

DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR AUTHORIZATION – FINAL RANGE OF  
ALTERNATIVES/PRELIMINARY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Since March 2016, the Council has been developing a range of alternatives to authorize a fishery using deep-set buoy gear (DSBG). At its September 2017 meeting, the Council adopted a preliminary range of alternatives. (Attachment 1 is the Council motion adopting the preliminary range of alternatives.)

The attached Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) Report 1 describes proposed methods to analyze the range of alternatives. An attachment to the report describes the range of alternatives based on the Council's September motion. Three alternatives are described: 1) no action, 2) an open access fishery, and 3) an open access fishery north of Point Conception and a limited entry fishery south of Point Conception. There are additional alternatives within Alternative 3 to consider the total number of limited entry permits to be issued and the method to allocate limited entry permits. The HMSMT Report identifies aspects of the range of alternatives that need further clarification.

**Council Action:**

**Adopt a Final Range of Alternatives for Authorization of Deep-Set Buoy Gear and, if Possible, Adopt a Preliminary Preferred Alternative for Public Review.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 1: Council Action on Authorization of Deep-Set Buoy Gear and Federal Permitting, Agenda Item J.6, September 2017.
2. Agenda Item I.2.a, HMSMT Report 1.

Agenda Order:

- I.2 Deep-Set Buoy Gear Authorization – Final Range of Alternatives/Preliminary Preferred Alternative  
Kit Dahl
  - a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Final Range of Alternatives for Authorization of Deep-Set Buoy Gear and, if Possible, Adopt a Preliminary Preferred Alternative for Public Review