HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL (HMSAS) ON NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS) REPORT

The HMSAS reviewed and discussed the materials submitted by NMFS for this agenda item. We agree that receiving clarification on the issues raised by NMFS will be helpful as deep-set buoy gear authorization moves further along. We support the NMFS recommendation that the Council schedule some time on its March agenda to provide further guidance, clarify limited entry qualifying criteria in its adopted Fishery Management Plan language, or both.

We also believe scheduling a HMSAS/HMS Management Team workshop before the March meeting would be helpful in focusing our work.

PFMC 11/17/20