

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY PANEL REPORT ON PACIFIC COAST SWORDFISH FISHERY MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN

The HMSAS wishes to inform the Council of some recent events involving the DGN fleet and participants:

- A May 24th Article in the Marin Independent Journal (<http://www.marinij.com/general-news/20180524/brutal-fishing-crew-video-increases-call-for-ban-on-gill-nets>) which provided information on fishermen and vessel locations.
- On May 25th, one of our members, Gary Burke, received a death threat shortly after his appearance on a NBC news story related to SB-1017.
- The F/V Albatro, one of the vessels mentioned in the above article and used in a negative propaganda video, sank at the dock on June 2nd under suspicious circumstances – currently being investigated by the USCG and Homeland Security. See this photo:



<https://www.vcstar.com/story/news/local/communities/ventura/2018/06/02/sinking-fishing-boat-salvaged-ventura-harbor/666688002/>)

- The cameraman on the Albatro and the other vessel utilized in the attack on the fishery gained access to the vessels under false pretenses in an effort to misrepresent his real purpose.
- The prior owner of the Albatro has received threatening phone calls; as has another drift net permit holder. We are aware of these incidents and don't assume they are the only ones.

This is unacceptable and, we believe, a direct result of the repeated attacks of certain groups vilifying the DGN fishery and fishermen. We believe this may have emboldened ecoterrorists to seek vigilante justice.