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*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

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NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF RECOMMENDATION AND CONSIDERATION OF EXPERIMENTAL FISHING PERMIT AMENDMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 1022 of the Fish and Game Code (FGC) and Section 91, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) received the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (Department) recommendation regarding the Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP) amendment from Nathan J. Perez to amend the EFP permit that was approved by the Commission on August 17, 2022 (EFP tracking #2022-01). Subsection 91(k)(2) allows for EFP holder amendments to the approved EFP. Major amendments to the EFP that exceed the allowances placed on the permit concerning subsection 91(k)(1)(A), and are subject to the same department review, public notice, commission action, and department issuance procedures in subsection 91(d)(2) through (g).

The requested major amendment to amend EFP #2022-01 is for: 1) Adding one additional authorized vessel and one additional authorized agent, and 2) expand the fishing footprint diameter off the Channel Islands expanding from 3.0 nm to 3.5 nm. The current EFP, as written, is to test the commercial use of deep-set buoy gear (both standard and linked) and night-set buoy gear (both standard and linked) to target swordfish and other highly migratory species within state waters around the Channel Islands and in limited areas off the mainland. The Commission has scheduled the amendment for consideration at its June 14-15, 2023 meeting in Sacramento, California.

The Department recommends that the Commission approve the EFP amendment with special conditions, as specified on form DFW 1103. The proposed special conditions are necessary for research purposes and the conservation and management of marine resources and the environment, pursuant to subsection 91(i), Title 14, CCR.

The EFP amendment, Department recommendation (DFW 1103), previous notices, and other information in the records before the Commission are posted on the Commission's website at <https://fgc.ca.gov/EFP>.

Written comments on the EFP amendment and/or Department recommendation must be received by June 9, 2023 at 12:00 PM and may be emailed to fcg@fgc.ca.gov or mailed to California Fish and Game Commission, Attn: EFP, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, California, 94244-2090. Oral comments will be accepted at the Commission's June 14-15, 2023 meeting.

May 12, 2023

Fish and Game Commission

Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director