

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
REDUCING REGULATION AND CONTROLLING REGULATORY COSTS

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) reviewed the list of potential regulatory items for review and consideration under Executive Order 13771 (Agenda Item C.5, Attachment 1) and has the following comments on the recommendations for the HMS regulations.

- 300.21 (definition of Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission [IATTC] Convention Area): The HMSAS think this proposal is reasonable but notes that west coast vessels don't fish in the overlap area.
- 660.712 and 660.712(a)(2) and (11) (Regulations pertaining to longline fishing West of 150W longitude). A majority of the HMSAS believes these regulations disadvantage west coast fishermen and for that reason they should be removed. A minority said that eliminating this proposal does not meet the intention of this regulatory reform effort and changes should be considered as part of normal Council action. Furthermore, the Council has spent considerable time considering authorizing a shallow-set long line (SLL) fishery under the HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) including choosing no action on this issue in 2009.
- 660.712(d): The HMSAS agrees that this section of the regulations could be eliminated.
- 660.708(a) (Logbook requirements for HMS Fishing): Logbooks are required for all HMS fisheries and the requirement can sometimes be duplicative when fishing with multiple gears. The regulations should be streamlined to require one logbook for fishing with all HMS gear types.
- 660.705(c) and 660.707(a) (and several other paragraphs) Requirements for landing HMS to Pacific Coast ports: The HMSAS thinks that requiring a federal permit for vessels targeting HMS and landing in significant quantities is reasonable. However, the Council could consider modifying the requirement to exempt vessels landing small amounts caught incidentally when participating in other permitted fisheries. The HMSAS also agrees that requiring an HMS FMP permit for Hawaii vessels may be duplicative, because they already have to have a permit under the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council regulations.

The HMSAS appreciates the Council changing its schedule to allow us to comment on this item. We would like the opportunity to review existing regulations in greater detail, with more advance notice, at a future date.

PFMC  
06/09/18