

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON NON-DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR
EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFPS)

In June 2018, the Council reverted to the schedule for reviewing highly migratory species (HMS) EFPs as outlined in Council Operating Procedure (COP) 20, Protocol for Consideration of Exempted Fishing Permits for Highly Migratory Species Fisheries. COP 20 lays out an annual, June-September review schedule for EFP applications. The Council has also paused on accepting additional EFP applications to test deep-set buoy gear until June 2019.

At its June 2018 meeting the Council reviewed one non-deep-set buoy gear EFP application submitted by Dr. John Hall to test the use of a 5 nautical mile section of deep-set pelagic longline fishing gear inside the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone off of California and Oregon (south of 46° 16' N. latitude). The Council approved this application for public review, noting that fishing in waters off Washington should not be allowed. Based on Council discussion in June, Dr. Hall submitted a slightly revised version of his application (Attachment 1), which adds a section discussing how the gear will be actively tended.

According to COP 20, only EFP applications initially submitted at a June Council meeting, and recommended for further consideration, may be acted upon at the following September Council meeting. Therefore, only the Hall EFP application will be considered for a final Council recommendation in September.

Council Action:

Adopt Final Recommendations on Non-Deep-Set Buoy Gear EFPs.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.2, Attachment 1: Dr. John Hall EFP Application to Test the Use of a 5 Nautical Mile Section of Deep-Set Pelagic Longline Fishing Gear inside the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone off California and Oregon (South of 46°16' N latitude).

Agenda Order:

- H.2 Final Recommendations on Non- Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Recommendations on Non-Deep-Set Buoy Gear EFPs