

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) understands the reasoning behind implementing the Loggerhead Conservation Area Closure based on a determination that El Niño conditions were occurring off the coast of southern California in March and April. Given that El Niño conditions appear to be no longer occurring,¹ the HMSAS would recommend the Council support asking National Marine Fisheries Service to rescind the Closure as soon as is practicable under [50 CFR §660.713\(c\)\(2\)\(iii\)](#). Opportunities exist for fishery participants impacted by the Closure to target Highly Migratory Species stock in those waters.

PFMC
06/08/24

¹ See page 3 - [enso_evolution-status-fcsts-web.pdf \(noaa.gov\)](#)