

## FIXED GEAR MARKING AND ENTANGLEMENT RISK REDUCTION; LIMITED ENTRY FOLLOW-ON ACTIONS

In March 2023, under Workload and New Management Measure Priorities, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prioritized a series of potential management measures off the groundfish workload list related to the Limited Entry Fixed Gear (LEFG) program and gear marking and other entanglement risk reduction measures for vessels that operate under the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan that use pot and longline gear. In June 2023, the Council considered those management measures and provided guidance on the development of a range of alternatives (ROA) for these measures. The Council also recommended that these items be split into two packages: 1) fixed gear marking and entanglement risk reduction, and 2) LEFG follow-on actions.

Attachment 1 provides the proposed timeline for both actions based on Council staff's assessment of staff availability and current Council priorities. Attachment 2 presents a proposed purpose and need for each package as well as an ROA for the Council to consider.

At this meeting, the Council should consider the information provided in Attachment 2 as well as any advisory body or public comments and adopt a purpose and need and ROA for each package, if possible.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt a purpose and need.**
- 2. Adopt a range of alternatives, if possible.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 1 – Fixed Gear Marking and Entanglement Risk Reduction; Limited Entry Fixed Gear Follow-On Action Timeline.
2. Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 2- Fixed Gear Marking and Entanglement Risk Reduction; Limited Entry Fixed Gear Follow-On Action Purpose and Need and Range of Alternatives.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

### **Agenda Order:**

- G.4. Fixed Gear Marking and Entanglement Risk Reduction; Limited Entry  
Fixed Gear Follow-On Action Jessi Doerpinghaus
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Purpose and Need Along With a Range of Alternatives, if Possible