

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON RESEARCH AND DATA NEEDS

The Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) discussed an HMS-specific statement in the [Scientific and Statistical Committee \(SSC\) Report 1](#) in the Data Collection section under Science and Management Challenges. The sixth bullet under Catch (landings and discards) reads *Conduct experimental fisheries to support management of HMS fisheries and reduce bycatch*. As worded, the statement seems to pertain to the existing suite of HMS fishing methods. In light of the scheduled phase-out of the HMS drift-gillnet fishery by 2027 and the interest to innovate new approaches for targeting HMS expressed in the March 2025 draft HMS Roadmap ([Agenda Item I.3.a, Supplemental HMSMT Report 1](#)), the HMSMT recommends revising this statement to better reflect the current status of Council-managed HMS fisheries. If helpful, the HMSMT could propose alternative rewordings at the June 2025 Council meeting.

In review of the fourth bullet of the Economics section of SSC Report 1: *Develop data sources and analyses of seafood markets and supply chains relevant to U.S. West Coast fisheries*, the HMSMT notes that the draft HMS Roadmap contained several action items for decision-making support tools and analyses that concern an evaluation of economic factors, such as these, in HMS fisheries.

PFMC
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