HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) reviewed the revised application submitted by Mr. Dave Stephens and finds that he addressed our comments from the June 2016 Council meeting. We recommend the Council approve his application with his requested 50 percent observer coverage. The HMSAS wants to emphasize it will be difficult for fishermen to prosecute Exempted Fishing Permit for deep-set buoy gear if they have to pay for 100 percent observer coverage. Deep set buoy gear is not a high volume fishery and so the revenues generated are not enough to cover observer costs.

PFMC 09/18/16