

## CHANGES TO ROUTINE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Section 8.3.2 in the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species (HMS) describes a biennial management cycle with decision making occurring at the June, September, and November Council meetings to establish or adjust harvest specifications for a 2-year period beginning on April 1 of the following year—the start of the next fishing year.

Based on recommendations from the HMS Management Team (HMSMT) and HMS Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS), at the June 2006 meeting the Council approved three possible regulatory changes for further consideration and directed the HMSMT to develop a range alternatives for each. These are: (1) change of vessel marking requirements applicable to recreational charter boats, (2) change the drift gillnet time/area closure off the Oregon coast, and (3) recreational fishery bag limits for albacore and bluefin tuna. The HMSMT met August 8–9, 2006, in La Jolla, California, and developed a range of alternatives for each of these potential regulatory changes, which are contained in Agenda Item E.1.b, HMSMT Report.

At this meeting, the Council task is to review the recommended range of alternatives, provide guidance and further refinements or analysis, and approve alternatives for public review. The Council is scheduled to take final action at the November 2006 meeting by choosing a preferred alternative for each of the three proposed regulatory changes. NMFS will then initiate the rulemaking process necessary to implement any regulations by April 1, 2007.

### **Council Task:**

**Adopt a Range of Alternatives for Proposed Changes to 2007-2008 Routine Management Measures for Public Review.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item E.1.b, HMSMT Report.
2. Agenda Item E.1.c, WDFW Report

### **Agenda Order:**

- a. Agenda Item Overview
  - b. Report of the Highly Migratory Species Management Team
  - c. Agency Comments
  - d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
  - e. Public Comment
  - f. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed Changes to 2007-2008 Routine Management Measures for Public Review
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08/22/06