EXCERPT FROM HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT, AGENDA ITEM E.3.A, FUTURE HMS PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) notes that scoping for a shallow-set longline (SSLL) fishery outside the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (Fishery Management Plan [FMP] Amendment 3) is slated for Council consideration in September 2015; specifying a range of alternatives for transferring the drift gillnet (DGN) fishery to a Federal permit system is slated for consideration in November 2015. As currently scheduled, these actions would be considered separately. When the Council previously considered establishing a limited entry shallow-set longline fishery in 2009, qualifying criteria for potential alternatives were based on a history of swordfish landings on the West Coast, including by DGN gear. In case the Council wishes to consider permitting for a SSLL fishery outside the EEZ in tandem with transitioning to a Federal permit for DGN, the HMSMT has identified a potential schedule to do so (Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.). This timeline takes into consideration the following HMS activities:

- Under COP 20, preliminary results of exempted fishing permits (EFPs) are reported to the Council in March and final reports are submitted in September each year.
- HMS biennial management specifications will be considered in June, September and November, 2016.
- EFP applications could be considered in 2016, under the normal annual cycle.

Further, if the Council wishes to establish the deep-set buoy gear as an authorized FMP fishery at the time the EFPs are completed, the HMSMT has included a potential schedule to do so in the same table.

Table 6. Potential Schedule to Coordinate Permitting a SSLL Fishery Outside the EEZ in Tandem with Transitioning to a Federal Permit for DGN.

Action	2015		2016						Earliest Potential
	Sep	Nov	Mar	Apr	Jun	Sep	Nov	Mar	Implementation
Authorizing SSLL									
Outside EEZ / DGN		Scoping	ROA/PPA			FPA			Fall 2017
Federal Permit									
Authorizing Deep Set					Scoping		ROA/PPA	FPA	Fall 2017
Buoy Gear					Scoping		NOAJEFA	FFA	Fall 2017
DGN Hard Caps	FPA								2016 Fishing Season
EFPs			Preliminary			Final EFP			n/a
			EFP Reports			Reports			
Biennial Specs	·				Scoping	ROA	FPA		Mar 2017

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