

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL
REPORT ON NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) had a thorough and productive conversation with two potential Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) applicants; the HMSAS appreciates their providing an impactful understanding of their ideas and being available to answer questions. Both applicants displayed enthusiasm for new opportunities and methods for harvesting HMS stocks; however, concerns were expressed regarding potential issues with fulfilling observer requirements due to funding and observer availability. To the extent electronic monitoring could be a tool to alleviate those concerns, the HMSAS would be supportive of seeing that as an option. We view this as the first example of a positive benefit coming out of the work of the Fishery Innovation Workgroup. We look forward to reviewing the completed EFP applications at the November 2026 Council meeting.

PFMC
06/12/26