

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will report on regulatory and other matters related to highly migratory species management in the West Coast Region as reflected in the attached NMFS Report.

NMFS published a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for public comment. The [draft EIS](#) considers the potential impacts to the environment (including social and economic impacts) of issuing exempted fishing permits (EFPs) recommended to NMFS by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). Issuance of EFPs would authorize, on a small-scale and temporary basis, otherwise prohibited fishing practices in Federal waters off the U.S. West Coast. The public comment period ends April 9, 2024. Comments received will be considered during federal review of the proposed action, and NMFS will respond to comments in a final version of the EIS.

Council Action:

Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate.

Reference Materials:

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

Agenda Order:

- I.1 National Marine Fisheries Service Report
 - a. Regulatory Activities
 - b. Fisheries Science Center Activities
 - c. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - d. Public Comment
 - e. Council Discussion and Comment, as Appropriate

Kit Dahl
Ryan Wulff