

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE UPDATE

**Long term**

A recently published Rutgers University paper has projected a shift in fish and invertebrate species that may occur in coming years, as much as 900 miles to the north on both U.S. coasts. Keeping that in mind, something should be included in this document about adjusting management boundaries in the future when appropriate. Using Leatherback turtles as an example, if a significant change in ocean conditions moves their critical habitat to the north then perhaps the boundary lines for the Pacific Leatherback Conservation Area should also be adjusted to the north.

**Short term**

The working fishermen in our group see anomalies in the abundance and distribution of harvestable fish stocks on an annual basis. We would ask the Council to exercise caution in making regulatory changes based on “perceived or predicted” short term ecosystem changes. Changes should only be made after a thorough scientific verification.

PFMC  
09/08/19