HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON PROPOSED DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

1. Recommending approval of applications:

a. The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) agrees with the Highly Migratory Species Management Team on: Brockman, Ekstrom, Foster, Mintz and Greyschock.

b. The HMSAS recommends that Carson resubmit with the correct number of years fishing with deep-set buoy gear (DSBG).

2. With the approval of approximately 35 exempted fishing permits (EFPs), the HMSAS recommends restricting the EFP intake process in the Southern California Bight.

3. The HMSAS recommends a definition of the California Bight as either:

a. A straight line south of Point Conception to the US/Mexico Exclusive Economic Zone intersect, or

b. A line outside the Channel Islands as proposed in Agenda Item H.3.b, Public Comment 1.

4. It should be made clear that participation in any EFP does not guarantee issuance of a potential limited entry permit if/when DSBG becomes an authorized gear type.

PFMC 11/18/17