

## PROPOSED DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

In June 2016, the Council announced it would accept for review applications for exempted fishing permits (EFPs) to test deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) at any Council meeting when Highly Migratory Species (HMS) items are on the agenda.

At its November 2017 meeting, the Council made recommendations on the issuance of EFPs for six applications. Two were revised applications ([Mintz](#), [Foster](#)) for which the Council recommended issuance. Of the remaining four, the Council recommended National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issue an EFP to one of the applicants ([Carson](#)), and asked the remaining three applicants ([Brockman](#), [Ekstrom](#), [Greyshock](#)) to resubmit revised applications that include additional information on how they would address data gaps. Mr. Carson has submitted a revised application to the Council, which is included as Attachment 15.

Attachment 1 provides summary information on the applications submitted for review at the March 2018 Council meeting. Thirteen new applications were received by the February 8 deadline and are listed below in the reference materials as Attachments 2 through 14.

To date, the Council has recommended NMFS issue 41 DSBG EFPs covering 59 vessels. NMFS is in the later stages of issuing these EFPs and it is likely that participants will begin fishing in 2018. Given the 13 new applications submitted at this meeting, the Council may wish to consider whether to stop accepting applications at every meeting where HMS items are on the agenda and revert to the schedule described in [Council Operating Procedure \(COP\) 20](#). The COP describes an annual schedule: “The HMSMT and HMSAS will review EFP proposals in June and make recommendations to the Council for action; the Council will consider those proposals for preliminary action. Final action on EFPs will occur at the September Council meeting. Only those EFP applications that were considered in June may be considered in September reviewed first at the June Council meeting...” If the Council reverts to the COP schedule, applications could still be submitted in June but considered over two meetings. Alternatively, the Council could revert to the COP schedule but suspend consideration of DSBG EFP applications for the remainder of 2018. (Applications for other activities, if any, could still be considered in 2018 per the COP schedule.)

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Provide Recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications to Test Deep-Set Buoy Gear.**
- 2. Decide on the Process and Schedule for Future Application Reviews.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 1: Summary of Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Applications Submitted for the March 2018 Council Meeting.
2. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 2: DSBG Application From Robert Breneman
3. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 3: DSBG Application From Scott Breneman
4. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 4: DSBG Application From Pietro Buompensiero
5. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 5: DSBG Application From Josh Dagama

6. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 6: DSBG Application From Daniel Fuller
7. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 7: DSBG Application From Clint Funderberg
8. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 8: DSBG Application From David Hatto
9. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 9: DSBG Application From Ben Hyman
10. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 10: DSBG Application From Tyler Scarbrough
11. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 11: DSBG Application From Greg Surgener
12. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 12: DSBG Application From William Sutton
13. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 13: DSBG Application From Matt White
14. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 14: DSBG Application From Thomas Wright
15. Agenda Item I.3, Attachment 15: Revised DSBG Application From Thomas Carson

Agenda Order:

- I.3 Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** 1) Provide Recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications to Test Deep-Set Buoy Gear; 2) Decide on the Process and Schedule for Future Application Reviews

PFMC  
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