## HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON RESEARCH AND DATA NEEDS

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) met virtually on April 8, 2025, to review and discuss a number of Cross Fishery Management Plan agenda items. The HMSAS discussed an HMS-specific statement in the Scientific and Statistical Committee Report 1 in the Data Collection section under Science and Management Challenges. The last bullet point under Catch (landings and discards) subheader reads Conduct experimental fisheries to support management of HMS fisheries and reduce bycatch. The HMSAS recommends rewording as follows:

Conduct experimental fisheries to support management of HMS fisheries to increase domestic production of underutilized resources and minimizing bycatch.

With the impending phase-out of the drift gill net fishery, the other gear types authorized to harvest HMS (purse seine, pole-and-line, deep-set buoy gear and rod-and-reel) do not have bycatch issues which need to be reduced.

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