

Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization Range of Alternatives

HMSAS REPORT
MARCH 2018

General Statement on Proposed Action

- ▶ Trials to date show promise; but the lack of data could result in uninformed decisions.
- ▶ HMSAS Recommendation – delay at least one year to allow new EFPs to gather necessary information.

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

a. Possession

- i. "Individual entity" – same as "Person" under 50 CFR §660.702?
- ii. Ownership and no stacking – Agree
- iii. Assigning to specific vessel – Recommend one transfer/season exceptions for *force majeure*
- iv. Permit holder not required to be aboard vessel - Agree

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

b. Renewal

- i. Valid for one year and expire if not renewed.

The HMSAS recommends addition of the following:

- ii. Permits not renewed or are non-renewable because of inactivity revert to issuing Agency and made available to potential new entrants.
If LE – lottery?

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

c. Transfer

i. Limits on initial transferability

❖ See additional clarification on:

- “such a time”, “stable state”, “benefit management”

❖ HMSAS Recommendation

- Removal of this/limiting number of transfers during first three years post implementation (exc death, bankruptcy, etc)

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

d. Gear Description

i. HMSMT Definition

- ❖ Support requiring circle hooks

ii. Gear marking

- ❖ HMSAS Agrees

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

e. Gear Tending

i. Footprint

- ❖ HMSAS recommends Council consider an exception when actively tending a hooked fish.

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

f. Gear Deployment/Retrieval

Not a protection of resource issue

- i. No deployment before Sunrise – Agree, if necessary
- ii. 3-hours after local sunset
 - ❖ HMSAS recommends Council consider an exception when actively tending a hooked fish.

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

g. Multiple Gears

- i. Allowed/Tagging or marking of landings.
 - ❖ Just DSBG caught fish?
 - ❖ HMSAS recommends the Council eliminate the tagging/marking requirement. If important to markets, Buyers will require it

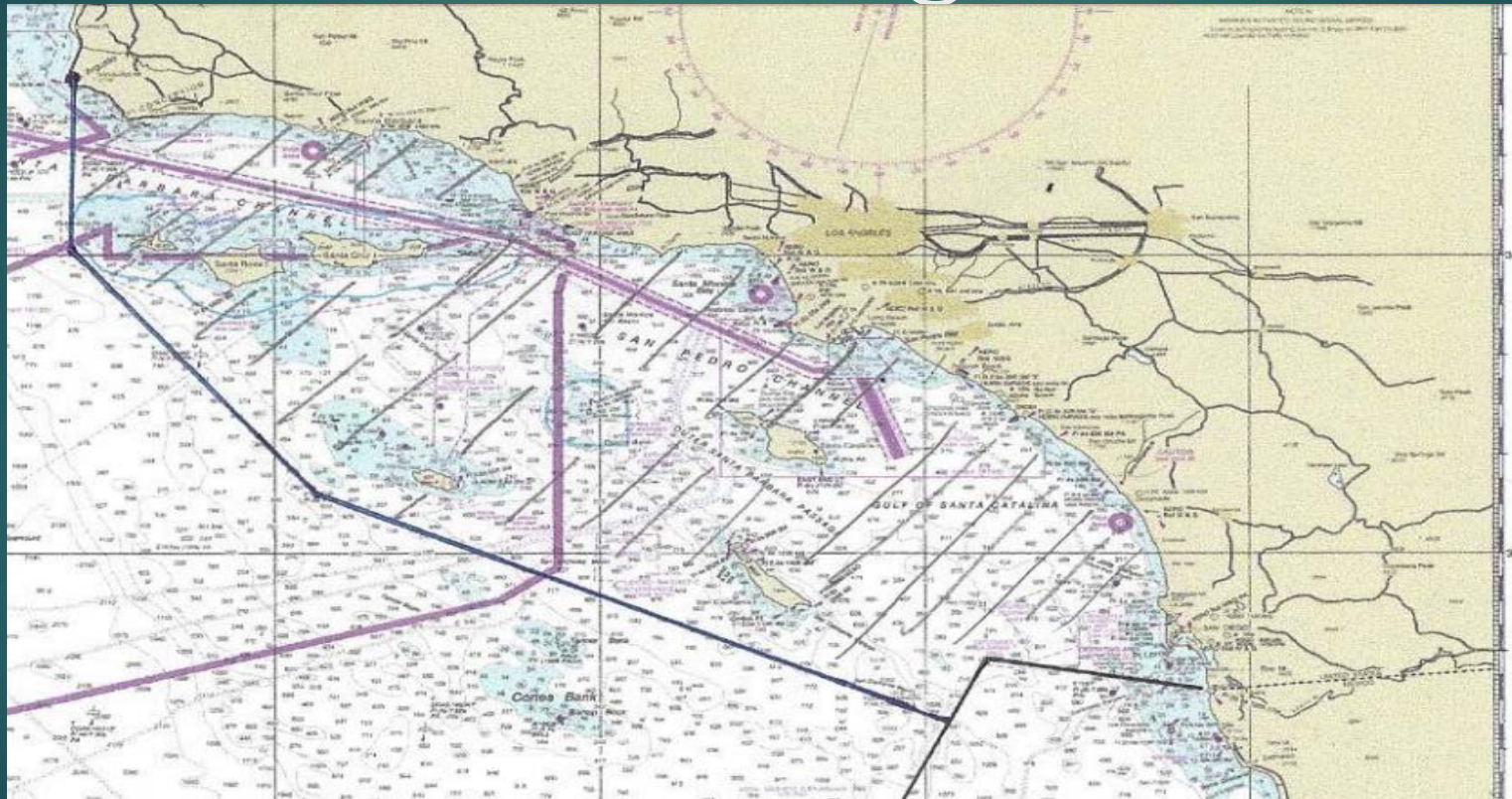
Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

