

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT FOR  
LIMITED ENTRY IN THE HIGH SEAS PELAGIC LONGLINE FISHERY

Situation: At the November 2003 meeting the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) formally initiated development of a fishery management plan amendment to limit entry in the high seas pelagic longline fishery. In developing the initial recommendations (such as, qualifying criteria), the Council directed the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) to use Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) requirements for limited access programs and several recommendations made by the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS). This guidance is described in the draft summary of the January 27-28, 2004 HMSMT meeting (Exhibit G.3.a, Attachment 1). The draft summary also provides initial considerations for developing alternatives for a limited entry program in the high seas pelagic longline fishery.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will provide information to the Council about how a limited entry program for the longline fishery could be incorporated into the management measures to address sea turtle jeopardy concerns as discussed under Agenda item G.2.

The HMSMT will meet Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss guidance from NMFS and work-to-date on developing data systems and analyses for alternative limited entry programs. The HMSMT will provide information to the HMSAS at their meeting Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Both committees will report to the Council on their respective recommendations for proceeding with development of an amendment to the HMS FMP.

**Council Task:**

**1. Provide guidance on amendment development.**

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit G.3.a, Attachment 1: Draft HMSMT Meeting Summary.
2. Exhibit G.3.c, Supplemental HMSMT Report.
3. Exhibit G.3.c, Supplemental HMSAS Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. NMFS Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Recommendations for Proceeding with Implementation of Limited Entry in the High Seas Pelagic Longline Fishery

Dan Waldeck  
Svein Fougner

PFMC  
03/18/04