

Expanding Options for HMS

June 6-7, 2024 9am to 4pm • Double Tree by Hilton Hotel San Diego Mission Valley
MEETING PROTOCOLS AND GROUND RULES • May 30, 2024

Meeting Objectives:

The Council is convening a workshop on Thursday and Friday June 6-7 to identify approaches to increase landings of highly migratory species (HMS) through the use of exempted fishing permits (EFPs). The Council seeks to engage fishery participants, other stakeholders, the HMS Advisory Subpanel, and the HMS Management Team in a collaborative and solutions-oriented workshop resulting in recommendations to the Council.

Workshop objectives are to:

- Identify aspects of EFPs that may be limiting participation and ways to increase the number of EFPs and EFP applicants
- Consider approaches to streamline the timing and process for EFPs for applicants, the Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- Identify fishing practices and gear configurations that could be economically viable while minimizing bycatch
- Identify criteria to be used to define successful EFPs

Aim of the Meeting is Collegial, Collaborative Dialogue: The aim of the meeting is to foster and encourage a collaborative dialogue, in the spirit of exploration, mutual education, and refinement of emerging ideas.

In support of this aim, all participants are asked to approach issues, concerns and divergent views in a spirit of mutual problem-solving and to be conscious of time, stating their views concisely and allowing time for others to speak.

Participants and Roles: Participants have been identified and invited by the Pacific Fishery Management Council based on their involvement in Council processes or their role as stakeholders in issues relate to management of HMS fisheries. While most participants have received invitations from the Council, other interested members of the public are welcome to participate as well.

- **Facilitation Team.** The Council has retained a Facilitation Team, CONCUR Inc, to collaborate with other members of the Convening Team to devise the structure and agenda for the Workshop, to guide the overall discussion, to sum up deliberations and Plenary discussions and develop a Meeting Summary.
- **Moderators and Rapporteurs:** To help the Workshop run smoothly, a Moderator and a Rapporteur will work with each break out group, guided by the Meeting Facilitators. Their roles are straightforward.

Moderators are asked to track the time and encourage the breakout groups to get through discussion of the full set of guiding questions. Moderators are asked to work with Rapporteurs to distill key points of discussion and concisely report out key results of each breakout discussion. They are not asked to mediate divergent views.

Rapporteurs are asked to record (take brief notes on) and report back key points of discussion to contribute to building an accurate record of the deliberations. The rapporteurs will coordinate with

the Moderators to track comments and report back key results of the discussions--including new ideas, points of convergence and divergent views.

- **Expert Contributors** The Council has invited several colleagues with substantial technical knowledge on subjects such as bycatch engineering, specific gear types, and fisheries management. As the overall aim of the meeting is to promote joint development of options, they are asked to join the breakout discussions and contribute their expertise in those deliberations.

Overall Meeting Structure: The meeting is organized around a structured agenda. The agenda includes a few lead presentations followed a series of breakout group discussions.

- **Framing Presentations:** Three framing presentations will set the stage for the deliberations that follow. These will include short statements by John Ugoretz of CDFW on the State of Play in the HMS Fishery, Liz Hellmers of CDFW on Guiding Terms for Workshop Discussion, and Amber Rhodes of NMFS on NMFS' Overview of the EFP Process.
- **Series of Topics Addressed in Breakout Groups:** Following the framing presentations, the primary format of the Workshop will be discussion across a set of major topics, with participants organized into breakout groups. Breakout groups are composed to include a mix of attendees from multiple organizations and points of view. Discussions in breakout groups will be organized around guiding questions. The aim of the breakout groups is to encourage discussion among all participants in the group and surface promising ideas, including areas of convergence and divergence. Achieving consensus is not necessary.

Towards the end of each breakout session, rapporteurs and moderators will distill and summarize the key points raised in their respective breakout session to summarize the key results of the group discussion. Then, rapporteurs will report back to the full Workshop.

Meeting Summary

The Convening team will be responsible for assembling a Draft Meeting Summary for the workshop. The Summary will cover the key points of the introductory presentations and will concisely present the results of each topic discussion.

The Summary will distill key points of presentation, ideas advanced in the breakouts, and emerging agreements, to the extent they are generated in the breakouts and plenary discussion. The Meeting Summary is not intended as a transcript.

Application of Results: The results of the meeting will be considered by the Council, to help it adopt an overall framework for considering EFPs for development of HMS fisheries, particularly with respect to increasing west coast catch of swordfish.