennial basis.	<p>A biennial management cycle would be established as follows:</p> <p>Yr 1 Mar SAFE document is presented to the Council. If necessary, the Council directs HMSMT to prepare draft regulatory analysis to implement harvest levels and/or management measures.</p> <p>June Council adopts proposed actions for public review.</p> <p>Sept Council adopts final action and submits to NMFS for approval.</p> <p>Harvest levels and/or management measures stay in effect for at least 2 years.</p> <p>Measures effective.</p> <p>Yr 2 Jan SAFE document is presented to the Council. No management actions are taken in year 2.</p> <p>The cycle is repeated, with actions considered and taken in odd years.</p>	Proceed to Options 18-19

	Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
17	Establish a multi-year management cycle	To establish a fixed schedule for addressing proposed HMS issues and regulation changes every 3 or more years.	A management cycle would be established with actions taken every 3 or more years. Measures stay in effect for at least 3 years.	Proceed to Options 18-19
	LEGAL GEARS - Commercial (Required)			
18	(Team Preferred Option) Include the following commercial gears which are currently legal in one or more states for HMS for the commercial harvest of HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas: Drift gillnet Harpoon Hook and line (includes troll, rod and reel, jig, baitboat, and handline) Pelagic longline Purse seine (includes lampara)	To include a description of those gears which would be legal to harvest HMS within the EEZ and/or on the high seas under this FMP; those gears which were not listed in the FMP would not be considered legal gear for HMS.	Inclusion of one or more of the commercial gears in the definition of legal gears in the FMP would allow for the use of those gears to harvest HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas.	Proceed to Option 20
19	Include the following commercial gears which are currently legal in one or more states for HMS for the commercial harvest of HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas: Drift gillnet Harpoon Hook and line (includes troll, rod and reel, jig, baitboat, and handline) Purse seine (includes lampara)	To include a description of those gears which would be legal to harvest HMS within the EEZ and/or on the high seas under this FMP; those gears which were not listed in the FMP would not be considered legal gear for HMS. NOTE: This option specifically would not allow the use of pelagic longline gear.	Inclusion of one or more of the commercial gears in the definition of legal gears in the FMP would allow for the use of those gears to harvest HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas. NOTE: This option specifically would not allow the use of pelagic longline gear (either within or outside the EEZ); adoption of this option would eliminate the current offshore longline fishery.	Proceed to Option 20

	Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
	LEGAL GEARS - Recreational (Required)			
20	(Team Preferred Option) Include the following recreational gears which are currently legal in one or more states for HMS for the recreational harvest of HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas: Hook and line (includes troll, rod and reel, jig, baitboat, and handline) Spear	To include one or more of the recreational fishing gears that are currently legal in one or more states which are used to target HMS in the FMP.	Inclusion of one or more of the recreational gears in the definition of legal gears in the FMP would allow for the use of those gears to harvest HMS within the EEZ and on the high seas.	Proceed to Option 21
	MONITORING/REPORTING REQUIREMENTS (Required)			
21	Require federal logbooks for all of the following HMS fisheries within and outside the EEZ: Drift gillnet Harpoon Hook and line Pelagic longline Purse Seine (< 400 mt) Charter/party	To capture catch and effort and bycatch data for HMS fisheries	Current catch and effort and bycatch information is lacking for most all HMS fisheries; these data are essential for management. Current mandatory logbooks could be endorsed, but a uniform data collection system would be preferable.	Proceed to Options 22-24
	PROHIBITED SPECIES (Discretionary - Pick One or More)			
22	(Team Preferred Option) Prohibit taking of basking sharks and white sharks.	To prohibit the taking of basking sharks and white sharks by fisheries managed under this FMP	The taking of these species is currently prohibited by the state of California, but not by Oregon or Washington. This option would provide for consistency coastwide.	Proceed to Option 23

	Description of Options	Intent of Option	Expected Result of Action	Next Steps
23	(Team Preferred Option) Prohibit taking of megamouth shark.	To prohibit the taking of megamouth shark by fisheries managed under this FMP	Megamouth sharks are currently not prohibited by any of the states; however, they have been taken incidentally in the drift gillnet fishery. There is little data on megamouth sharks, but they are extremely rare and considered a vulnerable species.	Proceed to Option 24
24	(Team Preferred Option) Prohibit taking of Pacific halibut and salmon unless using authorized gear during authorized seasons for those species.	To prohibit the taking of Pacific halibut and salmon by fisheries managed under this FMP, unless the halibut and salmon are taken with authorized gear during authorized seasons for those species	Pacific halibut fisheries are managed by the International Pacific Halibut Commission. The Council has a catch sharing plan for halibut which specifies the allocations and seasons for the various halibut fisheries. Some salmon species are managed under the Council's salmon FMP and are subject to various regulations. This option would ensure that harvest of these species by HMS fisheries is within the regulations set by these management entities.	Proceed to "B" (if desired)

