HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) has reviewed the Council's Year-at-a-Glance Summary (<u>Agenda Item C.8</u>, <u>Attachment 1</u>) relating to scheduling deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) actions on future Council meeting agendas.

As the Council continues to discuss scheduling of DSBG authorization, the HMSMT recommends that the Council allow sufficient time between scheduled DSBG actions for the HMSMT to analyze the Council's final range of alternatives (ROA), to best assist the Council in selecting a Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) and Final Preferred Alternative. As the Council proceeds towards adopting its final ROA for DSBG authorization, the HMSMT suggests that Council selection of a PPA could be scheduled at least 2 meetings after the meeting in which the Council is scheduled to adopt its final ROA. This would provide adequate time to complete an analysis of those alternatives.

Depending on the guidance the Council provides to the HMSMT at the June 2017 meeting, the HMSMT may need to meet before the September 2017 Council meeting to further develop the DSBG ROA. The HMSMT requests that the Council consider whether to schedule an HMSMT meeting in August 2017.

PFMC 06/14/17