

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT
ON THE U.S.-CANADA ALBACORE TREATY

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) discussed the process for submitting requests for special analysis to the Data Working Group (DWG) for the U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty. The HMSMT notes that the DWG established a protocol at its March 2016 meeting for submitting such requests, including that they be submitted in writing to the Chair of the DWG at least one week before the scheduled meeting and should provide the details and the reasons for the request.

To promote a transparent process and avoid potential misunderstanding, one avenue to submit such requests could be through the Council. The Council would have the option to communicate these requests to the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Department of State, and the Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans for further consideration of the feasibility and staff time needed to complete them. The Council should schedule this topic on their agenda sufficiently in advance of the DWG and annual treaty consultation meetings to allow ample time to consider any forwarded requests.

PFMC
11/19/16