

EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS – FINAL

In June 2023 the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) considered recommendations on several exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications submitted in both 2023 and 2022. It approved the 2022 Pflieger Institute of Environmental Research (PIER) EFP application ([Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 6, September 2022](#)) for Extended-Linked Buoy Gear with 100% observer coverage until National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) determines enough data have been collected, with a minimum of 10 observed sets per vessel. It also approved Mr. Nathan Perez’s request to extend his night-set buoy gear (NSBG) EFP for another two years ([Agenda Item J.3, Attachment 3, June 2023](#)). Finally, it recommended that NMFS not issue EFPs for two applications to use standard deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) in the Southern California Bight and deferred recommendations on applications for testing simultaneous deployment of more than 10 pieces of DSBG or NSBG until the authorized fishery has been operational for two seasons. (DSBG was authorized by Federal regulation in June 2023. Federal HMS regulations at [50 CFR 660.709\(b\)](#) state the fishing season begins on April 1; therefore, the Council would next consider such applications in June 2025.)

The only outstanding piece of business on EFPs in 2023 is clarification from Mr. Donald Krebs that his request to test NSBG ([Agenda Item J.3, Attachment 2, June 2023](#)) is for his own EFP rather than a modification of Mr. Perez’s NSBG EFP to add him to it. Attachment 1 is a letter from Mr. Krebs clarifying his request to receive an EFP in his own name.

Council Action:

Adopt Final Recommendations on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1: Letter from Donald Krebs.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

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| I.3 | Exempted Fishing Permits – Final | Kit Dahl |
| a. | Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| b. | Public Comment | |
| c. | Council Action: Adopt Final Recommendations on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications | |