

MSY or minimum stock size threshold (MSST, the level of biomass beneath which a stock or stock complex is considered overfished) or maximum fishing mortality threshold (MFMT, the level of fishing mortality, on an annual basis, above which overfishing is occurring) available for these species at this time. However, these species are important components of the ecosystem and for that reason are included in this FEP. Permitting and data collection measures established under the existing FMPs will be continued under this FEP. Including these species as MUS in the FEP is consistent with MSA National Standard 3 which states that “To the extent practicable, an individual stock of fish shall be managed as a stock throughout its range, and interrelated stocks of fish shall be managed as a unit or in close coordination.” (50 CFR 600.320). This section further provides that “A management unit may contain, in addition to regulated species, stocks of fish for which there is not enough information available to specify MSY and optimum yield (OY) or to establish management measures, so that data on these species may be collected under the FMP”. Under the adaptive approach that utilizes the best available scientific information, the Council, in coordination with NMFS, will continue to develop and refine estimates or proxies of MSY for these species when sufficient data are available. The establishment of MSY proxies is consistent with 50 CFR 600.310 text regarding MSA National Standard 1 which states that “When data are insufficient to estimate MSY directly, Councils should adopt other measures of productive capacity that can serve as reasonable proxies of MSY to the extent possible.” Future management measures that would directly affect the harvest of any MUS contained in this FEP will be subject to the requirements of the MSA and other applicable laws.

Table 1. Pacific Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)

Scientific Name	English Common Name	Scientific Name	English Common Name
TUNAS		BILLFISHES	
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i> *	albacore	<i>Tetrapturus audax</i> *	striped marlin
<i>T. obesus</i> *	bigeye tuna	<i>T. angustirostris</i>	shortbill spearfish
<i>T. albacares</i> *	yellowfin tuna	<i>Xiphias gladius</i> *	swordfish
<i>T. thynnus</i>	northern bluefin tuna	<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	sailfish
<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> *	skipjack tuna	<i>Makaira mazara</i> *	blue marlin
<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	kawakawa	<i>M. indica</i>	black marlin
<i>Auxis</i> spp. <i>Scomber</i> spp. <i>Allothunus</i> spp.	other tuna relatives		
SHARKS		OTHER PELAGICS	
<i>Alopias pelagicus</i>	pelagic thresher shark	<i>Coryphaena</i> spp.	mahimahi (dolphinfish)
<i>A. superciliosus</i>	bigeye thresher shark	<i>Lampris</i> spp.	moonfish
<i>A. vulpinus</i>	common thresher shark	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	wahoo
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	silky shark	<i>Gempylidae</i>	oilfish family
<i>C. longimanus</i>	oceanic whitetip shark	<i>Bramidae</i>	pomfret family

Scientific Name	English Common Name	Scientific Name	English Common Name
TUNAS		BILLFISHES	
<i>Prionace glauca</i> *	blue shark	<i>Ommastrephes bartamii</i>	neon flying squid
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	shortfin mako shark	<i>Thysanoteuthis rhombus</i>	diamondback squid
<i>I. paucus</i>	longfin mako shark	<i>Sthenoteuthis oualaniensis</i>	purple flying squid
<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	salmon shark		

* Indicates a species for which there is an estimated MSY value.

1.7 Regional Coordination

In the Western Pacific Region, the management of ocean and coastal activities is conducted by a number of agencies and organizations at the federal, state, county, and even village levels. These groups administer programs and initiatives that address often overlapping and sometimes conflicting ocean and coastal issues.

To be successful, ecosystem approaches to management must be designed to foster intra and inter-agency cooperation and communication (Schrope 2002). Increased coordination with state and local governments and community involvement will be especially important to the improved management of near-shore resources that are heavily used. To increase collaboration with domestic and international management bodies, as well as other governmental and nongovernmental organizations, communities, and the public, the Council has adopted the multilevel approach described below.

1.7.1 Council Panels and Committees

The Council has approved the establishment and roles of its panels and committees described below.

FEP Advisory Panel

The FEP Advisory Panel advises the Council on fishery management issues, provides input to the Council regarding fishery management planning efforts, and advises the Council on the content and likely effects of management plans, amendments, and management measures.

The Advisory Panel consists of four sub-panels. In general, each Advisory Sub-panel includes two representatives from the area's commercial, recreational, and subsistence fisheries, as well as two additional members (fishermen or other interested parties) who are knowledgeable about the area's ecosystems and habitat. The exception is the Mariana FEP Sub-panel, which has four representatives from each group to represent the combined areas of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. The Hawaii FEP Sub-panel addresses issues pertaining to demersal fishing in the PRIA due to the lack of a permanent population and because such PRIA fishing has primarily