

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS) REPORT ON  
 EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

**Deep-Set Buoy Gear (DSBG) Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Update**

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has authorized 28 standard deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) and 12 linked DSBG vessels to fish in 2021. The current DSBG exempted fishing permits (EFPs), listed below, and their current Endangered Species Act (ESA) coverage, are set to expire December 31, 2021. The Council could recommend that NMFS extend them into 2022/2023 prior to final DSBG authorization and implementation.

**DSBG EFPs Issued and Valid through December 31, 2021**

<b>Gear Configuration</b>	<b>Vessel Name</b>	<b>Documentation #</b>	<b>Primary Individual</b>
Linked	Bear Flag 2	558683	Nathan Perez
Linked	Chula	1217070	John Foster
Linked	DJ	550062	Steve Mintz
Linked	Elizabeth H	644228	Nick Haworth
Linked	Gold Coast	622026	Donald Krebs
Linked	Leah Gail	944172	Lance Reinhart
Linked	Outer Banks	969797	Tim Athens
Linked	Pacific Horizon	627203	David Haworth
Linked	Piky	570036	JJ Gerritsen
Linked	Sea Haven	635102	Arthur Lorton
Linked	Three Boys	CF2036TJ	Kelly Fukushima
Linked	Trailblazer	610884	Mark Lebeck
Standard	Addiction	CF0551SV	Zachary Roach
Standard	Audax	CF8370FH	Dan Fuller
Standard	Aurelia	597524	William Sutton
Standard	Calypso	CF6266TF	Jack Bateman
Standard	Circle Hook	1286891	Scott Breneman
Standard	DEA	CF0012HY	Jack Stephens
Standard	Defiance	605844	Ron Ellis
Standard	Emma Ray	CF1878ZM	Stephen Greyshock
Standard	Epic	601591	Nathan Lins

<b>Gear Configuration</b>	<b>Vessel Name</b>	<b>Documentation #</b>	<b>Primary Individual</b>
Standard	Espada	624462	Tim Perguson
Standard	Fishtail	1030136	Mike Graves
Standard	JB	550580	John Ford
Standard	Jonesita	CF0552TF	John Kirkpatrick
Standard	Lil Jack	595177	Matt White
Standard	Olinka	558005	Doug Dirkse
Standard	Pacific Sword	CF4430GJ	Bob Ball
Standard	Patricia J	585405	Kent Jacobs
Standard	Philip Nick	906370	Nick Guglielmo
Standard	Pilikia	1134177	Sean Burke
Standard	Rainman	1272816	Raymond Kennedy
Standard	Sandy Bea	1078115	Nick M Guglielmo
Standard	Saronga	571063	Michael Flynn
Standard	Seeview	CF3571SU	Kevin Dell
Standard	Spaniard	559445	Sean Roberts
Standard	Spirit	611940	Anthony Makul
Standard	Sundowner	628101	Andrew Rassmussen
Standard	Terlingin	1223771	David Hutto
Standard	Tres Mujeres	1066033	Jack Stephens

Approximately eight vessels from the Council's September 2020 recommended applications are pending to be issued once all qualifications are met (i.e., NMFS workshop participation and West Coast Region Observer Program vessel safety clearance). A NMFS Workshop was held on April 28, 2021, via webinar and was attended by 6 captains.

In accordance with Council Operating Procedure 20 and NMFS DSBG EFP terms and conditions, EFP holders' reports for 2020 activity can be found in the Council's Briefing Book. 2020 DSBG data from NMFS' observer program and logbooks are presented below.

