

Agenda Item J.3 Supplemental HMSMT Report on Scoping an Amendment Authorizing SSL Outside the EEZ

PFMC November 2019

Overview

- 
- Policy Questions and Issues to Consider
 - Purpose and Need for Action
 - Analysis and Data
 - Recommendations

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Policy Questions and Issues to Consider

Appendix B to the HMSMT report includes a list of potential scoping considerations from:

- J.3 Attachment 1: Scoping Document
- The draft SMMP
- The HMS FMP
- Additional HMSMT suggestions

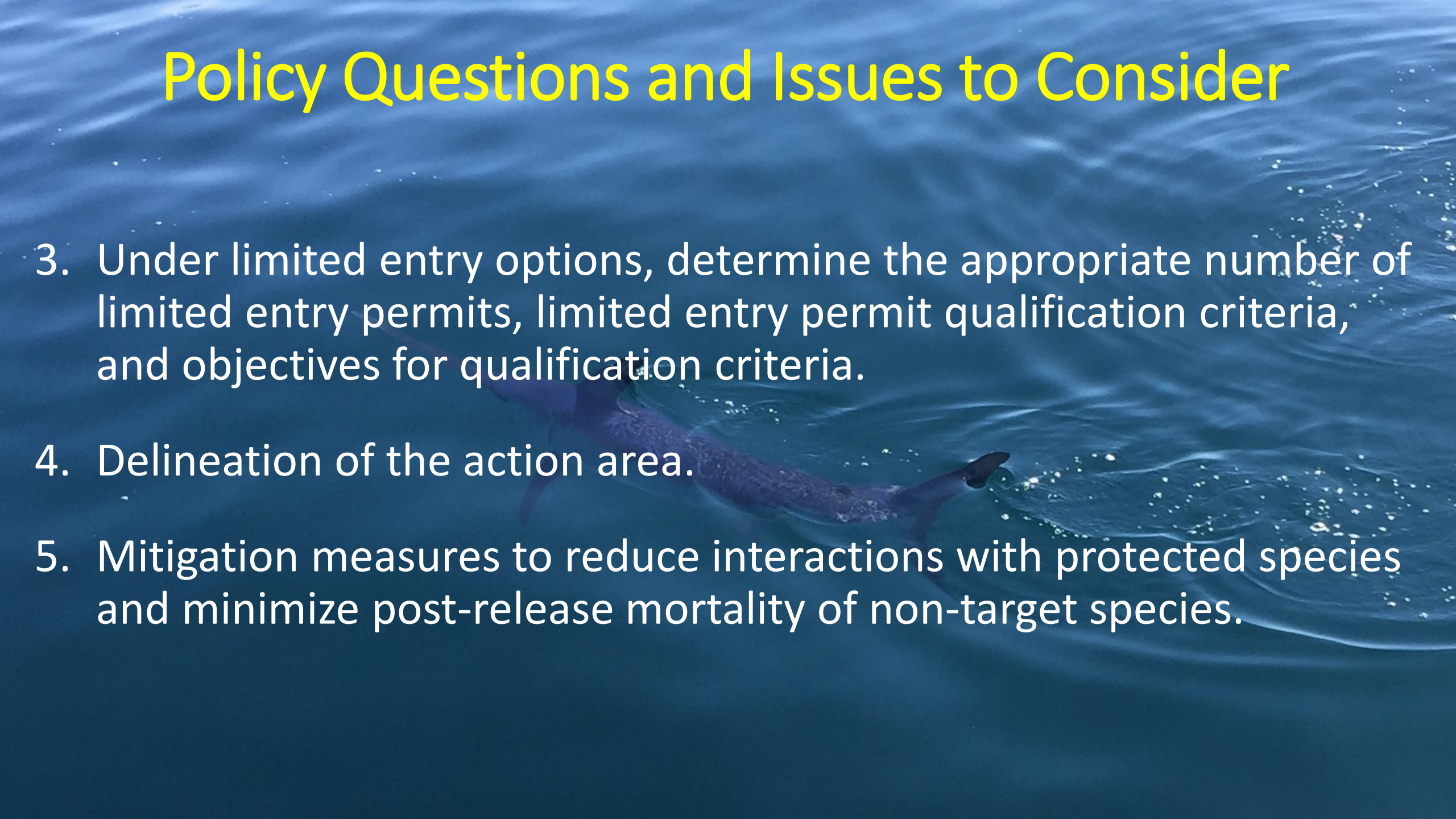


Policy Questions and Issues to Consider

Additional Issues to Consider:

1. SSL participation will largely depend on the specific parameters of the permit that the Council develops. A more appropriate question at this stage may be if there is interest in such a permit among west coast fishermen and how many current west coast vessels are large enough to fish outside the EEZ.
2. Differences between prohibited species listed in the HMS FMP and the WPFMC Pelagics FEP; for example, striped marlin.

Policy Questions and Issues to Consider

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- A photograph of a shark swimming in the ocean, viewed from above. The shark is dark grey or black, with a lighter underbelly. It is moving towards the right side of the frame. The water is a deep blue with some white foam and ripples. The background is a solid blue color.
3. Under limited entry options, determine the appropriate number of limited entry permits, limited entry permit qualification criteria, and objectives for qualification criteria.
 4. Delineation of the action area.
 5. Mitigation measures to reduce interactions with protected species and minimize post-release mortality of non-target species.

Policy Questions and Issues to Consider

Additional Policy Questions:

1. Would vessels be allowed to hold both a Hawaii limited entry longline permit and a west coast SSL permit?
2. Could there be landing reciprocity in Hawaii for west coast permitted SSL vessels?
