

HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON  
DRIFT GILLNET PERFORMANCE METRICS REVIEW

The Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) still questions the need for performance metrics because past regulation to the fleet has already led to greatly reduced bycatch. For marine mammals, the bycatch/interaction numbers are well below the Potential Biological Removals (“PBRs”). For example, the PBR for Elephant Seals (in 2014) was 4,882 (click [here](#)). In 2017-18 the fishery interacted with an extrapolated 16.3 individuals – rounded up to 17, in comparison to the performance metric of 6 animals. This number (17) amounts to 0.35 percent of PBR. Because of recently enacted State legislation (California SB-1017), the HMSAS recommends the Council not spend time on this issue. The promised buyout will likely result in a further reduction of the active fleet, resulting in a reduction in total bycatch.

PFMC  
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