HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

As noted in our report under Agenda Item E.1, Marine Planning, the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel recommends the Council add an item to its November agenda to develop comments on the Coast Guard's Port Access Route Study (PARS). As noted in our aforementioned report, we are concerned that sufficient and practical access routes through wind turbine areas may not be designated to accommodate fishing vessel transit. The PARS would be a mechanism for establishing standards coastwide in this regard. The Coast Guard has established a January 25, 2022, deadline for comments on the PARS. The November 2021 Council meeting would be the only opportunity to adopt comments aligned with this deadline.

The HMSAS requests that the Council schedule an opportunity to make comments on its November agenda, which would then be submitted to the Coast Guard prior to Jan 25, 2022.

PFMC 09/13/21