3. Would vessels that do not possess a west coast SSL permit be prohibited from landing longline-caught fish into west coast ports?

Purpose and Need for Action

Draft Purpose and Need in J.3. Attachment 1 Scoping Information contains several important components, including:

- Minimizing protected species interactions
- Using effective mitigation measures
- Supporting economic viability



Purpose and Need for Action

Additionally, include:

- Fishery goals from the Council's draft Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan
- Referring to the action as authorizing a new SSL gear-type in the swordfish fishery, rather than authorizing a new SSL fishery
 - Consistent with the Council's previously adopted purpose and need for authorizing DSBG as an HMS FMP gear-type as part of a broader west coast swordfish fishery

Purpose and Need for Action

1. Given advances in gear mitigation technology, previous reasons for not authorizing SSL gear outside the EEZ may be less relevant now
2. The Hawaii SSL fleet which lands approximately 68% of California's swordfish is authorized and managed by the WPFMC
3. Foreign imports currently provide the majority of west coast swordfish supply
 - The fisheries which produce these imports are not held to the same conservation standards as U.S. fleets. Negative population impacts on species of concern may exceed those of a U.S.-regulated fleet producing a comparable amount of swordfish.

Analysis and Data

Table 1. Number of active vessels and landings of swordfish for the Hawaii SSL fleet, 2014-2018.

Year	Number of HI SSL Vessels¹	Number of HI SSL Trips¹	Total Number of Swordfish Landed²	Average Weight (lbs)³	Estimated Total Swordfish Landed (mt)
2018	11	30	6,110	214	593.1
2017	20	70	13,928	200	1,263.5
2016	13	46	9,730	179	790.0
2015	22	69	14,989	184	1,251.0
2014	20	81	15,449	212	1,485.6

Data Source: 2018 Pelagic FEP SAFE Report. ¹ Table A-95, ² Table 25, ³ Table 27

www.wpcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Pelagic-FEP-SAFE-Report-2018-Optimized-v4.pdf

Analysis and Data

Table 2. Total landings and discards for all finfish species (mt) for the Hawaii SSL fleet, 2014-2015.

