

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON  
DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) has reviewed and discussed the two Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) Reports for Agenda Item I.4, and have the following recommendations for consideration by the Council.

The EC supports the HMSMT recommendation to add a question regarding the applicant's past compliance record to any potential Deep-Set Buoy Gear exempted fishing permit (EFP) application as a means to better inform the Council regarding the applicant's EFP eligibility. The EC understands the Council's Council Operating Procedure (COP) #20 compliance record vetting is delivered to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as guidance and represents an initial step in the compliance vetting process. Once received by NMFS, a thorough vetting of the applicant's compliance record (both state and Federal) is conducted, concluding with a recommendation made to the NMFS Regional Administrator for final determination.

Suggested wording to be included in the HMS EFP Application:

Does any of the compliance criteria listed under COP #20 apply to the applicant? Yes/No.

PFMC  
11/20/16