

## EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT UPDATE AND NEW PROPOSALS FOR 2004

Situation: Exempted fishing permits (EFPs) provide a process for testing novel fishing gears and strategies to substantiate methods for prosecuting sustainable and risk-averse fishing opportunities. The cost of conducting EFPs is the loss of some available harvest for directed fisheries. Therefore, the costs and benefits of allocating available harvest to EFPs and directed fisheries needs to be considered coincidentally. The previous agendum (Exhibit B.6) addressed the standards and criteria for recommending EFPs given this tradeoff. This agendum provides the opportunity to discuss EFPs proposed for 2004 prior to consideration of proposed 2004 management measures (Exhibit B.14).

Progress updates from past and ongoing EFPs may help the Council in their consideration of fishing strategies and opportunities for next year's fishery. State representatives who sponsored recent and ongoing EFPs will brief the Council on significant results from those EFPs. This agendum also provides the opportunity for Council, state, and agency representatives to discuss plans and applications for 2004 EFPs. These discussions could serve to refine and coordinate contemplated EFPs prior to final approval of 2004 management specifications at the September Council meeting and final approval of 2004 EFPs at the November Council meeting.

### Council Action:

#### **1. Consideration and discussion of proposals and recommendations to NMFS.**

#### Reference Materials:

1. None available at the time of the briefing book mailing.

#### Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Agency and Tribal Proposals
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Consideration of Proposals and Recommendations to NMFS

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State and Agency Representatives

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