

Ad Hoc Fisheries Innovation Workgroup HMS Roadmap Development Report

Pacific Fishery Management Council

Saturday, June 14th

Items to be Covered:

1. Ad Hoc Fisheries Innovation Workgroup (FIW) charge, relationship to other bodies of work, and draft Terms of Reference
2. Key FIW tasks:
 - a. EFP process and timing modifications
 - b. EFP performance goals and metrics
 - c. Bycatch-related EFP performance goals and metrics
3. Draft FIW work plan outline
4. Draft HMS Roadmap updates
5. Summary of requests and recommendations to the Council

Ad Hoc FIW's Charge

- Modification of Council Operating Procedure 20 – HMS Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) process.
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- Improvement of HMS EFP guidance.
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- Development of HMS EFP performance goals (including acceptable bycatch and metrics to evaluate EFP performance).
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- Consideration of the National Seafood Strategy as it pertains to HMS fisheries.
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- Review of the draft HMS Roadmap, as appropriate.
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- Discussion of relevant innovative fishery tools or measures needed to support a robust HMS fishery.

HMS Roadmap Actions

Explore & establish management strategies and objectives

Bycatch monitoring/performance, harvest goals, evaluate market demand, AMs, fleet and community resilience

Develop EFP framework/COP 20

Expand options, develop EFP guidance, utilize new approaches balancing conservation and economic viability

Develop fishery management decision-support tools and analyses

Swordfish supply, EM, explore DOM, evaluate economics of HMS fisheries operations, develop multispecies index to compare methods and evaluate bycatch

Not FIW's charge:

- Continue DGN Monitoring

HMS Ad Hoc FIW

"Developing and refining Council procedures which help facilitate the more rapid creation of new HMS gears and achieve the goals of the HMS Roadmap"

- Modify COP 20 (HMS EFPs)
- Improve HMS EFP guidance
- Develop EFP performance goals (including acceptable bycatch and metrics to evaluate EFP performance)

- Discuss relevant innovative fishery tools or measures to support a robust HMS fishery
- Consider National Seafood Strategy
- Review HMS Roadmap, as appropriate

Special Project #3

New fishing opportunities within bycatch allowances

EFP process improvements

- Roadmap workshop (6/24)
- Update the HMS EFP framework/COP 20

Exploration/uptake of dynamic ocean management tools

- DOM workshop
- Identify at least one application for DOM tools
- Consider use or test for EFPs

Not FIW's charge:

- DOM workshop
- Non-HMS fisheries

----- HMSMT & HMSAS involved throughout -----

FIW Draft Terms of Reference

1. Reaffirms purpose
2. Describes membership and roles
3. Establishes milestones

Recommendation:

- Adopt the FIW draft Terms of Reference.

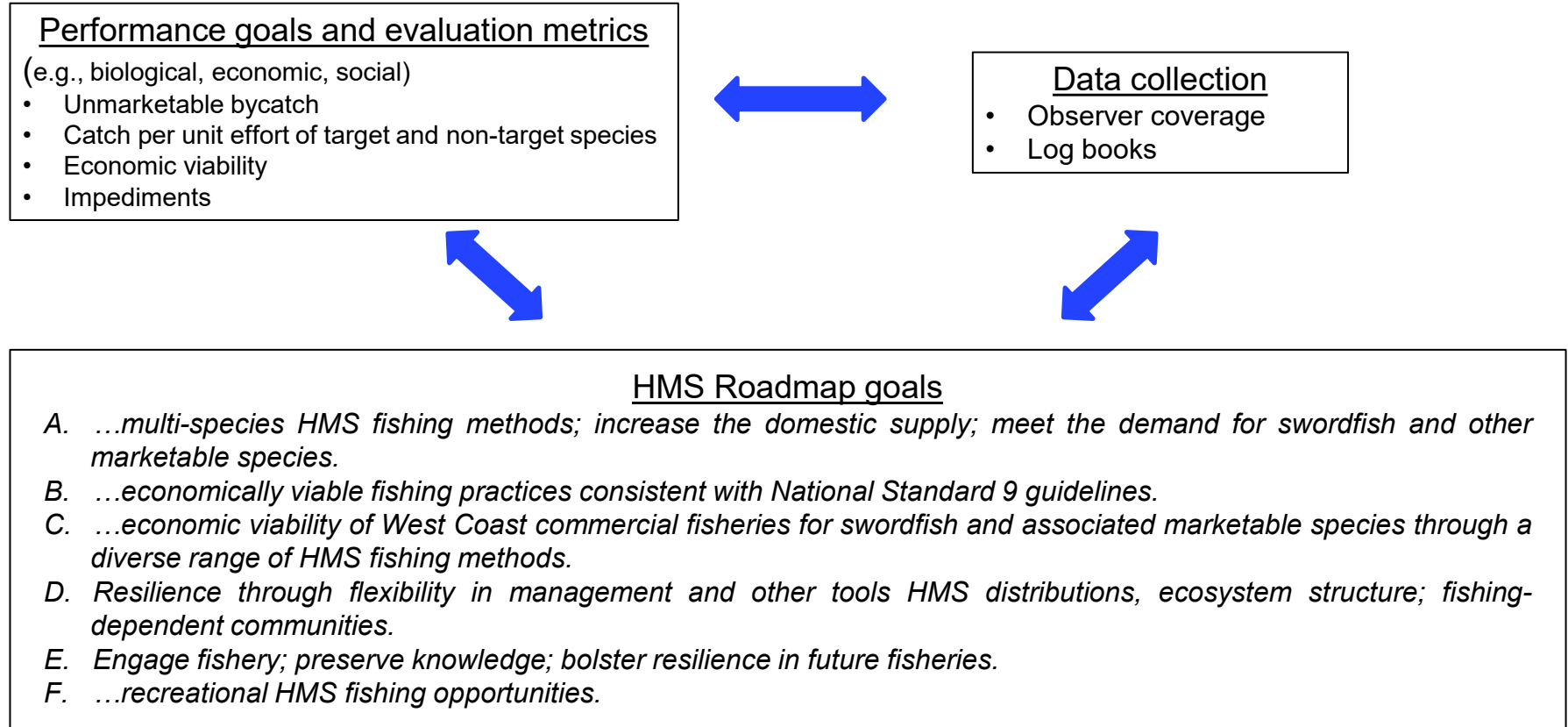
Key FIW Task: Modify EFP Process and Timing

