EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS – FINAL ACTION

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Operating Procedure (COP) 20 lays out an annual June-September schedule for reviewing exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications for highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries. According to COP 20, the HMS Management Team (HMSMT) and HMS Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) review EFP applications in June and make recommendations to the Council for action. Final action on EFPs then occurs at the September Council meeting. Only those EFP applications that were considered in June may be considered in September. However, the Council has the option to make a final recommendation on EFPs at the June meeting, if appropriate.

Deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) has been an authorized HMS gear type in Federal waters off California and Oregon since 2023, and thus no EFP is required to use DSBG. However, DSBG fishing is limited to daytime fishing with no more than 10 pieces of DSBG. EFP proposals under consideration at this meeting include night DSBG (NDSBG), night linked buoy gear (NLBG),

Two EFP applications were received from Shearwater Fishing, Landon Yacobucci, plus a renewal request from Nathan Perez (see the <u>original proposal</u> from June 2019). These are Attachments 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

Att #	Name	# Vessels	Requested Gear & Info
1	Shearwater Fishing	1	NDSBG & NLBG
	(Daniel Fuller)		Depth: 90m; targets: swordfish & PBF
			Areas: So. Cal Bight (≤180 days) & Central
			CA (≤60 days)
2	Landon Yacobucci	1	NDSBG & NLBG
			Depth: 91m; target: swordfish
			Area: So. Cal Bight (≤90 days)
3	Nathan Perez	1	NDSBG & NLBG
			Depth: 90m; targets: swordfish & PBF
			Areas: So. Cal Bight (≤180 days) & Central
			CA (≤60 days)

Council Action:

Adopt Council recommendations regarding preliminary or final exempted fishing permit applications, as appropriate.

Reference Materials:

- 1. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1: Exempted Fishing Permit Application from Shearwater Fishing.
- 2. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 2: Exempted Fishing Permit Application from Landon Yacobucci.

- 3. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 3: Exempted Fishing Permit Extension Request from Nathan Perez.
- 4. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

F.3 Exempted Fishing Permits

Kerry Griffin

- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action**: Adopt Preliminary or Final Exempted Fishing Permit Applications, As Appropriate

PFMC 05/20/2025