FISHERIES INNOVATION WORKGROUP REPORT ON HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ROADMAP

The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (FIW) met online February 27, 2025, for the first time since its formation at the November 2024 Council meeting. The FIW discussed several topics on its agenda including the charge (described in the November Decision Summary <u>Document</u>), roles and responsibilities, priority tasks, and logistics. The FIW recommends an online meeting in late April to begin addressing those priorities. That meeting agenda will likely include consideration of a FIW Terms of Reference, exempted fishing permit (EFP) process improvements (including potential modifications to Council Operating Procedure 20), acceptable levels of bycatch in Highly Migratory Species (HMS) EFPs, potential revisions to the draft HMS Roadmap, and further clarification about roles and responsibilities. The FIW intends to develop a report for the June Advanced Briefing Book, for Council consideration.

PFMC 03/07/25