

# Shearwater Fishing, LLC

**M / V S H E A R W A T E R**

210 Village Run West • Encinitas, CA 92024

Agenda Item G.1

Attachment 2

June 2026

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Summary of Exempted fishing effort using night deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) to target HMS species by F/V Shearwater during the last quarter of 2025.

While gear was constructed in the manner described in the EFP proposal, due to the issue date and subsequent signing of the permit (September 19, 2025), only two night sets were conducted, both with observers aboard. A total of 10 buoys with a single baited hook were deployed during each set. The depth of the hooks baited with a mix of flying fish and squid were 90 meters. One bluefin tuna was landed during these efforts. We would like to continue efforts to fish with the night DSBG so that we can effectively evaluate its efficacy in the southern California bight. Having the opportunity to fish the gear for a full season would allow us to some data, but two – three full seasons would be preferred.

Additionally, based on our nighttime observations, consideration of a shallower minimum depth would be ideal. These observations suggest a depth of 45 meters would improve catch rates substantially while avoiding non-target catch, specifically sharks. We would like the commission to consider the depth amendment for the next iteration of the exempted fishing permit.

Sincerely,

Daniel Fuller, Markus Medak, and Brian Sims