

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ROADMAP WORKSHOP

In September 2022 the Council discussed its draft Swordfish Management and Monitoring Plan (SMMP) and requested the Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) meet to draft recommendations informing future Council discussions regarding the draft SMMP. The Council revisited the matter in June 2023 and provided the following guidance:

- 1) The concept of an SMMP still has value, but the overall content requires significant editing/changes.
- 2) A new document should be developed to replace the SMMP and should focus more broadly on HMS species as a whole and the need to replace previous catch from large mesh drift gillnet (DGN) gear as well as new opportunities and with a focus on exempted fishing permit (EFP) priorities and methods to achieve that.
- 3) Add a day to the HMSMT's and HMSAS's agendas for the September Council meeting for a joint session to prepare for a later meeting/workshop to further develop the new document.
- 4) If warranted, hold a meeting/workshop, including the HMSMT, HMSAS, and other interested stakeholders, to discuss the development of the new document, with a primary focus on EFPs that support the document's goals.
 - a. Start with the existing goals of the SMMP, but modify them as needed to:
 - i. Expand the scope to include other species historically landed in the fishery, particularly by DGN gear.
 - ii. Combine/refine goals to better reflect the new document.
 - iii. Discuss the transition of past DGN participants to new gear(s).
 - b. Timing of this event should take into consideration key stakeholder availability.
 - c. Given the need to include broad input, support the meeting with professional facilitation.

Over the summer the HMSMT made considerable progress developing the new guidance document, now referred to as “the HMS Roadmap”, and the HMSAS and HMSMT met at the September Council meeting, as directed, to progress this work and begin planning for a potential workshop. Based on those discussions, as described in the attached HMSMT report, revised goals and related action items have been drafted for Council review. This lays the groundwork for evaluating the need and objectives for a workshop to further develop the Roadmap and detail related actions, including the use of EFPs and transition of the DGN fishery.

The HMSAS and HMSMT will again meet jointly in November to discuss details of the workshop including the agenda, timing, and location, which will be presented to the Council in supplemental reports.

Council Action:

Discuss and Provide Guidance on:

- 1. Proposed HMS Roadmap Goals and Actions.**
- 2. Potential Future Council Consideration of Items the HMSMT Identified as Needing Council Discussion.**
- 3. Need for HMS Roadmap Workshop and Desired Outcomes.**
- 4. Workshop Timing and Location.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.3.a, HMSMT Report 1.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.3 Highly Migratory Species Roadmap Workshop Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Establish Scope and Objectives for the Workshop; Discuss Next Steps

PFMC
10/04/23