

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON
FUTURE COUNCIL AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) met virtually on April 3, 2026 and reviewed I.2, Attachment 2 - the [June 2026 Quick Reference \(QR\) Proposed Agenda](#). **The HMSAS recommends that the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council):**

- **Schedule the HMSAS to meet in person for two days during the June meeting**
- **If considering moving floor time for the HMS Agenda items, do not move them earlier than June 13 (as currently scheduled)**

Allowing the HMSAS to meet in person for two days during the June meeting will facilitate detailed discussions result in more useful recommendations in advance of several complex international negotiations that will occur in July – August 2026, including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Northern Committee (NC) Joint Working Group on Pacific bluefin tuna (JWG), the WCPFC Northern Committee and the 104th Meeting of the IATTC. Key topics will include:

- **Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF):** In March, the JWG reached preliminary agreement on a Management Procedure for PBF (see [JWGI-03](#) Summary Report), however a number of significant issues relevant to the Council’s March 2026 recommendations (see the March [HMSAS Report on International Management Activities](#)) remain to be discussed and resolved during this summer’s meeting (July 8 – 12).
- **North Pacific albacore:** A new stock assessment will be published in June 2026 and we anticipate proposals related to the Harvest Strategy.
- **South Pacific albacore:** The first South Pacific Albacore Allocation Workshop (June 25) and discussions on harvest strategy implementation measures.
- **North Pacific swordfish:** Report out of the U.S. stakeholder [workshop](#) (April 22) and priorities for the Northern Committee meeting.

Acknowledging the June agenda is not finalized yet, the HMSAS notes that the 17th Meeting of the IATTC’s Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is scheduled to take place June 8 – 12. The proposed [SAC agenda](#) shows the items most directly relevant to the Council’s HMS fisheries will be discussed on or during the afternoon of June 10. If the Council contemplates moving the HMS Agenda items from Saturday, June 13, please do not move them to earlier in the meeting.