

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON  
SWORDFISH MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN WORKSHOP PLANNING

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) supports the suggestion made in the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel's (HMSAS') supplemental report to have a joint meeting between the HMSMT and HMSAS in September to prepare for a Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan (SMMP) workshop sometime in 2024. In order for the advisory bodies to have a productive discussion, specific Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) guidance is needed to address the questions raised in HMSMT Report 1.

The HMSMT has some concerns about a joint meeting of the HMSMT and HMSAS instead of an SMMP workshop, as suggested in public comment. If this is the preferred approach, the HMSMT recommends that the Council schedule this joint meeting for sometime in February in Southern California to facilitate stakeholder participation as recommended by the HMSAS, with progress reported to the Council at its March 2024 meeting. Given the controversial nature of this topic, the HMSMT strongly encourages the use of an outside facilitator.

PFMC  
06/25/23