## 2020 DSBG EFP Data Summary

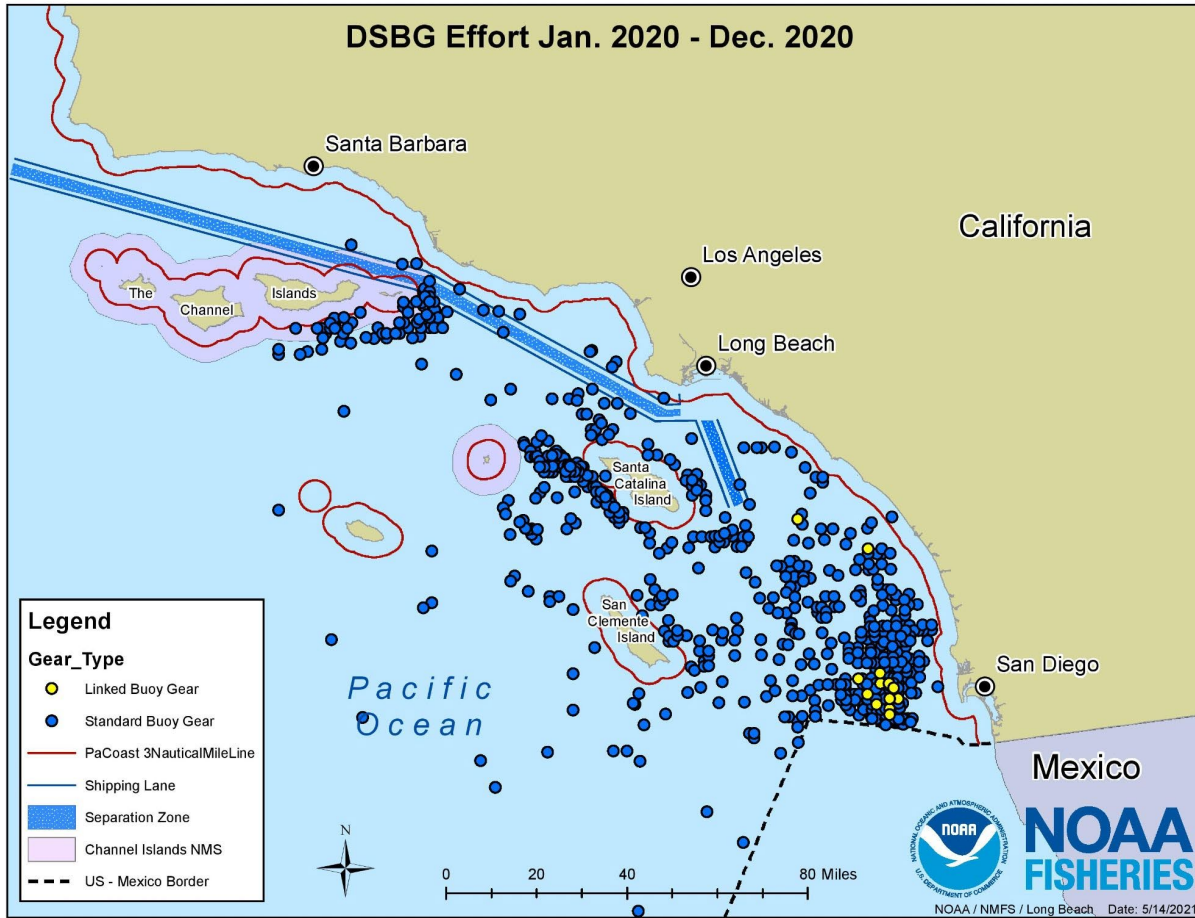
<u>Standard Deep-Set Buoy Gear (SBG)</u>		<u>Linked Deep-Set Buoy Gear (LBG)</u>			
<b># of Vessels</b>	27	<b># of Vessels</b>	4		
<b># of Days Fished Reported</b>	1062	<b># of Days Fished Reported</b>	14		
<b>Avg. Days Fished per Vessel</b>	39.33	<b>Avg. Days Fished per Vessel</b>	3.50		
<b>Overall Observer Coverage</b>	18%	<b>Overall Observer Coverage</b>	7%		
 <b>Catch Composition</b>		 <b>Catch Composition</b>			
Swordfish	1257	Swordfish	25		
Bigeye Thresher Shark	51	Bigeye Thresher Shark	0		
Blue Shark	17	Blue Shark	0		
Unidentified Thresher Shark	18	Unidentified Thresher Shark	0		
Shortfin mako shark	1	Shortfin mako shark	0		
Pelagic thresher shark	0	Pelagic thresher shark	0		
Unidentified shark	2	Unidentified shark	0		
Common thresher shark	0	Common thresher shark	0		
Unidentified Mako Shark	5	Unidentified Mako Shark	0		
Salmon Shark	0	Salmon Shark	0		
Sixgill Shark	0	Sixgill Shark	0		
Northern elephant seal	0	Northern elephant seal	0		
Loggerhead sea turtle	0	Loggerhead sea turtle	0		
Humboldt squid	0	Humboldt squid	0		
Giant squid	0	Giant squid	0		
Opah	0	Opah	0		
Escolar	3	Escolar	1		
Common Mola	0	Common Mola	0		
Pacific Hake	1	Pacific Hake	0		
Unidentified Rockfish	1	Unidentified Rockfish	0		
Yelloweye Rockfish	0	Yelloweye Rockfish	0		
Vermillion Rockfish	1	Vermillion Rockfish	0		
Yellowfin Tuna	1	Yellowfin Tuna	0		
Oilfish	2	Oilfish	0		
Unknown	1	Unknown	0		
<hr/>		<hr/>			
Swordfish	1257	92.4%	Swordfish	25	96.2%
Bigeye Thresher Sharks	51	3.7%	Bigeye Thresher Sharks	0	0.0%
Other Sharks	43	3.2%	Other Sharks	0	0.0%
Other Finfish (Retained)	6	0.4%	Other Finfish (Retained)	1	3.8%
Other Finfish (Released)	4	0.3%	Other Finfish (Released)	0	0.0%
Protected Species	0	0.0%	Protected Species	0	0.0%