- FIW will be providing near-term improvement recommendations related to:
 - 1) the timing when EFP proposals will be reviewed (proposed to be changed to November and March);
 - 2) providing the opportunity for the Council to make recommendations on EFP applications in a single meeting; and
 - 3) accepting EFP applications for Council review at either of the two proposed meetings.

Request:

- Understanding that the FIW will return with specific proposed revisions to COP 20 at a future meeting, provide any initial feedback on the near-term process improvement recommendations.

Key FIW Task: EFP Performance Goals and Metrics



Key FIW Task: Bycatch Performance Goals and Metrics

Step 1: Create a common understanding of current bycatch levels and issues - assess existing data and analyses on bycatch (including bycatch mortality) in HMS fisheries.

Step 2: Establish an approach - assess tradeoffs for methodologies for setting bycatch-related performance goals/metrics and identify preferred approach.

Step 3: Implement approach - use chosen methodology to develop bycatch-related performance goals/metrics.

Step 4: Develop recommendations - provide recommendations to the Council for consideration.

Draft FIW Work Plan Outline

- Draft table includes: categories/objectives, deliverables, tiers, and outcomes
- Created “work periods” that have corresponding Council meetings for submitting deliverables

Recommendation:

- Adopt the proposed FIW work plan outline, while allowing for adaptations as needed.

Categories/Objectives Outcomes		Deliverables	
EFP process and timing		Surgical, near-term COP 20 proposed revisions.	Revised/updated COP 20 language; implementation of an improved EFP review process.
EFP applications (required contents & review criteria)		Proposed revisions to COP 20.	Revised COP 20 language.
EFP evaluation	Reporting	Proposed revisions to COP 20.	Revised COP 20 language.
	Performance goals/metrics	Recommended performance goals/metrics.	
	Acceptable bycatch goals/metrics	Recommended performance goals related to acceptable bycatch.	
EFP guidance		Proposed revisions to COP 20; identification of new materials; development of enhanced practices (e.g., technical support and pre-submittal review).	Revised COP 20 language; identification of proposed guidance type/format; implementation of new support practices.
Discuss relevant innovative fishery tools or measures to support a robust HMS fishery		Proposed revisions to COP 20. TBD. SMART goals, other Council recommendations, etc.	TBD.

Year at a Glance 2025/2026

Indicates a
Council meeting
that month

June

July

Aug

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apri

May

June

Ongoing tasks: Additional (non-COP 20) ideas/recommendations for the Council to support EFPs; collaboration with NMFS on NSS alignment

Tier 1 Tasks: EFP process and timing
(Sept 2025)

Tier 2/3 Tasks: EFP reporting (March/April 2026)

Tier 3 Tasks: EFP guidance (June 2026);
Innovative tools or measures (June 2026)

Tier 1/2/3 Tasks: EFP process and timing (for issues not addressed in the first round of proposed revisions) (March/April 2026); EFP applications (March/April 2026); EFP performance goals and metrics, including related to bycatch (check-in with the Council in November 2025; deliverables submitted in March/April 2026)

Draft HMS Roadmap

- Proposed revisions to the current version
- Differing views on the Roadmap next steps and end product
- Alignment with the National Seafood Strategy

Request:

- Provide guidance on the expectations for the Roadmap and adopt the most recent revisions.

Summary of Requests and Recommendations

1. FIW Terms of Reference: Adopt the FIW Draft Terms of Reference.
2. EFP review process and timing: Understanding that the FIW will return with specific proposed revisions to COP 20 at a future meeting, provide any initial feedback on the near-term process improvement recommendations.
3. EFP performance metrics: Provide any initial input on preferred categories (e.g., economic viability, fishing performance, safety) or specific performance goals or metrics for evaluating EFP fishing.
4. FIW draft work plan outline: Adopt the proposed FIW work plan outline, while allowing for adaptations as needed.
5. Draft HMS Roadmap: Provide guidance on the expectations for the Roadmap and adopt the most recent revisions.

Questions?