ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON WORKLOAD AND NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURE PRIORITIES

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed reports associated with workload and management measure priorities and have the following comments.

Concerning NMFS Report 1, the EC supports the creation of an open access fishery registration or permit. We believe this will improve communication with the fleet, and that is a benefit to everyone involved.

We have two comments associated with the Revised GMT report 1.

9. Permitting Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste

The EC recommends keeping this item on Table B. In our March 2019 Agenda Item G.4.a statement the EC outlines the need for Federal action to regulations prohibiting the sale of recreationally-caught fish, including those parts that have been discarded or abandoned. The EC understands that the request to allow a port to establish a contract with a company that would collect waste at fish cleaning stations and use that waste to produce commercially sold products including fish meal, fertilizer, fish oil etc., is still active. The intent of the request is to reduce the amount of waste discarded at the port. Adjusting the Federal regulations would allow the States to develop rules specific to this activity.

11. Salmon VMS Ping Rate

The EC is an advocate for the 15-minute ping rate and recommends that if there is continued interest by the salmon industry to request a waiver, that they express that through Salmon or Groundfish Advisory Subpanels (SAS or GAP). At that time, we will evaluate the change and make a recommendation based on current regulations related to operating in groundfish conservation areas.

PFMC 03/07/23