

## DRIFT GILLNET HARD CAPS – FINAL

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has adopted a purpose and need and range of alternatives for this proposed action; at its June 2022 meeting it received an update on the bootstrap modeling methodology that is being used to evaluate the effects of the action on fishing effort, revenue, profits and takes of the nine high priority protected species that would be subject to hard caps.

The current bootstrap simulation methodology, developed by Dr. Steve Stohs, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, is an extension of the simulation model used by NMFS to evaluate a comparable Council action in 2015 (which was ultimately not implemented by NMFS). The current model updates the input data (observers, logbooks, landings) through the 2020-2021 fishing season and implements procedures to evaluate the five options/sub options contained in Alternative 3, inseason individual vessel and fleetwide caps. Alternative 2 represents the Council proposal from 2015 and Alternative 1 is No Action. The Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee is expected to review the bootstrap simulation methodology at this meeting and provide a report to the Council on its soundness for decision making.

Attachment 1 is an initial public review draft of the environmental assessment evaluating impacts of the proposed action and alternatives on the human environment. This assessment is part of an “integrated document” that also contains the regulatory flexibility analysis, regulatory impact review, and Magnuson-Stevens Act analysis.

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team met October 14-16 to discuss the results of the bootstrap simulation and will provide its views in a supplemental report.

The Council is scheduled to take final action at this meeting by selecting a preferred alternative.

### **Council Action:**

**Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative, as Appropriate.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.3, Attachment 1: Initial Public Review Draft; Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review/Regulatory Flexibility Analysis/MSA Analysis for Proposed Regulations to Apply Strict Limits (Hard Caps) for Protected Species in the California/Oregon Large-Mesh Drift Gillnet Fishery Pursuant to the Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

G.3 Drift Gillnet Fishery Hard Caps – Final Action

Kit Dahl

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Final Preferred Alternative, as Appropriate

PFMC  
10/13/22