h. Geographic Area

HMSAS recommends Council replace current language with either of the following:

- i. All Federal waters offshore California, Oregon and Washington
- ii. All Federal waters within the Limited Entry area within in the Southern California Bight

HMSAS Recommended definition of Limited Entry area within in the Southern California Bight



Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

- i. Fishery timing
 - i. No closed season - Agree

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

j. Species

i. All legal HMS are allowed

- ❖ HMSAS recommends Council modify this to read "All species are allowed unless otherwise prohibited."

Define DSBG and Permits, for the purpose of analysis as follows:

k. Fishery Monitoring

i. Logbooks required

- ❖ HMSAS seeks clarification as to whether DSBG will have a separate logbook from other allowed gear types

ii. HMS FMP Requirements

- ❖ HMSAS recommends Council consider lower observer coverage for DSBG given EFP results

ROA for consideration under NEPA will include

a. Permitting

The HMSAS assumes establishing a limited access privilege program would be allowed

i. Open Access

- ❖ The HMSAS recommends the Council not include this option in the ROA

ROA for consideration under NEPA will include

Open Access north of Point Conception and Limited Entry South of Point Conception

1. Limited Entry South of Point Conception Alternatives
 - a. Capacity – HMSAS recommends adding an alternative for up to 25 vessels
 - b. Qualifications to obtain permits
 - i. No qualifications – HMSAS opposes this
 - ii. Only HMS Permittees – HMSAS opposes this
 - iii. Demonstrated swordfish fishery participation – proposed criteria to follow

ROA for consideration under NEPA will include

Limited Entry Permitting – criteria for obtaining a permit:

1. Current (as of March 2018) active EFP Participants
2. Current active Drift Gill Net Permitholders
3. Applicants pending NMFS issuance of their EFP to fish during 2018
4. Current Drift Gill Net Permitholders without recent landings
5. DSBG EFP crew
6. Current holders of Drift Gill Net Permits