*\*Note that four vessels fished both standard and linked gear over the course of the season*

DSBG EFP effort in 2020 was higher than in any season to date, with an average swordfish catch of 1.4 fish per day. Over 98 percent of the effort is attributed to standard buoy gear, with only 14 days of effort attributed to linked buoy gear. Catch composition was similar to previous years, with

two new species reported caught (new species included two oilfish and one yellowfin tuna). The majority of non-target species consisted of bigeye thresher sharks, similar to previous years. A relatively higher amount of “unidentified” shark catch than in past years may be due to decreased observer coverage and an increased reliance on logbooks for catch reporting (i.e., if bigeye thresher sharks are recorded as “thresher shark” in fisherman’s logbooks, they appear as “Unidentified Thresher Shark” in the integrated database). No protected species interactions were observed or reported in logbooks in 2020.

The following plot summarizes all 2020 DSBG EFP daily fishing set locations:



### Night-Set Buoy Gear (NSBG) EFP Update

A single vessel is currently authorized to fish in 2021 with NSBG. This NSBG EFP and its ESA coverage are also expiring on December 31, 2021, and the Council could recommend that NMFS extend it into 2022/2023. One vessel fished under the NSBG EFP in 2020, and the EFP holder’s 2020 activity report can be found in the Council’s Briefing Book.

**Deep-Set Short Line (DSSL) EFP**

No activity has occurred under the DSSL EFP to date since it was issued in January 2020. The DSSL EFP and its ESA coverage are expiring on December 31, 2021, and the Council could recommend that NMFS extend it for another 2-year period.

**Shallow-set and Deep-set Longline (SLL/DSL) EFP**

NMFS continues to draft an analysis, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed action to issue an EFP to fish with SLL and DSL gear inside the U.S. West Coast EEZ south of the Oregon-Washington border. Once the draft NEPA analysis is completed, NMFS will initiate consultation on the proposed action under the ESA. NMFS will complete consultation prior to finalizing the NEPA analysis and issuing the EFP.