

### EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

Council Operating Procedure (COP) 20 lays out an annual, June-September schedule for reviewing exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications for highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries. According to COP 20, the HMS Management Team (HMSMT) and HMS Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) review EFP applications in June and make recommendations to the Council for action. Final action on EFPs then occurs at the September Council meeting. Only those EFP applications that were considered in June may be considered in September. However, the Council has been following a one-meeting, expedited process for review and approval of deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) EFP applications.

Ten EFP applications were received by the May 27 deadline (Attachments 1 through 10), summarized in the table below:

Attachment No.	Name(s)	No. Vessels	Requested Gear
1	Austin Ashe & Robert Ashe	1	Standard DSBG
2	John Batemen	19	Pelagic longline
3	Austin Brown	1	Standard & linked DSBG
4	Austin Brown	1	Mid-water snap gear
5	Miguel Ferre	1	[DSBG]*
6	Scott Hawkins & Wyatt Hawkins	1	Linked DSBG
7	Blake Herman	1	Standard DSBG
8	Markus Medak, Brian Sims, & Daniel Fuller	1	Linked DSBG
9	Nathan Perez	1	Night-set buoy gear and standard DSBG, request to fish in state waters
10	Matthew Rimel	1	Standard DSBG

\*Submitted using DSBG application form but did not specify which configuration would be used.

Three applications (Attachments 2, 4, and 9) are for gears other than the standard or linked DSBG configurations. Note that Nathan Perez (Attachment 9) is a current EFP holder testing DSBG and night set buoy gear but wishes to use the gear in state waters, which is currently not allowed in the EFP terms and conditions (and was excluded from the area in the Council’s final action for an authorized DSBG fishery).

COP 20 requires EFP recipients to submit a report of the work completed under the EFP, an analysis of data that was collected, and any conclusions or recommendations. This is also part of the terms of conditions developed by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Preliminary reports submitted to date are compiled in Attachment 11.

The attached NMFS Report 1 contains additional information on the status of previously issued HMS EFPs.

All extant HMS EFPs will expire December 31, 2021 (for more information on currently valid HMS EFPs see NMFS Report 1). The Council should make a recommendation on whether to extend these EFPs beyond the end of this year, and if so, for what duration.

**Council Action:**

**Preliminary Review of Exempted Fishing Permit Applications.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1: EFP Application from Austin and Robert Ashe.
2. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2: EFP Application from John Bateman.
3. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3: EFP Application from Austin Brown
4. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 4: EFP Application from Austin Brown (Mid-Water Snap Gear).
5. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 5: EFP Application from Miguel Ferre.
6. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 6: EFP Application from Scott and Wyatt Hawkins.
7. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 7: EFP Application from Blake Hermann.
8. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 8: EFP Application from Markus Medak, Brian Sims, and Daniel Fuller.
9. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 9: EFP Application from Nathan Perez.
10. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 10: EFP Application from Matthew Rimel.
11. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 11: 2020 Exempted Fishing Permit Activity Reports.
12. Agenda Item F.3a, NMFS Report 1.
13. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

F.3 Exempted Fishing Permits

Kit Dahl

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. Council Action: Preliminary Review of Exempted Fishing Permit Applications

PFMC  
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