Year	Landings (mt)	Total Discards (mt)	Observed Dead Discards (mt)	Total Catch (mt) (Landings + Total Discards)	Total Discards / Total Catch	Observed Dead Discards / Total Catch	Observed Discard Mortality Rate (Dead Discards / Total Discards)
2015	1,257.3	293.5	56.1	1,550.9	19.0%	4.0%	19.1%
2014	1,476.1	274.1	62.8	1,750.2	16.0%	4.0%	22.9%

Data Source: Tables 7.4.1a and 7.4.2a National Bycatch Report www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/national-bycatch-report

Table 3. Total landings and discards of striped marlin (mt) in the Hawaii SSL fleet, 2014-2015.

Year	Landings (mt)	Total Discards (mt)	Observed Dead Discards (mt)	Total Catch (mt) (Landings + Total Discards)	Total Discards / Total Catch	Observed Dead Discards / Total Catch	Observed Dead Discard Share of Removals	Stockwide Removals
2015	1,257.3	0.9	0.2	1,258.2	0.07%	0.02%	0.01%	2,569
2014	1,476.1	2.2	0.7	1,478.3	0.10%	0.05%	0.03%	2,120

Data Source: Tables 7.4.1a and 7.4.2a National Bycatch Report www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/national-bycatch-report

2019 ISC Annual Catch Table (MLS) http://isc.fra.go.jp/pdf/ISC19/ISC19_Annual_Catch_Table_2019.htm

Analysis and Data

Table 4. Bycatch rates (numbers of animals per 1,000 hooks) for protected species in the Hawaii SSL fleet, 2014-2018. Shaded cells indicate non-zero values.

Year	Birds					Reptiles						Mammals					
	Black-footed albatross	Laysan albatross	Short-tailed albatross	Other	Total	Leatherback turtle	Loggerhead turtle	Green turtle	Olive-Ridley	Other	Total	Bottlenose dolphin	Risso's dolphin	False killer whale	Humpback whale	Other	Total
2018	0.016	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.020	0.011	0.070	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.084	0.002	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.005
2017	0.049	0.006	0.000	0.001	0.055	0.004	0.015	0.002	0.004	0.000	0.025	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.006
2016	0.047	0.031	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.006	0.019	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.025	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.006
2015	0.032	0.035	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.005	0.012	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.017	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.005	0.010
2014	0.019	0.024	0.000	0.001	0.044	0.013	0.009	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.023	0.003	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.010

Data Source: Pacific Islands Longline Quarterly and Annual Reports www.fisheries.noaa.gov/pacific-islands/fisheries-observers/pacific-islands-longline-quarterly-and-annual-reports

Analysis and Data

Table 5. Bycatch **mortality rates (numbers of animals per 1,000 hooks) for protected species in the Hawaii SSL fleet, 2014-2018. Shaded cells indicate non-zero values.**

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2018	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2017	0.019	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2016	0.014	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2015	0.008	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002
2014	0.009	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001

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Analysis and Data

Proposed Analyses:

1. Analyze effort, catch, and bycatch in subsets of Hawaii SSL observer data for potential action area delineations.
2. Document all sources of swordfish supply to the U.S. West Coast, including both foreign and domestic (west coast and Hawaii) caught.
3. Estimate related conservation impacts to characterize the relationship between domestic and foreign sources of swordfish supply and the potential to mitigate conservation impacts and reduce the Nation's seafood trade deficit through increased west coast production.
4. Review and analyze existing and potential bycatch mitigation measures that could be considered in scoping a west coast SSL permit.

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Analysis and Data

Longline EFP Data

Use of longline EFP data (available June 2020) to inform analysis and Council discussion, including summaries of:

- Effort
- Catch
- Bycatch



Recommendations

The HMSMT recommends the Council continue the scoping process for authorizing a west coast SSL gear outside the EEZ, and:



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2. Provide guidance on HMSMT development of a draft Purpose and Need statement for Council review
3. Provide guidance on the HMSMT's list of proposed analyses

QUESTIONS?

