HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON CURRENT HABITAT ISSUES

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS)/HMS Management Team (HMSMT) held a joint meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2020 and received a presentation on the development of Offshore Renewable Energy Projects in Federal waters under the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council's) jurisdiction. The HMSAS has also read the Habitat Committee's proposed draft letter to the California Energy Commission (CEC) regarding siting of offshore wind energy projects off the coast of Central California. The HMSAS strongly supports the Council's submitting this letter in response to the CEC's UPDATED Notice of Availability of Outreach on Additional Considerations for Offshore Wind Energy off the Central Coast of California.

The HMSAS supports the Council's consideration of establishing an ad-hoc working group on offshore development to inform and advise the Council on emerging development activities (e.g., wind or wave energy, aquaculture, etc.) in the California Current Ecosystem.

PFMC 09/15/20