J.3 - SCOPING AN AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING SHALLOW-SET LONGLINE GEAR OUTSIDE OF THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE
Council Action

Consider Issues to be Addressed in a Potential Fishery Management Plan Amendment to Authorize Shallow-Set Longline Gear in West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Outside of the Exclusive Economic Zone.
2004 - HMS FMP was finalized - SSLL was disapproved

2009 - Amend 2 HMS FMP authorize SSLL - No Action

2015 - Scheduled scoping SSLL - Agenda item was cancelled

2018 - Swordfish MMP - Still Draft
Council Operating Procedure 11

a. Assessment of need for action and compatibility with the objectives of the pertinent fishery management plan (See pg 4 and 5 of Attach 1)

b. Alternative ways to address the problem without plan amendment

c. Potential impacts from the proposed action

d. Possible amendment alternatives

e. Complexity or controversial nature of the proposed action
Scoping Issues

- Section 3.1 - Draft List of Issues to Consider
- Section 3.2 - Policy Questions Regarding Development of a Fishery
The proposed action is to amend the HMS FMP to authorize a West Coast based shallowest longline (SSLL) fishery seaward of the EEZ in the North Pacific Ocean...intended to allow for an economically viable shallow-set longline fishery to be established, supplying fresh fish to West Coast markets while complying with ESA requirements to avoid taking ESA-listed species.
Potential Action Area

Outside the US EEZ

However SMMP cites the potential to revisit the prohibition of pelagic longline gear inside the EEZ.
Tentative Next Steps

- March 2020 (March 3-9, 2020 Rohnert Park, CA): Amendment Authorizing SS Longline Fishery Outside EEZ: Continue Scoping/Preliminary ROA

- June 2020 (June 11-18, 2020 San Diego, CA): Amendment Authorizing SS Longline Fishery Outside EEZ
Appendix A

Contains fishing effort for Hawaii permitted vessels and HMS FMP permitted vessels landing swordfish on the West Coast, 2015-2018.