

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON SCOPING OF  
AMENDMENT 4 TO THE FMP: AUTHORIZING A SHALLOW-SET LONGLINE FISHERY  
OUTSIDE OF THE EEZ

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel would support the development by the Council of a shallow-set longline (SSLL) fishery which would be allowed to fish outside the West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone. The SSLL fishery would be subject to limited access measures and would require an enhanced set of gear regulations and mitigation measures based on the existing Hawaii SSLL regulations. These enhanced regulations would require that vessels side set only, use only circle hooks meeting 18/0 size standards and not exceeding 4.5mm wire diameter, in addition to using a National Marine Fisheries Service approved bird curtain. These gear regulations and mitigation measures, when combined with the existing Hawaii longline regulations, are expected to minimize interactions with seabirds, sea turtles, and marine mammals.

PFMC  
09/13/15